

UXBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
 NOVEMBER 4, 2014
 UXBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

Received by
 Uxbridge
 Town Clerk

School Committee Members in Attendance:

	Present	Absent
Michelle Taparausky, Chair	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Jane Keegan, Vice Chair	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Sean Dugan, Secretary	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Eileen Gorman, Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Melanie King, Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Charlene Miller, Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Debbie Stark, Member	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

1. Call to Order-

Michelle Taparausky, Chair, opened the meeting at 7:00pm.

2. Student Updates

Daniel Lanoue provided the Committee with an update on athletics from the high school.

3. Public Comment

Pam Yukna, Uxbridge Teachers Association President, provided her opinions on the on-going teachers' union contract negotiations.

4. Nature's Classroom Field Trip Request - Dr. Drolet

Dr. Rich Drolet, McCloskey Middle School Principal, requested the Committee approve a trip for 6th Grade students to Nature's Classroom in Charlton, MA for a two night, 3 day stay. He stated that fundraising has been discussed to lower the rate, but that it would be approximately \$250 a student at maximum. Dr. Drolet stated that approximately 80 students would be attending, but it was his hope that the entire 6th grade would go. He also stated that the company would work with students facing financial hardship.

Ms. Taparausky asked why they chose the end of March since it would be in colder temperatures. Dr. Drolet explained that there were few dates to pick from, but the students would still be able to do activities outside.

Charlene Miller stated that she had gone on the trip before and explained that it was a great experience for students.

Eileen Gorman asked what the student to chaperone ratio would be. Dr. Drolet informed her that it would be about 12 students to 1 chaperone, not including Nature's Classroom staff.

Michelle Taparausky moved that the Committee approve the trip to Nature's Classroom in Charlton, MA from March 23rd-25th. Eileen Gorman seconded the motion. The Committee voted in favor of said motion 7-0-0. MOTION PASSED.

5. 2013-2014 MCAS Presentation

Superintendent Kevin Carney provided a brief introduction to the data received from MCAS for the 2013-2014 school year.

Curriculum Director Jennifer Gaudet provided a PowerPoint presentation on the data from schools in the district in various subject matters. Lori Fafard, Whitin Elementary Principal, Dr. Drolet, MccCloskey Middle School, and Tara Bennett of Uxbridge High School presented the data for their respective schools, citing progress at almost every level.

Ms. Miller asked about biology being offered to students for MCAS at the high school level. Mrs. Bennett explained that grade 9 takes Physics and Technology because that is what path is offered in the general curriculum. She added that biology was not an option.

Jane Keegan asked if the Committee could expect to see further gains as a result of the math curriculum being implemented. Ms. Fafard said yes. Ms. Keegan added that she has seen a tremendous amount of progress between when she was first elected until the present day.

6. Budget Sub-Committee Update: Student Participation Fees

Sean Dugan, Budget Sub-Committee (BSC) Chairman, provided the Committee with an update of what the sub-committee had been reviewing with regards to student fees. He discussed the 3-0-0 recommendation by the BSC to increase student fees at the middle school to \$100/student, at the high school for \$150/student, and a \$600 family cap, but he added that it was discussed afterward at a later BSC meeting that the cap should be lowered to \$500.

Melanie King asked about the involvement of the Athletic Boosters Club. Ms. Taparausky explained that the Boosters collect the money at the gate, but then turn it over to the Athletic Director, and the benefit they receive from it is the ability to sell 50/50 raffle tickets at the gate.

Jane Keegan moved that the Committee adopt the fee schedule recommended by the Budget Sub-Committee with a fee of \$100 for middle school students, \$150 for high school students, and a \$500 family cap to be set in effect for the 2015-2016 school year.

Sean Dugan seconded the motion. The Committee voted in favor of said motion 7-0-0. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Dugan informed the Committee that the BSC voted 2-1 in favor of recommending a \$50 fee for high school activities and a \$25 fee for middle school activities. He indicated that Deb Stark was the no vote, and she felt more comfortable with a \$25 high school fee and a \$20 middle school fee.

Ms. Miller asked for more information on the music program. Ms. Bennett provided some clarification on the variety of programs in the music department at the high school level.

Mr. Dugan explained that the BSC voted 3-0-0 in favor of implementing a \$5 parking fee at the high school, simply to cover the cost of purchasing the parking stickers. He stated that it was decided not to move forward with a higher fee because so many other fees were being discussed already and it would be unfair to parents and students to add another one on, but he did feel it was important to at least have a sticker system in place for accountability purposes.

Sean Dugan moved that the Committee approve a \$5 parking fee at the high school to cover the cost of parking stickers effective the 2015-2016 school year. Michelle Taparasky seconded the motion. The Committee voted in favor of said motion 7-0-0.

Mr. Dugan provided an overview of the current state of the bus contract process and turned it over to School Business Manager Don Sawyer. Mr. Sawyer discussed the timeline of events in terms of needing a decision from the Committee. He also explained how he was researching reducing the number of buses in the fleet and changing the radius requirements.

7. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Carney provided the Committee with a copy of the SWCEC 1st quarter report.

Mr. Carney stated that he would hold off on the Annual Town Report until December.

Mr. Carney read a letter from the Uxbridge Police Department regarding a donation of grow lights to the School Department for horticulture uses, as they were obtained in a raid. He also noted that the Blissful Meadows golf tournament raised \$5,000 for the schools for the purpose of purchasing a new AV cart.

Jane Keegan moved that the Committee accept the donation of the grow lights from the Uxbridge Police Department and the \$5,000 donation from Blissful Meadows for the purpose of a new AV cart. Sean Dugan seconded the motion. The Committee voted 7-0-0 in favor of said motion. MOTION PASSED.

Mr. Carney provided an update on the superintendent's goals and discussed professional development in the district.

8. Old/New Business

Mr. Dugan stated that he would be attending the MASC state conference on November 7th.

Ms. Taparauskys reminded the Committee that the MASC training is on November 17th, and that all new members should attend, but old members are invited also.

9. School Committee Minutes - October 15, 2014

Michelle Taparauskys moved that the Committee accept the minutes of the October 15th School Committee meeting. Sean Dugan seconded the motion. The Committee voted 7-0-0 in favor of said motion. MOTION PASSED.

10. Adjourn

Michelle Taparauskys moved that the Committee adjourn. Eileen Gorman seconded the motion. The Committee voted 7-0-0 in favor of said motion. MOTION PASSED.

The Committee adjourned at 8:57pm.

11. Executive Session - Open Contracts and Minutes of October 15, 2014

The Committee, by roll call vote, entered into executive session at 8:57pm.

Michelle Taparauskys-YES, Jane Keegan-YES, Sean Dugan-YES, Charlene Miller-YES, Deb Stark-YES, Melanie King-YES, Eileen Gorman-YES.


Respectfully submitted,


Sean Dugan,
Uxbridge School Committee Secretary

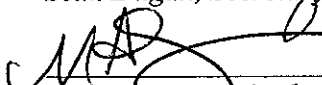
School Committee Members:

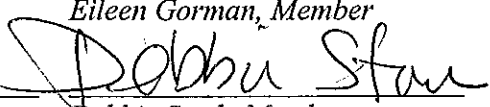

Michelle Taprausky, Chair

Jane Keegan, Vice Chair


Sean Dugan, Secretary

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Melanie King, Member


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Charlene Miller, Member