

School Committee Minutes
The Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, June 13, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Piali De, Patty Wenger, Kirsten Wright, SusanMary Redinger, Maureen Babcock

Keith Cheveralls called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Patty Wenger made a motion and SusanMary Redinger seconded to accept the minutes of the May 23rd meeting as amended.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

Student Reports

Keith Cheveralls read a letter from Student Council president, Julie Accorsi thanking the committee for their collaborative and meaningful work on behalf of the student body. On behalf of the committee Keith extended a big thank you to Julie and the entire Student Council and looks forward to scheduling a time to meet in the fall.

NEASC Steering Committee– Piali De attended a recent meeting of the NEASC Steering committee and reported that they will be presenting their subcommittee reports starting in September and ending in January. The NEASC visit will happen in late April. **DEAC** – Maureen Babcock reported the DEAC will meet on Tuesday, June 21st. Trinity Financial will give a region wide update on the Vicksburg Square project Thursday, June 23rd. The meeting will be from 7-9 p.m. at the Ayer town hall.

Energy Advisory – Patty Wenger reported that the group is working to analyze data for energy consumption and cost. They plan to report to the committee with their results in September.

Keith Cheveralls reported that he had received an email from Mary Brolin advising him of the results of the Boxborough town meeting which voted in favor of pursuing regionalization or superintendent sharing options. Keith plans to set up a time to meet sometime after June 27th.

SusanMary Redinger reported that she had attended the MASC training under the direction of Glen Koocher. She appreciates the wealth of knowledge available.

The senior class submitted a request for approval for an out of state trip.

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Piali De seconded to approve the senior trip to Hampton Beach retroactively.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

Review and Approve Bromfield School Improvement Plan

Jim O'Shea presented the School Improvement Plan which included a long list of ambitious goals that range from evaluating graduation requirements to mentoring new teachers.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to approve the School Improvement Plan as presented.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

Review and Approve HES School Improvement Plan

Suzanne Mahoney presented the School Improvement Plan which emphasized technology infrastructure, the Habits of Mind program, professional development for teachers, and differentiated instruction in math and language arts.

The committee discussed School Goal #3 under Strategic Goal #2 – Examine schedule to accommodate all learners. In assessing the measurement of the goal it was decided to extract goal #3 from the improvement plan and have Interim Superintendent, Joe Connelly work on the best approach to achieving the goal.

Piali De made a motion and SusanMary Redinger seconded to approve the School Improvement Plan with the exception of goal #3 which will be taken up by Joe Connelly when he starts and under his direction will move forward on the initiative.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

The committee will discuss the addition of World Language at the elementary school June 27th.

Devens Education Advisory Committee 2011 Survey and Satisfaction Report

Maureen Babcock went over the results of the DEAC 2011 Educational Survey, dated May 17, 2011. Although the majority of results were very positive, the committee discussed a plan to address the families who were unhappy in particular areas. It was decided that Kirsten and Maureen would draft a preliminary response to the Devens community regarding the results of the survey and follow up options.

Review and vote on continuation of education contracts with Mass Development

The committee reviewed the Devens education contract with Mass Development and voted on the continuation of the contract.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to move that Harvard Public Schools continue with the Devens contract that is in place.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

Review and vote on Superintendents 2011 performance evaluation

The committee presented their performance evaluations of Superintendent, Thomas Jefferson for the 2011 time frame. Virginia Justicz former School Committee member contributed and SusanMary Redinger declined as she was not a member of the committee during the evaluation period.

Patty Wenger made a motion and SusanMary Redinger seconded to move that we accept the superintendent's performance evaluation into record as presented.

VOTE (5/0) to accept the motion

Commentary

Piali De - graduation was great – fun to see all the students and parents enjoying the celebration.

Keith Cheveralls – honor and privilege and huge blast to participate in graduation and hand out the diplomas.

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Piali De seconded to adjourn at 10:15

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Zadroga