

School Committee Minutes
Upper Town Hall
Monday, June 10, 2019
6:16 p.m.

Members attending: SusanMary Redinger, Shannon Molloy, Suzanne Allen, John Ruark, Sharlene Cronin, Maureen Babcock, Aziz Aghayev and Linda Dwight. Absent: Chloe Cushing

Suzanne Allen read the Vision Statement.

Public Commentary - None

Student Report – None

Student Presentation of CAD Project

Dr. Dwight introduced Cynthia Fontaine and students from her AutoCAD class to share their projects. The students were tasked with redesigning the sound and lighting booth at Cronin Auditorium. Christian Lancellotti, Kayla Lem, Jason Alexander, and Ziyad Ali shared their CAD diagrams and explained their reasoning for the changes they were proposing. The students were enthusiastic about the results of their project and all that they had learned during the process.

Field Trip Approval – None

District Improvement Plan

Dr. Dwight reviewed the progress made on the District Improvement Plan throughout the 2018/2019 school year in the categories of Student Achievement, Personal Growth, Partnerships and Resources. Work will be done over the summer to update the plan and goals.

Policy Review

John Ruark led the Committee through the review and amendment of Policy AC and Policy BEDH.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Sharlene Cronin seconded to move to approve the changes to policy AC as presented.

VOTE 5/0

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Suzanne Allen seconded to approve Policy BEDH and BEDH-E as amended.

VOTE 5/0

Superintendent's Report including Bus Bid Update

See attached Superintendent Report and Bus Bid.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Sharlene Cronin seconded to move to authorize the Superintendent to sign the contract with Dee Bus for regular transportation and athletic runs and field trips for the next three years.

VOTE 5/0

School Business Manager Position Increase; Vote

Dr. Dwight asked the School Committee to authorize her to increase the work schedule for Aziz Aghavev by an additional day per week and spending up to an additional \$20K.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Suzanne Allen seconded to approve the Superintendent to increase the hours for the School Business Manager as requested.

VOTE 5/0

Athletic Fields Planning Sub-Committee; Vote

John Ruark asked if there would be any interest for a member of the School Committee to become part of the Athletic Fields Planning Sub-Committee. Dr. Dwight recommended Sharlene Cronin to work with the Sub-Committee as a voting member.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Suzanne Allen seconded to move to appoint Sharlene Cronin as the School Committee representative to the Athletic Field Planning Subcommittee.

VOTE 5/0

School Building Update

SusanMary Redinger reported that excavators are uncovering tons of large boulders on the construction site. The School Building Committee will be getting together to gather ideas to on the best way to remove and disperse some of the big boulders on sight. The School Building Committee approved a change order for \$240K in order to remove excess soil from the construction site. A Groundbreaking Ceremony will be held on Thursday at HES at 6:00 p.m. The next School Building Committee meeting is scheduled for June 20th.

Grant Approval; Vote - None

Confirmation of School Committee Meeting Day and Time

The Committee agreed to continue to hold their meetings on the second and fourth Monday of each month at 6:15 p.m.

Brainstorm Retreat Topics

John Ruark explained the retreat format would be set to last four hours and include four agenda items, each lasting one hour. Ideas for the retreat agenda were as follows:

- *Inviting Dorothy Presser from MASC and getting a list of topics that she can cover.
- *School Committee goals and upcoming negotiations with HTA.
- *Book Review.
- *Wellness Activities.

- *Self-Assessments.
- *Superintendent Evaluation.
- *Subcommittee Assignments and ideas for new Subcommittees.
- *Data Analysis.

Brainstorm Agenda Items

School Improvement Plans
Handbooks
Policy
Substitute Process
Housing update from Devens
Fields
Summer PD plans
Print out of class enrollment – in the fall

Negotiating Sub-Committee; Vote

On June 25th at 9:30 a.m. School Committee members are invited to attend a meet and greet with the IBB facilitator. A new Subcommittee will be created that will be chartered with negotiating with the HTA for the upcoming contract series. Membership of the Subcommittee will be John Ruark and Sharlene Cronin.

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Sharlene Cronin seconded to establish a negotiating subcommittee with the charter to negotiate with the HTA for the upcoming contract series.

VOTE 5/0

Approval of Meeting Minutes; Vote

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Suzanne Allen seconded to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2019 School Committee meeting as presented.

VOTE 5/0

SusanMary Redinger made the motion and Sharlene Cronin seconded to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2019 meeting as amended.

VOTE 5/0

Liaison/Subcommittee Reports

Sharlene Cronin reported that the Inclusion Subcommittee met, and they have scheduled the date of October 10th at 6:00 p.m. to start a new book club using the book, “The Hate U Give”. The Committee did a survey to ask for teacher recommendation for students in order to have a broad representation of students.

Shannon Molloy – HES Council is done and TBS Council meets this week for the last time.

Shannon Molloy – Policy Subcommittee may achieve their goal this year to catch up. Thanked John for hanging in, and will reallocate the liaison in July.

Maureen Babcock – reported that DEAC met and had two agenda items: Vicksburg Square and the newsletter. The Super town meeting to discuss Vicksburg Square has been postponed to the fall. At a high level it does not seem that the project will have a big impact on the schools. DEAC’s goal to issue a newsletter to keep open the lines of communication with the Devens community. In addition, Dr. Dwight provided an overview of the finances and how it relates to the Devens contract.

Suzanne Allen – reported that the Wellness Subcommittee met and talked about vaping. Not a lot of kids have been caught. Time needs to be spent educating in many different ways and directions. Speakers have been brought in, and there needs to be work on parent and student education. The issue of detectors was mentioned that will be able to alert administrators when there is a lot of activity in a certain area.

Suzanne Allen – reported that SEPAC met and they are still trying to schedule a get together with the Pupil Services Director. Hopefully over the summer they will be able to get together.

SusanMary Redinger recognized Shannon Molloy for going out to the softball team to echo the School Committee support and letting the girls know we value and support their team. Shannon Molloy was eloquent in her presentation.

Public Commentary and School Committee Commentary

John Ruark reported that graduation is a fantastic event. John thanked the leadership team and teachers for getting the kids prepared to move on to meaningful lives.

John Ruark declared with no other business, the meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

VOTE 5/0

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Zadroga