

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Tuesday, November 13, 2012
6:00 p.m.

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

SusanMary Redinger called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Review of Minutes

Patty Wenger made a motion and Keith Cheveralls seconded to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2012 meeting as amended.

VOTE 5/0

Special Presentation – Dr. Connelly, on behalf of Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents (MASS), presented an award for academic excellence to Clara Wang.

TBS- Special Presentation – 2012 Mock Election Results

Kathleen Doherty, from the Social Studies Department at TBS along with Dr. Julie Horton from the Math Department ran the mock election in conjunction with the Current Events and AP Statistic courses. Drew Banker described the processes used and the data collected during exit polling. Drew remarked that the mock election raised awareness and even the younger students were very politically knowledgeable.

Reports

Student Report – Nick George reported that the first term ended and report cards will go out on Thursday. Fall sports have ended. The Bromfield Drama Club performed “The Life of Galileo” this past weekend and it was very good. SusanMary Redinger presented Nick with an official gavel to use at the Model UN debates.

Dr. Connelly informed the committee that CASE has approved HES to host a classroom for the 2013/2014 school year. There will be a \$7,500 reduction in the CASE assessment as a result.

CASE and HPS are looking forward to the partnership.

Dr. Connelly reviewed dates for upcoming meetings.

November 26th – Draft 1 Budget Presentation

December 3rd – tentative cost center meeting

December 10th – tentative cost center meeting

December 13th – CPIC presentation of capital project requests

Dr. Connelly reported that he and Pam DeGregorio have interviewed several candidates and have found a highly qualified candidate for the Interim Special Education Director’s job. Dr. Connelly will invite Dr. Michael Dubrule to the next meeting to be introduced to the committee.

Liaison & Subcommittee

Patty Wenger reported that OPEB is moving along nicely and their report should be completed and ready by January.

Bob Sullebarger reported on the HEAC meeting. The HEAC will hold a ribbon cutting ceremony to highlight the completion of the solar array project. They would like to get students involved in working with the committee.

Bob Sullebarger reported that he has started collecting data on birth rates and home sales over time to bring to the Declining Enrollment Subcommittee meeting on November 20th.

Kirsten Wright reported that the TBS School Council met today and discussed the formation of subcommittees working on climate, handbook, graduation requirements, scheduling, and advisory.

Joe Connelly, SusanMary Redinger and Kirsten Wright attended the MASC conference on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. The conference was very informative and the general session was fabulous.

Keith Cheveralls reported that CPIC met on November 1st and accepted capital plans. Lorraine Leonard compiled the worksheet of request and preliminary work is in progress. The School Committee will formally present their capital requests to the CPIC on December 13th. Any changes are due to CPIC by November 28th.

SusanMary Redinger reported that HES School Council is scheduled to meet on November 27th.

Analysis of 2012 MCAS/SAT/AP Results

Linda Dwight and Jim O'Shea presented the 2012 results of the grades 3 to 10 MCAS assessments. Harvard continues to do very well on MCAS scores and for 2012 both Hildreth Elementary and The Bromfield School had an accountability and assistance level of 1. Jim O'Shea pointed out the rising scores from third grade to tenth grade, meaning the longer students are in Harvard schools the better they perform. Of note 100 percent of Bromfield tenth graders passed the English/language arts section of the test for three years in a row.

Policy JFAB Admission of Foreign Exchange Students – Second Reading

The committee reviewed policy JFAB for adoption. The only change from the first reading is clarification on participation.

Keith Cheveralls made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move that we adopt policy JFAB – Admission of Foreign Exchange Students as presented. Dr. Connelly advised that The Bromfield School should highlight the policy on their website well in advance of the April 15th deadline for student acceptance.

VOTE 5/0

Superintendent Search Update

The Superintendent Search Committee have met and come up with fifteen to eighteen interview questions. They are scheduled to meet at 5:30 p.m. on November 27th with Glenn Koocher from MASC to participate in interview training. All School Committee members are invited to attend. The deadline for application submission is November 16th at 4:00. Glenn Koocher will then get the resumes delivered to Dr. Connelly and the Search Committee will be reviewing the applications.

The Bromfield House – Long Range Discussion

Keith Cheveralls presented a comprehensive report on the Bromfield House and an overview of the costs to repair and renovate the building based on the 2011 inspection of the Bromfield House by Galeota Associates. Keith presented the committee with estimates from contractors and vendors on the cost of repairs. The report also laid out four possible options 1. Seek capital requests from the town for the necessary repairs; 2. Do nothing; 3. Implement minimal repairs of up to \$110,000; 4. Sell the building with proceeds to be used for educational purposes. The committee thanked Keith with gratitude for his work on the report. As a next step, Keith will be

exploring and speaking to town leaders regarding the availability of space at the town hall and old library as well as renovations to the K-wing.

Monthly Financial Report

Lorraine Leonard reviewed the FY13 budget to actual report as of October 31, 2012. There are no significant changes and the projected balance in the personnel account is \$144,000.

Future FY14 Budget Meetings

The committee discussed possible dates for FY14 budget reviews with cost center managers. The committee will use a portion of the December 10th regular scheduled meeting and December 11th from 8:30 to 9:30 for the remainder. The Committee will be announcing their Superintendent finalists on December 11th.

Future Agenda Items

NEASC Evaluation

SPED Interim –

Newsletter

School Improvement Plans

Feedback to reduce stress at TBS

Wellness Program - Guidance

Common Core Standards-schedule dep't head for curriculum alignment presentations

Student Program Presentations

Commentary

Bob Sullebarger – invited committee members to his sons Eagle Scout ceremony on December 1st.

Kirsten Wright – attended the school play “Life of Galileo” and was so pleased to be able to hear all of the words thanks to the generous donation of drop microphones from Fanfare. Thank-you Fanfare.

Keith Cheveralls – recognized the leadership at both school for their moving Veterans Day assemblies. Keith recognized Christine Reale for a phenomenal job and encouraged everyone to attend next year.

SusanMary Redinger – SusanMary and Kirsten had a delightful meeting with the HTA president and co-president. It is a great opportunity and a great partnership.

Adjournment

Patty Wenger made a motion and Keith Cheveralls seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Zadroga

Recording Secretary