

JOINT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING, JANUARY 26, 2010

Attended by Cheryl Kirkpatrick

6:30 PM Joint Meeting of the Concord and Carlisle School Committees

Recognitions

- Stanford University recognizes Tracy Davies for exceptional teaching
- Carleton College recognizes Andrei Joseph

Reports & Issues for Discussion

Jeff Yuhas , a teacher at the high school who teaches meteorology, brought 3 of his students to give an overview of the program. They work in conjunction with the television studio and radio station. Recently he and one of his students presented at a conference.

Peter Badalament, Principal at the high school presented an update of some of the things that are going on at the high school. He spoke of Haitian relief, multiple travel programs, focus on English, various efforts of incorporating technology in the classroom (robotics, using Google Docs, recording studio, etc.). At faculty meetings, the staff are talking about outcomes, and which are the most important outcomes for students.

Concord Education Fund Grants for 2010-2011 were announced. \$77,591 in projects were announced for this year. An additional \$40,000 were allocated for wireless access in the high school

- Major emphasis for this school year was on high school grants because many of the k-8 grant proposals were able to be funded through the operating budget.
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Update on CCHS Facilities Master Plan by Michael Fitzgerald

- In June 2009, the regional school community formed a high school facilities master plan committee
- Expect to have a final report with recommendations out by March 10, 2010
- Since July 2009 they have met at least twice a month and have formed many sub-committees
- Committee hired OMR to plan a new high school. This is the group that built the Bede Center, the Willard School and Lincoln-Sudbury High School, to name a few
 - One of their goals is a sustainable design
 - OMR has presented 7 different design approaches so far. The plan is to work with these ideas to come up with one that will meet all the needs at the high school
- They have requested \$1.3 million to do the next step of funding a feasibility study. If we fail to pass the warrant article in both towns, the process of redesigning the high school will have to stop.
 - What will the feasibility study do? Among other things, investigate possible solutions, including cost estimates, descriptions of systems, projected cash flow, construction schedule,
 - Janet asks why they needed to spend \$250,000 for the master plan study and now need \$1.3 million more. Many chime in that the maser plan was necessary for the feasibility study.
 - The feasibility study is necessary for MSBA (Massachusetts School Building Authority)
 - Peter F. thinks it was critical that we go into the feasibility study knowing what we want out of the school

- In determining the amount the request, they observed strong correlations between the size of the facility and the amount they needed to request

School Committee votes to approve the Warrant Article for Feasibility Study

School Committee also voted to give the Chair the power to sign MSBA

Action Items

Vote to approve teacher's request to enroll his son in CCHS. SC approved this

Gift Acceptance – Donation to Adult & Community Education

Old Business

Today they interviewed 6 candidates for the Thoreau principals. There are three finalists. Everyone is invited to a tea/forum for the finalists on Feb, 2, 3, 4 at Thoreau School 3:30-4:30 in the library

Supreme Court decision regarding evaluation of Superintendent is brought up by Diana Rigby. She suggests that the open meeting law and the ways committees have sometimes done this is in conflict. She suggests that they seek Peter Ebbs legal council to see what they need to do. Issue is that school committee members apparently cannot share their ideas with each other via email – it has to be done in open meeting.

Reminders

February 5, 2010: Superintendent/School Committee afternoon tea @ Sanborn Library,
2:45-4:00 PM

Next Meeting: February 9, 2010 CPS Meeting @ Ripley 6:30 PM