

School Committee Minutes  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
Monday, September 16, 2013  
6:00 p.m.

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

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

### **Review of Minutes**

Patty Wenger made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to approve the minutes of the August 26th meeting as submitted.

VOTE 5/0

### **Reports**

#### **Student Report**

Katya Schwiegerhausen was introduced as the student liaison to the School Committee for the school year 2013/2014. Katya reported a great start to the school year. Katya also reported that the sports teams are doing well. Auditions were held for Little Shop of Horrors which will be performed November 1, 2, 3<sup>rd</sup>. Bromfield has introduced a crossing guard. The extra-curricular fair will be held September 25<sup>th</sup>. The student council is holding a faculty breakfast on Friday.

#### **Superintendent Report**

Dr. Connelly reported on the PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Career), which is an assessment program that will test grades 3-11 in English Language Arts and Math starting in school year 2014/2015. Harvard has been chosen to participate in a field testing of the PARCC assessments during a March to April testing period. Students who participate in this year's PARCC Field Test will not be required to participate in the same section of (Math or ELA) of this year's MCAS. Dr. Connelly reported that Harvard Parks and Recreation Committee requested a meeting to collaborate with them on investigating how other towns manage their recreation, community education and field maintenance operation. Dr. Connelly suggested that Patty Wenger as the liaison to Harvard Parks and Recreation contact Pat Nelson to set up a meeting.

Dr. Connelly reported that he had recently received an offer from New England Educational Consultants (NEEC) offering to provide us consultant assistance in the development of our next 5 year Strategic Plan with the benefit of a matching grant that would fund up to 60% of the cost. SusanMary Redinger, Patty Wenger and Dr. Connelly met with George Ladd and it appears to be a strong match to our current goal of producing a three or five year Strategic Plan by June 2014. The cost of the Strategic Plan development with the matching grant is estimated to be \$5,000 or less.

Keith Cheveralls made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to authorize the Superintendent to engage New England Education Consultants (NEEC) for the purpose of working on the Strategic Plan with the funding source to be determined.

VOTE 5/0

Dr. Connelly reminded members of the MASS/MASC conference to be held in November. SusanMary Redinger and Kirsten Wright have already registered. Dr. Connelly encouraged other to attend including Dr. Linda Dwight, Patty Wenger, Dr. Linda Dwight and Lorraine Leonard will plan to attend.

### **Liaison & Subcommittee Reports**

Kirsten Wright reported that the TBS School Council met last Tuesday and welcomed new member Heidi Creighton. The Council worked on the School Improvement Plan goals and started to form committees to work on goal parts. Allie Cronin will be writing bi-weekly articles for the press. The Council is sponsoring Deanna's Educational Theatre to present The Yellow Dress program, which brings attention to dating violence.

Keith Cheveralls reported on the progress of the HCTV studio. The studio will be ready for folks to stop by during the Bromfield School Open House on September 25<sup>th</sup>.

Keith Cheveralls reported that CPIC has announced a list of their meetings for the year. Since this will be Keith's last year serving as the School Committee representative to CPIC he suggested it may be helpful for other members to attend meetings to get up to speed to take over.

SusanMary Redinger reported the HES School Council will hold their first meeting tomorrow.

The HES School Council is still looking for one parent representative to serve on the Council.

SusanMary Redinger reported that one vendor submitted a bid to the Master Plan Steering Committee for Phase 2 of the plan for \$100,000. The Committee is looking to establish an alternate proposal to get the work done.

The Committee will be meeting with Student Council on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. at TBS. Kirsten Wright agreed to attend the library meeting on Wednesday night.

### **Approval of Economic Club at TBS**

Sam Swindells and Chris Hogan asked permission from the Committee to start an Economics Club. The charge of the club would be to track the economy, follow the stock market on etrade and enter into a virtual stock market competition.

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Keith Cheveralls seconded to move that we approve the application for the new Economics Club at The Bromfield School as presented.

VOTE 5/0

### **Five Year Capital Plan FY15 to FY19**

Mr. George O'Neil and Mr. Scott Richards were in attendance to report on the GRLA(Gorman Richard Lewis Architects) architectural assessment completed on the Bromfield House and the TBS Science labs. The estimated cost for the recommended work on Bromfield House is \$685,000 and for upgrading science labs and classroom at TBS is \$3,474,300. Following the presentation, the Committee chose to schedule an additional meeting to discuss how to move forward. In the interim placeholders for the two projects were put into the 2014-2019 Capital Plan for fiscal year 2015.

Bob Sullebarger made a motion and Patty Wenger seconded to move that we approve the 5 Year Capital Plan as a working draft for the 2013-2014 school year as presented.

VOTE 5/0

### **Superintendent Search Update**

SusanMary Redinger announced at the beginning of the meeting that Dr. Linda Dwight had been selected as the new Superintendent at a meeting held on Saturday morning, September 14<sup>th</sup>. SusanMary reported that she has been in discussion with Dr. Dwight regarding contract negotiations. Keith Cheveralls thanked SusanMary and Kirsten for their hard work.

### **Financial Report**

Dr. Connelly reported that there is currently a \$116,000 to \$160,000 budget deficit in Special Education. The increase is due to out of district placements. The district may qualify for extraordinary relief to offset the deficit, but they will not be able to apply until March and will not know the amount until May. Dr. Connelly reminded the Committee that the town has a \$200,000 contingency fund if the budget offsets and extraordinary relief do not cover the deficit.

### **School Committee Policy Review**

The Committee reviewed the following policies:

- JICFB – Bullying Prevention Policy
- JICFB-R – Bullying Prevention and Intervention Plan
- JJIF – Concussion and Head Injury Policy
- JJIF-R – Athletic Concussion Regulations

The bullying policy has been amended to reflect new wording to include student and or staff members. The state department of public health requires that the Concussion and Head Injury Policy be reviewed every two years.

Keith Cheveralls made a motion and Bob Sullebarger seconded to move to accept the amendments to Policy JICFB, JICFB-R, JJIF, and JJIF-R as presented.

VOTE 5/0

### **2013/2014 School Opening Report**

Dr. Connelly reviewed with the Committee the enrollment numbers and bus ridership numbers as of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Future Agenda Items**

- HES Climate Survey TBS & HES
- Emergency Crisis Plan
- Community Education Business Plan Update
- CPIC update
- School Improvement Plans

**Closing Commentary**

Patty Wenger excited to have Linda Dwight as our Superintendent  
SusanMary Redinger – Thanked everyone for their hard work.

Patty Wenger made a motion and Keith Cheveralls seconded to move into executive session as authorized by Chapter 30A, Section 21 to conduct strategy session in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel.

Cheveralls (Aye), Redinger (Aye), Sullebarger (Aye), Wenger (Aye) Wright (Aye)

Respectfully Submitted:

Mary Zadroga  
Recording Secretary