

School Committee Minutes  
Upper Town Hall  
Monday, February 11, 2019  
6:15 p.m.

Members attending: Mary Traphagen, SusanMary Redinger, Shannon Molloy, Jon Green, John Ruark, Chloe Cushing, Aziz Aghavev and Linda Dwight. Absent: Maureen Babcock

Mary Traphagen called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

SusanMary Redinger read the vision statement.

**Public Commentary:** None

**Student Report:** Chloe Cushing reported that the Snowball dance was held last weekend and went over well. Students had a lot of fun. Quarter 2 just ended so semester classes will be switching. Chloe Cushing is excited that she is doing an independent study at HES for the second semester. The Bromfield sports teams are doing pretty well. Seniors are hearing back from colleges, and that is exciting.

**Trip Approval:** Andrew Wright presented a request for the Bromfield History and Geography Bee and Bowl team to travel to the National competition in Arlington Virginia from April 25<sup>th</sup> through 28<sup>th</sup>. The group will compete on Friday in Bee rounds and on Saturday in Bowl rounds as teams. Harvard Schools Trust will cover the entrance fees for both the Bowl and the Bee. Parents will fund the remaining cost of the trip.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Jon Green seconded to approve the field trip as presented.

VOTE 5/0

**Mid-Year Review of School Improvement Plans:**

Scott Hoffman, Robin Benoit and Julie Horton shared The Bromfield School Improvement Plan to show progress made in their overarching objective to provide a safe, secure and inclusive learning environment for all, to support engaged teaching and learning, and to activate community pride.

Josh Myler shared the Hildreth Elementary School Improvement Plan and showed progress made in the Core Value categories of student achievement, personal growth, partnership, and resources and school climate.

**Mid-Year Review of Superintendent Goals:**

Dr. Dwight shared the ongoing progress being made on the Superintendent goals of innovative teaching and learning for Harvard teachers and students and to provide school leadership on the Design Development Phase and preconstruction Phase of the new school project.

### ***Superintendent Report:***

\*Middle School Ramp Consideration – Members of the original ramp advisory group met the Dave Eisen from Abacus to review the designs and consider next steps. Dr. Dwight also met with 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade team of teachers to review the same information. Consensus grew to have three options drawn for further review. All three options include a larger platform outside the door at the upper floor for outside learning space. The other details are as follows: rebuild the ramp only, rebuild the ramp and include a stairway as well, and also include a storage and public bathroom under the outdoor classroom.

\*The calendar committee has completed their process which includes several meetings, collecting input on draft considerations, and finalizing the recommended calendar. Consideration was given to the number of placements of professional development time, the length of the winter break, and whether to make ERs into late start days. The final recommendation will be voted on in two weeks. In addition, Shannon Molloy asked the Committee to consider changing the holiday in October from Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day. The Committee will consider this change and vote in two weeks.

### ***School Building Project Phasing Plan:***

SusanMary Redinger shared information regarding the school building project phasing. The project is scheduled to begin in April 2019, with an expected move in Spring of 2021.

### ***Presentation of RADAR:***

Aziz Aghavev demonstrated how to access information contained in the Resource Allocation and District Action Report provided by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. There is a lot of data to work with.

### ***Science Fair Participation***

John Ruark and SusanMary Redinger agreed to participate as judges for the Science Fair on March 8<sup>th</sup>.

### ***Grant Approval***

The Committee reviewed two grants for approval:

Fanfare approved a gift to the Music Department at Hildreth Elementary School for an Area Rug in the amount of \$499.

The Harvard PTO approved a grant in the amount of \$250 toward the transportation cost of the AP English class attending a performance of Hamlet performed by Shakespeare & Company at Regis College in Weston, MA.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and John Ruark seconded to approve the grants as presented.

VOTE 5/0

### **Brainstorm Questions for the Harvard Devens Jurisdiction Committee**

SusanMary Redinger reviewed a list of draft questions that will be presented to the Harvard Devens Jurisdiction Committee. School Committee members gave input and added questions. The questions will be used for future work once a consultant is hired to work with the Harvard Devens Jurisdiction Committee.

**Policy Review:**

<b>Policy</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Summary</b>
<b>EBB – First Aid</b>	<b>Adopt</b>	<b>SusanMary Redinger made the motion and John Ruark seconded to adopt Policy EBB as presented. VOTE 5/0</b>
<b>EFCA – School Meals Charge Policy</b>	<b>Eliminate</b>	
<b>EFD – Meal Charge Policy</b>	<b>Adopt</b>	<b>SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Jon Green seconded to adopt policy EFD and remove policy EFCA as presented. VOTE 5/0</b>

Agenda Items

**Risk Youth Survey**

**Foundation Budget Changes**

**Calendar**

**Financial Report**

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and John Ruark seconded to approve the minutes as amended.

VOTE 5/0

**Liaison and Subcommittee Reports**

SusanMary Redinger and Mary Traphagen met with HTA (Harvard Teachers Association) members, Melissa Niland and Kate Keane. A group from HTA is working on co-curricular and extracurricular stipends and fine-tuning the amounts advisors are paid based on the time involved in each activity. There was also discussion about the foundation budget and how we fund our future and the HTA’s participation in that. There is an event planned in Littleton March 1st from 3 to 5 and the HTA is encouraging folks to go. It is ok for teachers to wear buttons in support of the foundation budget. The HTA members discussed an interested in interest-based bargaining for the next round of negotiations. It is a big-time commitment but tends to help negotiations run smoothly.

Jon Green reported that on February 5, 2019, the Harvard SEPAC in collaboration with the Ayer Shirley SEPAC and the Bureau of Special Education Appeals (BSEA) presented an “Introduction

to Special Education Mediation”. Jon Green asked that the invitation for SEPAC events be sent all district families in order to raise visibility.

**Public Commentary** – none

**School Committee Commentary**

John Ruark appreciated hearing school news from the principals tonight and would be nice if they could contribute on a monthly basis.

Jon Green– Announced that he has decided not to seek reelection when his term ends in the Spring.

Mary Traphagen – Thanked Jon. She knows it is a hard decision and Jon will definitely be missed. You have made solid contributions to this Committee.

The Commissioner is planning to come to our district on March 8<sup>th</sup> at noon. All are welcome to come and participate

Adjourn

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and John Ruark seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

VOTE 5/0