Bromfield School Council Minutes

THURSDAY, May 21, 2020 Via Zoom

Attendees: Scott Hoffman, Ben Myers, SusanMary Redinger, Sharon Cronin, Karan Strickland, Patricia Nilan, Tiana Jiang, Vivian Jamba, Imogen Slavin, Ellen Sachs Leicher, Chris Jones, Katy Covino

Vision Statement:

The Harvard Public Schools community, dedicated to educational excellence, guides all students to realize their highest potential by balancing academic achievement with personal well-being in the pursuit of individual dreams. The students engage in learning how to access and apply knowledge, think critically and creatively, and communicate effectively. They develop the confidence and ability to understand diverse perspectives, collaborate, and contribute to their local, national and global communities.

Opening: How is your weather? Much improved.

The minutes from the March 11 meeting were approved unanimously.

Principal Report - Important Events, Past & Present - Coronavirus-Covid-19 Latest

- School Buildings Closed Thursday, March 13, will remain closed for remainder of year.
- Remote Learning - Following state guidelines for phases 1, 2 and 3
  - Primary Goal - Social Emotional Well-Being of Students
  - Education Goal
    - First - Maintain Skills
    - Second and Third Phases – First coal plus move curriculum on line.
    - Moving curriculum at 40-50%
  - Using Zoom/Google Meets as communication platforms.
- This is crisis education...if we are still remote, it will look different in the fall.
- Phase 4 Task Force for Harvard has been formed.
- Lots of collaboration between teachers, administration, parents, students
  - Surveys
  - Meetings - administration desserts
  - Meetings with class officers
  - Class meetings
- Communication with students
- Letters
- Daily announcements
- Meetings
- Desserts
- Celebrations...
  - Signs for Seniors
  - Banners for Seniors
  - Virtual Awards Night
  - Senior Parade through town on June 5
  - Graduation July 31
  - Move-up t-shirts for 8th graders
- What’s next??
- Governor’s task force to look at school reopening, with four possible options:
  - Stay on-line.
  - Hybrid some in building/some not
  - Some hybrid and remote learning.
  - Everyone back in school according to CDC guidelines.

School Committee Update:

Reviewed approved softball field. Title 9 compliance a concern. There is a draft policy for dealing with supporting organizations such as booster club, HAA, Fanfare. Consulting to be used to refine policy. Spring coach stipend paid ¼ for work done in advance of season. Athletic fees will be either refunded or held over at choice of parents. Working on budget changes due to shortfalls in revenue.

Current School Improvement Plan:

School Improvement Plan

- Looking to next year. School Improvement Plan
- Respect for everything; Cleanliness (taking pride in the building)
  - Middle school join GSA?
  - Respect for self, others, property
  - Civics and diversity. Teaching tolerance.
  - Restart World of Difference?
- Service Learning - Continue to develop. Interning
- Academics around computer programing (staff, curriculum)
- More female involvement - should it be after school or Saturday?
- Comprehensive assessments at the end of a course - authentic, applied alternative
  - Interview, speech, practical
- Homework
- Awareness of different issues - people can be impulsive
- Mental Health focus needs to continue.
- Middle school health and also ninth grade.
- Integrating technology - more
- Need focus on digital citizenship, including safety, inclusiveness
- Best practices for remote or hybrid learning, to reach all students
- Training not just for teachers and administrators, but also students, to use virtual learning.

**Subcommittee Updates:** Reality Fair cancelled

**Other:**

- Council Membership
  - Terms that expire and elections as needed
    - Parent Three Year Term - Karen Strickland
    - Community Member - Sharon Cronin
    - Faculty - Chris Jones
    - Students - Vivian Jamba, Vivian Liu?

**Meeting adjourned 4:50pm.**

**Meeting calendar for remaining school year** - June 10, July??

Ben Myers

Secretary, Bromfield School Council