

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, April 11, 2011
7:00 pm.

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Kirsten Wright, Piali De, SusanMary Redinger, Thomas Jefferson, Maureen Babcock, Lorraine Leonard

As it was the first post election meeting, Dr. Jefferson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. for the election of officers.

Kirsten Wright nominated Keith Cheveralls as Chair, Piali De seconded
VOTED (4/0)

Piali De nominated Kirsten Wright as Vice Chair, SusanMary Redinger seconded
VOTED (4/0)

Piali De nominated SusanMary Redinger as Secretary, Kirsten Wright seconded
VOTED (4/0)

Piali De made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to approve the minutes from the March 14, 2011 meeting as amended.

VOTED (3/0/1) (SusanMary Redinger abstained because she was not present at the meeting)

Student Report

Gavin Arnold reported that spring sports have begun. The tennis team and track team have won their first game/meet. There will be a band concert on Thursday night.

Nick George reported the Bromfield Review held a very successful "Coffee House". The Model UN will be hosting an event this Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. at Volunteers Hall in the town library.

Liaison and Subcommittee Reports

Maureen Babcock reported that the DEAC survey is underway and the results will be presented at the May 3rd DEAC meeting. Maureen presented a list of important suggestions and ideas that came up in the Interim Superintendents' interview process. Maureen is happy with the affirmative at town meeting to move forward with the playground project and excited for the Ashley Jordon benefit concert to raise money for the playground project on April 29th.

Keith Cheveralls thanked the committee for their support and intends to make this his last year as chairman. Keith thanked all town boards, town officials, school administrative staff, and voters for the development and approval of the school budget and capital requests.

Keith Cheveralls announced that the Massachusetts Association of School Committees has designated the Harvard Schools Trust an Outstanding School Partner. The award recognizes corporate or nonprofit groups that have provided long term support for public education. An awards ceremony is planned for early May.

Keith Cheveralls reported that they are still waiting to hear from DESE regarding the waiver for the Interim Superintendent position.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Jefferson congratulated Ted Zayka for his direction on the wonderful, powerhouse performance of "Yellow Boat", performed in conjunction with the Harvard School Trust Dinner-Theatre Gala. Dr. Jefferson reported that the the Harvard Lions Club is sponsoring the MYCHIP child identification program April 27 at the Hildreth Elementary School. The Lions

Club is also sponsoring a town wide assembly April 26th at 7 p.m. at the Bromfield Media Center. Magi Bish, co-founder of the Molly Bish Foundation, will be a guest speaker. Parents and older students are encouraged to attend.

FY11 Budget Update

Lorraine Leonard presented the FY11 budget as of 3/31/2011. On behalf of the committee, Lorraine will be asking the Finance Committee for a reserve fund transfer of \$98,424 to pay for snow removal from the roofs of both schools. The committee also discussed the subsidy and outside funds report.

Nature's Classroom

Barbara Kelly asked the committee for approval for the overnight trip to Nature's Classroom in Ivoryton, CT planned for the week of October 3, 2011.

Kirsten Wright made a motion and SusanMary Redinger second to approve the Nature's Classroom trip as presented.

VOTED (4/0)

NEASC accreditation update

Jim O'Shea, and NEASC co-chairs Kellie Carlucci and Chris Jones presented the committee with an update on the status of the accreditation process. Kellie and Chris reviewed the progress to date and steps in preparing for the April 2012 visit.

HES – Evolving Leadership Model

Dr. Jefferson reported on the new one year leadership positions at the Hildreth Elementary School for the upcoming 2011/2012 school year. Gretchen Henry will be the interim associate principal and math curriculum team leader. Judy Moore and Kathy Kittredge will serve as co-team for the science curriculum. Amy Bassage will be team leader for social studies, Peggy Bragg will be the director of literacy, K-8, and Reenie Keith will be the literacy coach. Tom Jefferson is very confident that this leadership model will be a positive step and thanked Piali and Kirsten for their help in moving it forward.

The committee approved the hiring of Amy Bassage to a part time special education position at HES.

Piali De made a motion and SusanMary Redinger second to move to add to the budget a half time special education teacher funded through the 240 grant.

VOTED (4/0)

Redesigned school calendar

The committee discussed finalizing the school calendar for 2011/2012. There will be input from student council and parents on important dates they would like to have listed. The topic will be back on the agenda for May 9th for reformation, second reading and final approval.

Commentary

Keith Cheveralls – Thankful for the trust to be voted as chair for the third year, this will be his last year serving as chair and he intends to transition chair role and do his best to serve.

Maureen Babcock – Looking forward to good discussions and making progress on the list of ideas that came up from the interim superintendent interviews.

Piali De – Welcome to SusanMary. Proud of what the committee has accomplished. This will be Piali's last year serving on the committee.

Kirsten Wright – Has learned a lot in the last year of serving on the committee, appreciates the support and mentoring she has received. Looking forward to this year.

Susan Mary Redinger – Thrilled to be on the committee, thanked Keith for bringing her up to speed. Looking forward to the work ahead.

Future Agenda Items

Community Outreach

Vision Policy

Liaison Subcommittee list

Strategic plan report card

School improvement plan

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:17 p.m.

VOTED (4/0)

Mary Zadroga

Recording Secretary