

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, December 20, 2010
7:00 pm.

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Virginia Justicz, Piali De, Patty Wenger, Kirsten Wright, Lorraine Leonard and Thomas Jefferson.

Others present: Jim O'Shea, Scott Hoffman, Mark Force, Mark Lavertue.

Keith Cheveralls called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

The purpose of the meeting was to review the proposed budget for 2011-2012.

Dr. Jefferson, Jim O'Shea and Scott Hoffman reviewed account lines related to the Bromfield School budget.

Discussion, questions and requests for additional information regarding the Bromfield School budget included discussion about offering Computer Science courses, World Religion Courses, and more AP Courses with no additional funding source. User fees will be discussed in January. The committee discussed a plan for technology purchase at The Bromfield School. There is a need for new computers in the Computer Lab as well as in the Media Center. The committee discussed the proposal in detail and decided to approve the purchase of 25 computers, but to study the best utilization plan for additional technology purchases.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to move to authorize the purchase of 25 computers at The Bromfield School.

VOTED (5/0) to accept motion

Dr. Jefferson and Mark Force reviewed account lines related to the Facilities budget.

Discussion, questions and requests for additional information regarding the Harvard Public Schools Facilities budget included discussion on the capital plan request to convert oil to gas at TBS, looking at providing HVAC services in house, and looking at an Energy Manager position that would meet the needs of the entire town.

Dr. Jefferson and Mark Lavertue reviewed account lines related to the Technology budget.

Discussion, questions and requests for additional information regarding the Technology budget included adding a staff member to free up Mark's time, the cost benefits of going with a redundant line, and follow up with Selectman regarding options available with the Charter contract and Fios connectivity.

Next step is to get something official to the Finance Committee for their review. The committee is scheduled to meet with the Finance Committee January 19th. Lorraine Leonard will give the budget books to the Finance Committee in draft form with an understanding that the School Committee will be following up on the FY12 budget at the January 10th meeting.

Kirsten Wright agreed to prepare a submission for the annual report and will bring something to the January 10th meeting for the committee to review.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Piali De seconded to move to adjourn at 10:00 p.m.

Mary Zadroga
Recording Secretary