

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

Members attending: SusanMary Redinger, Kirsten Wright, Bob Sullebarger, Patty Wenger, Maureen Babcock, Joseph Connelly, Lorraine Leonard

Absent: Keith Cheveralls

SusanMary Redinger called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to accept the minutes of the July 11, 2012 meeting as presented.

VOTE (3/0) - SusanMary Redinger abstained due to absence

### **Costa Rica Field Trip Approval**

Jenn Fraser and Jessica Hyde shared with the Committee a proposal for Bromfield students to attend the Global Student Leaders Summit Tour in Costa Rica. The trip would occur from April 14, 2013 to April 22, 2013 (during April vacation).

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to move we approve the trip as presented less the White Water Rafting Trip.

VOTE (4/0)

### **Discuss and Finalize 2012/2013 School Committee Outcomes**

SusanMary read through the goals/outcomes adopted for the 2012/2013 school year. The committee recommended minor changes in wording.

Kirsten Wright made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to formally adopt the 2012/2013 Harvard School Committee goals as amended.

VOTE (4-0)

### **Personnel Updates**

Dr. Connelly reported two new teachers have been hired. Jan Schenden has been licensed and hired as for the Technology teaching position at TBS and Erin DeCoste has been hired for the Special Education teaching position at TBS. There is a potential for a fourth Kindergarten teaching position and need for a .7 FTE Speech Pathologist position yet to be hired. Dr. Connelly has been in active conversation with Fitchburg State University to secure a paid intern to work 30 hours a week in the Technology Department. As of this date the personnel budget has uncommitted funds of \$143,225.

### **Review and sign Johnson Controls Contract**

Lorraine Leonard explained that the HVAC bid was held and Johnson Control was awarded the low bid of \$23,000. Because one bidder was not notified of changes in the bid which misrepresented the number of filters changes from 2 times to 4 times per year, the bids were thrown out and a new bid will be scheduled for mid-August.

### **Summer Project Updates**

Dr. Connelly presented the status and actual costs of several summer projects that are funded through warrant articles and the maintenance budget. The overspent amount of \$3,650 in warrant articles projects will be funded by the school rental revolving account offset. At this point two projects (mold removal in room 148 and electrical work to install the HES computer lab in room 219) have resulted in an over spent amount of \$10,960 of which \$10,000 will be recouped through the Shaw Trust account and \$960 will be recouped through the rental revolving account.

Kirsten Wright made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to move that we approve the use of the Shaw Trust account for up to \$10,260 for unanticipated expenses for Rooms 148 and 219 repairs.

VOTE (4/0)

### **Kindergarten Report and Staffing Decision**

Dr. Connelly presented a report submitted by Dr. Linda Dwight giving 3 options to consider for school year 2012/2013 due to the expected enrollment of approximately 52 students in kindergarten next year.

Option 1 – eliminate the fourth teacher and 2 ½ aide positions.

Option 2 – Hire a fourth teacher and use some of the budget aide time to cover lunch and recess.

Option 3 – Add 2 more School Choice students and hire a fourth teacher.

After discussion

Patty Wenger made a motion and Kirsten Wright second to move that we go with option 2 as presented by Linda Dwight and keep four kindergarten sections.

VOTE (4/0)

Due to two school choice students leaving the district the committee discussed whether to open two school choice slots or reduce the school choice offset to the FY13 budget.

After discussion

Kirsten Wright made a motion and Patty Wenger second to open up school choice slots in grades 9 and 11, one slot per grade.

VOTE (3/1) Patty Wenger (Yes), Bob Sullebarger (Yes), Kirsten Wright (Yes), SusanMary Redinger (No)

### **Superintendent Search Planning**

SusanMary Redinger reviewed the time line and major dates with the intention of posting the position October 1<sup>st</sup>. The committee will use MASC at a cost of up to \$8,500 for services which will be presented in detail at a later date. MASC will receive all resumes which removes the committee from confidentiality issues. The committee developed the Superintendent Search Committee (SSC) composition with a cross section of 13 stakeholders.

### **HES Math Program Update**

The “Go Math” curriculum has been purchased using \$29,436.77 of unspent FY12 funds and \$27,624.72 of FY13 funds, which is great news as the Math curriculum adoption was able to occur one year sooner than scheduled.

### **Harvard School Food Service FY13 Budget**

Chef Paul shared information with the committee that after he and Lorraine Leonard reviewed hi FY13 budget it was determined that a price increase for school lunch was necessary.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move to accept the proposal and approve the increase in school lunch program prices at The Bromfield School by \$1.00 effective for the 2012/2013 school year.

VOTE 4/0

### **MassDevelopment/Devens Contract renewal**

The Committee reviewed the proposed draft contract for the education of Devens students.

George Rameriz has been given authority from MassDevelopment to sign the contract once the committee approves it. After discussion the committee asked that Dr. Connelly and Lorraine Leonard meet with George Rameriz to clarify some contract language.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to table the vote on the contract until we have a full board in attendance and instruct Joe Connelly and Lorraine Leonard to discuss the contract language questions that came up tonight with George Rameriz.

### **Future Agenda Items**

HEAC

HVAC Contract

Contract negotiations

Bus fees

Policies requiring second reading

Readiness report

Handbook review

Newsletter to the Community

### **Commentary**

Joe Connelly – The cable committee asked to use the weightlifting room rather than the storage area at The Bromfield School for their studio. It is not a feasible request and the offer stands that the space available is the storage area.

BobSullebarger – was happy to tour the space at TBS offered to the Cable Committee for use and looking forward to that going ahead.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to adjourn at 9:15 p.m.

VOTE 4/0

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Zadroga

Recording Secretary