

School Committee Minutes  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
Friday, September 3, 2010  
8:00 a.m.

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

Keith Cheveralls called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

**School Committee/Superintendent Goals**

The committee went through the third reading of their goals. The committee is generally pleased with their goals but realize that some goals are less definitive and harder to measure. Each subcommittee shares the responsibility to report back to the School Committee for quantitative measurement and the understanding the goals may need to be refined.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to accept the School Committee Goals (Draft #2) as presented for the 2010/2011 school year.

VOTED (5/0/) to accept the motion. (Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Kirsten Wright (Yes))

Superintendent, Thomas Jefferson read through the second reading of his goals. Keith Cheveralls asked for a timeline of the teacher evaluation piece. Tom is still waiting for the HTA to meet. Piali and Patty will talk to the HTA to see what can be done to move things along. The committee asked Tom to incorporate personal electronic devices the current computer use policy.

Piali De made a motion and Virginia Justicz seconded to accept Tom's goals as presented in draft document.

VOTED (5/0/) to accept the motion. (Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes), Virginia Justicz (Yes), Kirsten Wright (Yes))

**Education Jobs Grant**

Superintendent Jefferson informed the committee that Harvard will receive \$125,810 in funding through the Education Jobs Grant. The committee discussed the use of the money as one time dollars. One recommendation is to use the funding to supplement teacher salaries and keep the Devens' money for other uses such as technology, International Baccalaureate program or subsidizing athletic funding. Keith suggested that the committee utilize the money wisely and treat the money as an investment that aligns with other town initiatives. A formal decision will be made at a future meeting.

**FY11 Budget Update**

Lorraine Leonard presented the committee with an overview of the new hire adjustments. The most significant savings was with the Interim Principal and reminded the committee that is most likely a one time savings.

Lorraine updated the committee on the oil tank removal. The estimate for that project was originally \$15K of which half was going to be funded through a grant. The actual bid came in at \$25K with no grant, the projected cost of the project is \$40K. After the tank was removed there was a concentration of oil in the soil, the soil was excavated and tested and the results were relatively minor and addressed. The actual cost of the additional testing and excavating is not known at this time, but should be known by the end of the day. Many thank to firm Cushing Jammallo and Wheeler, Inc. for their work on the project. The funding for this project is intended for the omnibus budget with the possibility of Devens' surplus if necessary.

Virginia Justicz left the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

### **Vote on SOI for MSBA Green Schools Grant**

The statement of interest for the Green Schools Grant introduced by Ron Ricci in collaboration from the Board of Selectman and funded by MSBA for energy saving initiatives must be submitted by September 26 with school committee approval.

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded

### **School Committee vote:**

Resolved: Having convened in an open meeting on September 3, 2010, the School Committee of The Town of Harvard, in accordance with its charter, by-laws, and ordinances, has voted to authorize the Superintendent to submit to the Massachusetts School Building Authority the Statement of Interest dated September 16, 2010 for the Hildreth Elementary School located at 27 Massachusetts Avenue which describes and explains the following deficiencies and the priority category(s) for which Town of Harvard may be invited to apply to the Massachusetts School Building Authority in the future for a priority five (5) project of replacing windows at the Hildreth Elementary School with Energy Efficient windows; and hereby further specifically acknowledges that by submitting this Statement of Interest, the Massachusetts School Building Authority in no way guarantees the acceptance or the approval of an application, the awarding of a grant or any other funding commitment from the Massachusetts School Building Authority, or commits the Town to filing an application for funding with the Massachusetts School Building Authority.

VOTED (4/0) to accept the motion. (Patty Wenger (Yes), Keith Cheveralls (Yes), Piali De (Yes), Kirsten Wright (Yes))

The Board of Selectman will have the MSBA Green Schools statement of interest on their agenda for September 7<sup>th</sup> to vote.

**Agenda Items**

Superintendent evaluation

Race to the Top

**Adjournment**

Piali De made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to adjourn at 9:25 a.m.

Mary Zadroga

Recording Secretary