

Center School Council Meeting Minutes February 6, 2020 – Center School

Present: Jane DeGrenier, Principal; John Galluzzo, Parent; Laura Louko, Parent; April Sheridan, Parent; Jill Joy, Teacher Representative; Lori McKenna, Teacher Representative; Mark Lancaster, Teacher Representative; **Absent:** Jacqueline Porro, Parent. Elizabeth Wilcox, Parent; Alicia DiBara, Teacher Representative; Russ Wilson, Assistant Principal, Ex-officio.

Principal DeGrenier called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Joy made a motion to accept the minutes of December 4, 2019; Ms. Sheridan seconded; voted unanimously.

Open Comment

Mr. Galluzzo asked whether or not the school would be open to the idea of a Hanover Historical Society pop-up museum, a small display of four or five commonly-themed artifacts on a single table with the Society's executive director or a volunteer, open during lunchtimes. Principal DeGrenier stated that yes, the school would be interested.

Mr. Lancaster thanked Principal DeGrenier and Ms. Amy Madden, Adjustment Counselor, for bringing the "Rescue" program to the school. Ms. Joy said that they handled the Marathon bombing content exceedingly well, presenting it without scaring and of the students, whom Principal DeGrenier stated were extremely attentive during the program.

Mr. Galluzzo said that Pizza Night was fun as usual. Principal DeGrenier said that 940 people were served in four seatings and that all flowed smoothly. Future efforts will focus on solidifying the town-wide elementary schools theme (i.e. including both Center and Cedar families).

Mr. Lancaster stated that the recent play was phenomenal. Principal DeGrenier praised the work of Music Teacher Dustin Lindsey. She also stated that four students had been chosen for the all-state chorus, a high number of the community for the past several years.

Hanover Historical Society grants update

Mr. Galluzzo reported that Mr. Stephen O'Neil from the historical society had already made the first series of visits to third grade classrooms for the Stetson House Scholars program funded by the STARS in Residence grant from the Mass Cultural Council and the Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation, and that future visits were being scheduled with Ms. Maura Donahue.

Mr. Galluzzo also reported that he and Mr. Lancaster would soon be meeting with Mr. O'Neil, Principal DeGrenier and Mr. Wilson to finalize the plan and schedule for the 4th grade maritime history program funded by the Mass Foundation for the Humanities.

School Improvement Plan

Principal DeGrenier stated that the plan was rolling along according to plan, making good progress. The council will review the details during the March meeting.

Budget

Principal DeGrenier said that the budget had been partially presented, and that there are no surprises. The school will be “level-funded” (adjusted only for expected increases, and no new items). Discussion followed on what potential new items would be needed by the school in the future.

Enrollment

Principal DeGrenier displayed the currently expected grade level populations for the 2020-2021 school year: 200 students in 2nd grade, 170 in 3rd grade, and 208 in 4th grade. Discussion followed on the number of classes (27) and the redistribution of teachers needed due to class sizes, special education numbers, number of students with 504 plans, and the numbers of specialty teachers, instructors and coaches currently engaged.

New Business

Ms. Louko asked whether or not the student council or leadership league was still active. Principal DeGrenier said that yes, it was.

Principal DeGrenier alerted all parents to watch out for an email later that night regarding a small “fire” that took place in the cafeteria during the 2nd grade lunch, as a small piece of parchment paper burned, fell to the floor and was stomped out. The Fire Department responded as protocol stated it should, and all was well. There were no alarms, there was no smoke and there was suspicion that many 2nd graders saw the flame, but there did not seem to be a buzz among the students.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

The council will discuss MCAS, the School Improvement Plan, the Budget, a Historical Society grants update, enrollment, and more at their next meeting on Wednesday, March 4, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m.