

UXBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
 FEBRUARY 24, 2015
 UXBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

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, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Public Comment

Tina Harpin makes comments with regards to her position on the Common Core Standards.

3. FY16 Budget Update

Superintendent Kevin Carney informed the Committee that the Town Manager presented his recommended budget to the Board of Selectmen the previous night. He added that he was confident the School Department could meet the recommended budget number.

Don Sawyer, School Business Manager, stated that the vocation school expenditures would now be sectioned out. He added that there would be a couple changes to the number between then and the public hearing on the budget in April.

Eileen Gorman thanked all that were involved in the making of the budget document.

Mr. Sawyer stated that the budget document would be put online, pending Committee approval.

4. Vote to Approve FY16 School Dept. Budget

Sean Dugan moved that in accordance with Article 6 Sections 2(b) and 6(d) of the Town of Uxbridge Charter (" ... at least seventy-five days prior to the date on which the town meeting is to convene in its annual session. "), the Committee formally submits to the Town Manager the following FY2016 Budget Request and authorizes the School Business Manager to formally communicate this request on

the Committee's behalf: Account #300000, School Department, Total: \$19,068,671 and Account #300000 School Bus Transportation, Total: \$1,171,926. Jane Keegan seconded the motion. The Committee voted in favor of said motion 7-0-0. MOTION PASSED.

5. FY15 Budget Update

Mr. Sawyer stated that there were not a lot of updates since the meeting two weeks prior, but he noted that the Town of Uxbridge, not the School Dept., pays for snow and ice removal, although the School Department helps.

Mr. Carney discussed the Kindergarten grant, and he stated that he wants to move away from using programs that rely on grants.

6. UHS Program of Studies

Tara Bennett, UHS Principal, an overview of the program of studies and a PowerPoint presentation that included information on the following topics:

- Semester Schedule
- Daily Schedule: 6 period/6 day
- New courses/name changes
- MassCore Information
- Why MassCore?
- Course examples: Full yr./Semester
- What UHS students will gain

Charlene Miller proposed changing the term “diploma prep” to something with a more positive connotation.

Ms. Miller discussed the need to change the term “Mosaic” from course titles.

Ms. Miller asked why there were courses such as Physical Education twice and get credit. Ms. Bennett stated that the make-up of certain classes vary based on the weather from fall/spring.

Deb Stark asked for clarification on the units and credits at the high school with regards to college admissions. Ms. Bennett stated that a semester is 1 credit, and a year is 2 credits, and it was a result of the transition from the trimester scheduling.

Mr. Carney believed that there should be more full year courses, but noted that there are financial implications attached to it.

Melanie King stated that we will have the same number of students at the high school, and she couldn't see it affecting the budget much. She believed it could be handled through restructuring.

Ms. Taparausky stated that the program of studies needed to be voted on that night but that changes could be made to accommodate some of the requests made.

Ms. Miller discussed the wording of the notation on the foreign language section to reflect college requirements.

Jane Keegan moved that the Committee accept the program of studies with the revisions made at the February 24, 2015 School Committee meeting. Eileen Gorman seconded the motion. The Committee voted in favor of said motion 5-2-0. MOTION PASSED.

7. Superintendent Update

Mr. Carney thanked the Department of Public Works, School Facilities workers, and anyone else involved in the removal of snow and ice for their efforts during the winter season.

Mr. Carney stated that there were three searches under way. He read the bios of the three finalists for Curriculum Director. He also stated that he was hoping to enter into contract negotiations with Marla Sirois for Taft ELC Principal. He also stated that there were searches that had begun/will begin soon for the Athletic Director and the UHS Principal.

Mr. Carney mentioned that the parent survey results had come back with positive numbers. He stated that 86% were satisfied with the education their children receive. He also stated that there would be a presentation forthcoming.

8. 2015-2016 School Calendar- 2nd Reading

Sean Dugan moved that the Committee accept the 2015-2016 School Calendar in its second reading. Eileen Gorman seconded the motion. The Committee voted in favor of said motion 7-0-0. MOTION PASSED.

9. SATM 2015 Warrant Article- International Education Revolving Account

Mr. Sawyer stated that the Committee was voting on the creation of the account within the Town's system, not on how the money would be spent.

Sean Dugan moved for the School Committee to sponsor an article on the 2015 Annual Spring Town Meeting Warrant with the language, "To see if the Town will vote to accept Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, Section 71F, which authorizes the creation of special revenue funds by the School Committee, for the receipt and expenditure of funds

received as tuition payments for nonresident students and as state reimbursements for students who are foster care children.” Jane Keegan seconded the motion. The Committee voted in favor of said motion 7-0-0. MOTION PASSED.

10. Old/New Business

Ms. Miller congratulated all that were involved in the Junior National Honor Society ceremony.

Ms. Gorman stated that the Academic Awards Banquet at the high school went well.

Ms. Taparasky discussed the Committee’s Open Meeting Law complaint. She announced that the Attorney General’s Office found the Committee in violation of the Open Meeting Law for the August workshop the Committee attended. She stated that the Attorney General’s Office clearly stated that it was unintentional.

Ms. Stark asked if MCAS testing dates were affected by snow days. Mr. Carney responded that they weren’t affected.

Ms. King apologized for her attendance in the August meeting that was found in violation of Open Meeting Law. She stated that it was a precedent from previous School Committees and she was unaware that it would be in violation.

11. School Committee Minutes – February 3, 2015

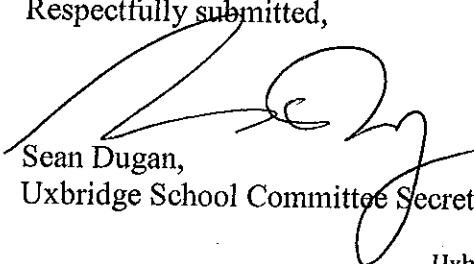
Eileen Gorman moved that the Committee accept the minutes of the February 3, 2015 School Committee meeting. Melanie King seconded the motion. The Committee voted 7-0-0 in favor of said motion. MOTION PASSED.

12. Executive Session - Open Contracts and Minutes for January 20, 2015

Sean Dugan moved that the Committee adjourn. Eileen Gorman seconded the motion. The Committee, by roll call vote, adjourned the open session meeting and entered into executive session at 9:14pm with no new business to follow.

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

Respectfully submitted,

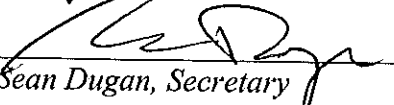


Sean Dugan,
Uxbridge School Committee Secretary


Uxbridge School Committee Meeting Minutes- February 24, 2015

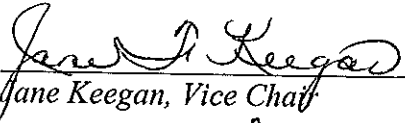
School Committee Members:



Michelle Taprauskys, Chair


Sean Dugan, Secretary


Melante King, Member


Charlene Miller, Member


Jane Keegan, Vice Chair


Eileen Gorman, Member


Debbie Stark, Member