

School Committee Minutes
The Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, April 25, 2011
7:00 pm.

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

Keith Cheveralls called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to approve the minutes from the March 28th meeting as amended.

VOTED (4/0) to accept the motion.

Piali De made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to approve the minutes from the April 11th meeting as amended.

VOTED (3/0) to accept the motion. (Patty abstained due to absence)

Student Report

Gavin Arnold and Molly O'Rourke Friel reported that the senior citizen luncheon will be held on Wednesday. AP test will be starting soon. The Middle School will hold a drama fest this Saturday. The band and chorus are competing in the New England Music Festival on May 6th. Ashley Jordan will be performing a fundraising concert to benefit the HES playground on April 29th. Members of the Bromfield Chorus will be performing with Harvard Pro Musica at the Cronin Auditorium on May 7th. The Student Council will set up a time to meet with the School Committee before the end of the year.

Liaison and Subcommittee Reports

Maureen Babcock – reminder of the HES fundraiser Friday night – Ashley Jordon concert.

Kirsten Wright – Bromfield School Council tomorrow at 3:00.

Patty Wenger – Big Belly Trash Compactor has been delivered.

Keith Cheveralls – Scheduled final informal HTA meeting for May 5th

The Boxborough School Committee is presenting their report on job share/regionalization possibilities at their town meeting on May 9th to get a sense of where the town wants to go.

The MASC is presenting the Harvard Schools Trust with the Outstanding School Partner Award on May 23rd at the regular scheduled school committee meeting.

A Charting the Course workshop is scheduled for May 9th for SusanMary Redinger and anyone else who is interested. It will begin at 9:00 a.m.

Groundbreaking for the HES playground is scheduled for June 27th. Keith seeks the committees approval to sign the purchase order so the equipment can be ordered and on site for construction to begin on July 5th.

Piali De made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to move that we authorize the chair to sign the equipment purchase order to get the equipment ordered for the HES playground.

VOTED (4/0) to accept the motion.

Liaison and Subcommittee structure and assignment

The committee discussed where they want to go as a group in order to develop subcommittees that will have specific charge and deliverable. Next meeting will tie down obvious liaison responsibilities. Will prioritize and strategize about which and how many subcommittees will be brought forward.

FY13 Agenda and Items pending – organization and prioritization FY13 meeting schedule

The Committee decided to schedule meetings in the summer on July 11th, July 25th, August 8th and August 22nd. Keith Cheveralls will create the school committee meeting schedule/calendar for SY 2011/2012.

Interim Superintendent Update & Transition discussion

The DESE waiver was approved for one year making it possible to hire Dr. Joseph Connelly as Interim Superintendent for FY12. The committee will check Dr. Connelly's availability to come to Harvard to sign his contract and meet to strategize about what the committee would like him to work on and accomplish in the coming year.

Commentary

Maureen Babcock – Would like to acknowledge Suzanne Mahoney, money in the budget for World Language at HES should be embedded in the school improvement plan.

Piali De – Very excited about next year. Thanked Keith for hard work in coming to an agreeable contract with Dr. Connelly.

Keith Cheveralls – Thanked Pat Natoli for the many years of service she provided to the town as Chair of the Cable Committee.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

VOTED (4/0) to accept the motion.