

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Monday, April 23, 2012
6:00 pm.

Members attending: Keith Cheveralls, Kirsten Wright, Piali De, SusanMary Redinger, Patty Wenger, Joseph Connelly, and Lorraine Leonard, Maureen Babcock

Keith Cheveralls called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

SusanMary Redinger made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to approve the minutes from the April 9, 2012 meeting as amended.

VOTE 5/0

Keith Cheveralls announced that this will be the last meeting of this group of School Committee members and Piali's last formal attendance. Piali was recognized for her service on the committee and presented with two plaques. One plaque recognized her years on the board and one was in recognition of her year as Chair of the committee.

Student Report

Nick George reported that everyone is back from vacation. AP exams will be administered in 2 weeks. The school is looking forward to the NEASC review that will be coming up this Sunday through Wednesday. There will be a school wide assembly so all students will know what to expect while the NEASC team is visiting Bromfield.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Connelly explained that the School Committee Self Evaluation instrument has been updated and the new forms are included in the packet. Dr. Connelly also informed the committee that the current number of registrations for kindergarten is 54. Ellen Leicher has reported to Dr. Connelly that the ELNA Collaborative will be dissolved and each member community will receive left over funds of between \$800 and \$1,000. These funds must continue to be used to promote the ideals of ELNA.

Liaison and Subcommittee Reports

SusanMary Redinger reported that the HES School Council is working on the School Improvement Plan as well as the Climate Survey.

Kirsten Wright reported that the TBS School Council is working on the School Improvement plan.

Piali De reminded members of the NEASC schedule and the committee's required attendance on Sunday, April 29th. Piali will attend the policy subcommittee meeting in May to finish things up. Keith Cheveralls reported that the Board of Health would like to meet with him relative to the mold issue at HES. Keith will get an update from Joe prior to the meeting. Keith reminded folks of the National School Board conference being held in Boston this June.

Student Presentation – Model UN

Students who attended the SPIMUN – St. Petersburg Russia trip shared their amazing experience with the committee.

Harvard Energy Committee – Solar Panel Project – Bill Blackwell

Bill Blackwell of the Harvard Energy Committee attended the meeting to discuss the best location to install the solar panels on school property. Initially the array was to be installed on the TBS roof, but due to the fact that installation would void the roof warranty the elementary school roof may be a better location. The new location would require the need for a new design plan and a structural analysis. Before funding is approved the committee asked that the Harvard Energy Committee seek input from the Town Building Inspector, the Planning/Zoning Board and the Historical Commission to be sure there is no objection to the new location and that the HES roof is strong enough to house the array. The committee also asked Mr. Blackwell to come back to the May 14th meeting with a full financial summary to see if there are any funding gaps.

2012/2013 Professional Development Preliminary Plans

Bryce Mattie and Gretchen Henry co-chairs of the Harvard PD Committee presented and briefly discussed the 2012/2013 professional development plans. The plan included professional development topics and preliminary schedules for the four full professional days as well as the 20 early release days. The plan for summer professional development is being finalized with dates and presenters and is planned for the week after school gets out.

2011/2012 School Committee Self Evaluation

The committee reviewed and discussed the School Committee's Self Evaluation document and timeline for completion. The document is the same as the Superintendent evaluation document with six main sections. The Self Evaluation should be completed and returned before the May 14th meeting and will be reviewed and discussed at the June 11th meeting.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Piali De seconded to approve the School Committee Self Evaluation instrument as presented

VOTE 5/0

Final Annual Town Meeting Preparation

The committee discussed School Committee sponsored warrant articles. Questions came up about the school zone sign and the need for more information. Joe will call Chief Denmark about the status of the current sign.

Future Agenda Items

Professional Development

Policy

Year-end projection

Updated personnel report

Memorial Day meeting to Tuesday

Evaluation 6:00 start time

Commentary

Piali thanked everyone for the presentation of the two plaques, she has enjoyed her time on the committee this second time around, had a lot of fun.

Patty Wenger – is really going to miss Piali

Keith Cheveralls – people will forget what you say and what you do but they never forget how you make them feel.

Kirsten Wright made a motion and SusanMary Redinger seconded to go into executive session for the sole purpose of contract negotiations with nonunion personnel. Following executive session the Committee will reconvene in open session for the purpose of adjourning only.
VOTED Cheveralls (Aye), De (Aye), Redinger (Aye), Wenger (Aye), Wright (Aye)

After Executive Session -Patty Wenger made a motion and Piali De seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Zadroga
Recording Secretary