

School Committee Minutes
Town Hall Meeting Room
Tuesday, May 27, 2014
6:00 p.m.

Members attending: SusanMary Redinger, Kirsten Wright, Bob Sullebarger (arrived 6:10) Patty Wenger, Jennifer Bedford, Maureen Babcock, Lorraine Leonard. Absent: Joseph Connelly

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

Review of Minutes

Patty Wenger made the motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2014 meeting.

VOTE 4/0

Reports

Student Report

Katya Schwiegershausen reported on the following events at TBS:

Art Show, Wellness Day, 12th Night Performance, BBQ Fundraiser, Senior Awards, Class Day, and Graduation.

Liaison & Subcommittee Reports

SusanMary Redinger reported that a reception is being planned for Sue Frederick on June 11th. The HES School Council met and discussed the technology plan, the strategic plan, reviewed the handbook, health and wellness and transition from 5th to 6th grade. The Master Plan Steering Committee is asking all residents to take their survey by going to www.HarvardMasterPlan.org Patty and SusanMary met with the HTA and discussed their concerns about holding school on December 24th and how best to plan for that day. They also discussed implementation of the technology plan and what it might mean for the future.

Bob Sullebarger reported that HEAC met on May 14th and discussed LED outside lighting at TBS, inventory of maintenance contract, solar on the roof and results of the energy survey. HEAC is looking to schedule to meet with Mark Force to move forward on these issues. HEAC will have a consultant attending a future meeting to discuss how energy is being used and the possibility of installing solar panels on the roof at TBS with no cost to the town.

Bob Sullebarger and Patty Wenger met with the Student Council and discussed the role of the School Committee, the science labs, the technology plan and the number of AP classes. Students also voiced their opinion that they want no change to the school start time.

Subcommittee and Liaison Assignments 2014/2015

The Committee recapped the Subcommittee and Liaison Assignment for 2014/2015.

Field Trip Approval – Grade Six to Canobie Lake Park, Salem, NH

The Committee reviewed and approved a request from the Grade 6 teachers to take students to Canobie Lake Park on June 17, 2014

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to move to approve the Sixth Grade trip to Canobie Lake Park.

VOTE 5/0

School Committee Policy Review and Approval

The Committee reviewed changes to policies JICE and JJA and policy JLCA as new.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move that we approve policy JICE and JJA as amended and policy JLCA as new.

VOTE 5/0

FY16 Sabbatical Leave Request

Dawn Marie Ayles presented a proposal to the Committee requesting a 90% paid sabbatical to pursue a Certificate of Advance Graduate Studies in Educational Leadership and Management. The sabbatical leave would take place during 2015/2016 school year. The Committee tabled a decision until Dr. Connelly is in attendance. A decision will need to be made by September 2014.

2014 Field Trip to France Report

Robin Hermans, Josh Thurston and Jane Sullebarger shared a video of their trip to France. Students stayed with host families and enjoyed the total immersion in French experience. Plans are being made for French students to come to Harvard next year.

2014 Survey Review and Discussion

TellMass Survey, Climate Survey, DEAC Survey

Gretchen Henry and Jim O'Shea presented the results of the TellMass Survey. Gretchen Henry reviewed the results of the student survey at HES. Maureen Babcock reviewed the results of the DEAC survey. The TBS Climate survey will be opening to the public for parents, staff and students to take.

2014/2015 School Handbook Review and Approval

Jim O'Shea reviewed proposed changes to the TBS student and parent handbook. The Committee accepted the proposed changes. Mr. O'Shea was asked to elaborate on the school bus conduct section of the handbook and bring back once the changes have been made. The HES handbook is a work in progress and will be brought back for approval at a future meeting.

Capital Project Update

The Pond Road Parking Lot Project is on schedule to begin after school ends on June 20th. The HES Parking Lot Project which was initially to repave is being studied for more efficiencies, to add parking in the back and change the bus drop off.

2015 MCAS vs PARCC Assessments

Superintendents are being asked to inform DESE whether they plan to use the PARCC Assessment or MCAS assessment in grade 3 -10 during school year 2014/2015 by June 30th.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Kirsten Wright seconded to move that we stay with MCAS testing in Grade 3-10 for the 2014/2015 school year.

VOTE 5/0

2013/2014 Official Last Day of School

Patty Wenger made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move that the official last day of school be June 20, 2014.

VOTE 5/0

2014/2015 Tentative Professional Development Plan

Gretchen Henry reviewed the proposed Professional Development Plan for the 2014/2015 school year. The Committee asked that the professional development be rated by the staff and feedback be presented to the Committee at some point next year.

Finance Report

Lorraine Leonard discussed the Apple Leasing program for iPad leasing. She is in the process of sending approved vendors a list for pricing. The spalling concrete contract was sent to Mark Force for approval and a date for the pre-bid is being scheduled. The Committee reviewed a list of potential uses for any FY14 unspent funds. The Committee will make a decision before June 30th.

Superintendent of Schools Annual Evaluation

This agenda item was tabled due to Dr. Connelly being unable to attend the meeting. The Committee discussed the benefit of having out-going member Keith Cheveralls complete the evaluation.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move that we authorize the input of Keith Cheveralls to the evaluation of the Superintendent.

VOTE 5/0

School Committee Summer Meeting Schedule

The Committee agreed to meet on July 14th, July 28th and August 25th.

Future Agenda Items

Sabbatical Request
Year End Balance Report
School Handbook Review
Personnel Report
Implementation of the Finger Printing Law
Climate Survey
Surplus Expenditure Possibilities
Superintendent Evaluation
Bus Routes
Student Council Meeting Attendance

Commentary

Kirsten Wright – Enjoyed the visit and presentation on the French trip.
SusanMary Redinger – thanked everyone for their continued hard work.

Kirsten Wright made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8: 30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Zadroga
Recording Secretary