

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Tuesday, May 28, 2013
6:00 p.m.

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

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

Review of Minutes

Patty Wenger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to approve the minutes of the May 20th meeting as presented.

VOTE 5/0

TBS – Costa Rica Field Trip Report

Ms. Bryce Mattie and Ms. Jen Fraser along with students from The Bromfield School shared with the Committee their experience traveling to Costa Rica in April to attend the Environmental Summit. The students discussed both the journalist component as well as the travel component of the trip.

Reports

Dr. Connelly reviewed with the Committee the status of his 2012/2013 work schedule. To date Dr. Connelly has worked 8 days over his 200 day work year. The terms of his contract allow for the School Committee to pay him for 5 additional days in each contract year.

Dr. Connelly reported the Kindergarten registration is currently at 49 students not counting transition students.

Liaison & Subcommittee

Patty Wenger and Bob Sullebarger met to discuss the Strategic Plan process. They will be contacting Chelmsford and Wellesley to get ideas about their recent process and come back with more information.

Keith Cheveralls reported that a wreckage company interested in the disposition of assets met with Mark Force about the steel container behind the elementary school. The company was most cooperative and plan to move the container after school is out for the year.

Kirsten Wright reported that TBS School Council met today and discussed the wonderful community involvement in the end of the year school activities like Celebration and how to inspire community involvement in other areas. The Council also plans to review the student handbook and continue to work on the School Improvement Plan.

Maureen Babcock reported on the fantastic art events taking place and kudos to all who put the events on. The DEAC Survey is compiled and will be presented after it has been reviewed by DEAC.

SusanMary Redinger reported that the HES School Council is working on five goals for the School Improvement Plan. The HES School Council will also be reviewing the student handbook at their June 11th meeting. SusanMary is working to consolidate efforts with the Board of Selectman with regard to scheduling meetings at Volunteers Hall.

The Committee confirmed upcoming summer meeting dates. The following dates were confirmed:

June 10th, June 17th, July 8th, July 10th (a.m. meeting - budget close-out), July 29th, and August 26th.

Future Management Systems (FMS)

FMS representative Lyle Kirtman, Bill Garr and Herb Levine briefed the School Committee on their firm's ability to facilitate Harvard's next Superintendent search process. FMS has done more than 100 searches for top administrators in the past 20 years and they work nationwide. All three representatives were confident that the search would produce a strong candidate pool. Keith Cheveralls raised concern that an internal candidate had expressed interest and how that would impact the search. All members responded that any internal candidate was welcome to apply; but should be judged during a full search and measured against other candidates. Keith Cheveralls raised concern that a conference call between FMS and 3 School Committee members and Dr. Connelly had violated the Open Meeting Law. Discussion followed that the intent of the conference call was not to deliberate or make any decision, but to give FMS information to prepare their presentation. Dr. Connelly, SusanMary Redinger, Kirsten Wright and Patty Wenger apologized for any unintentional wrong doing. The Committee moved to a vote to enter into negotiations with FMS. Keith Cheveralls voiced concern that uncertainty of any internal candidate made it impossible for him to agree to hire a search firm.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Bob Sullebarger made motion to authorize the Chair to enter into negotiations with FMS for their services.

VOTE: 4/0/1 (Keith Cheveralls abstained)

TBS Program of Studies 2013/2014

Mr. O'Shea and members of his staff reported on new courses that are being offered in the Program of Studies at The Bromfield School for next year. Talia Mercandante described a "Rhythm and Groove" music course being offered to Grade 7 and 8. Sarah Merrihew spoke about the "On Your Own" course being offered to seniors. Additionally, an AP Studio Art course is being offered as well as two new English elective "Public Speaking Fundamentals" and "Shakespeare from Page to Stage".

Kirsten Wright made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move that we approve the addition of the 5 courses in the Program of Studies for 2013/2014 as presented.

VOTE 5/0

Pond Road Project Timeline

SusanMary Redinger updated the Committee on the timeline for the Pond Road paving project. SusanMary spoke with Mark Force and Rich Nota to decide the best time to do the Pond Road paving project. The advice from Rich Nota was to delay the project until next year, send the bid out in March 2014 for a July 2014 start.

Keith Cheveralls made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move that we approve the delay in the Pond Road Paving Project with no work to begin until before the cost estimates are reviewed and it is determined to be within budget of \$157,000.

VOTE 5/0

School Committee Policy Review

Section C Policies for Review Only

CBB, CBD, CBE, CCB, CE, CH, CHA, CHB, CHC, CHCA-E

Section C Policies for Amendments

ACD, ACD-R, ACE, ADDA , ADFA ,JLB, CA, CBA, CBB, CBD, CBI, CCB, CE, CH, CHA, CHB, CHC, CHCA, CHCA-E, CHD, CM.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Keith Cheveralls seconded to approve or amend as presented and amended Section C Policies, ADDA, ACD, ACD-R, JLB, ADF and ADFA as a first read.

VOTE 5/0

Kirsten Wright read policy ADFA as a first read to be adopted May 28, 2013

Future Agenda Items

School Improvement Plans

Student Handbook Review

Commentary

Bob Sullebarger – inspiring results from trip to South America.

Kirsten Wright – glad that people feel free to speak their minds and exchange in healthy dialogue.

Patty Wenger – excited about working with FMS.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to adjourn at 9:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Zadroga

Recording Secretary