

JLPA Minutes- 4/03/18

Present: Tom Ford, Christine Gerardi, Colby Fraschilla, Loretta Zupnik, Maya Liss, Christina Collin, Brian Dreyfus, Chris McInvale, Jennifer Wells DiPentima

Call to order: 6:30 PM

1. Mr. Ford Updates:

- End of year calendar on the way with all year end events
 - * 4th Grade recognition assembly
 - * Lyman Lytes
- Thank you to the JLPA for conference luncheon; and to parents for flexibility with weather
- Spring break 4/16-4/20

2. Ways & Means updates:

- 6/15 – Food truck & movie on the farm

3. Cultural arts updates: Maya Liss:

- Arts for learning 4/27th Free. Anyone interested contact Maya
- Living history guild – a one person performance. Colby to send information to Maya. Can gauge per age group. Should relate to curriculum.

4. Dr. Taylor/ Mr. Moore Updates:

- Voting at end of school, June 22nd
- Apologize for action the board took
- Still have 5 schools – looking at reconfiguration: Andrew & Phil Auger chair the committee: Pre-K – 2, 3-5, 6-8, and High School
- Looking towards the future – we need more space for robotics/ STEAM etc.
- Not a great deal of new space for options
- Other option Pre-K – 4, K-4 allows two programs to continue, 6-7, 8th at High School or keep everything the way it is.
- JL – \$4-5 million capitol improvement plan needed in next few years. Estimated 900 million \$ in savings by closing a school
- We have a motion to rescind on the board tomorrow night
- How are we going to make this school the best (i.e. space, being outside, access to other people)... driven by some of the components of ID program
- How do we merge the programs?
- How do we link those two – we should focus on program link - For the public to support the process
- State funding going down – several \$100,000/year. Will continue to decrease. Need to control costs.
- Towns don't want higher mill rates
- By freezing up \$ for a building closure will help not make problematic choice
- Need to make a more efficient system - Have been looking at this issue for 3 years
- Need to have a zero budget. This even budget requirement impacted by Governor cuts
- Expense side is down since last year - Impacted by external issues

- Letter & testimony were great
 - Board doesn't like the competition – hopefully in the process we can eliminate that as well - Need to get on the same page
 - Both configurations are tight – reasonable space in HS/Strong
 - Christine concerned re: the use of portables
 - Keep debt balanced in the town
 - Both options to go to 4 schools - \$2million
 - Doing nothing – will need to spend the \$ to repair Lyman - \$4 million to fix +900,000/yr to maintain
 - Some newly constructed schools – one open for learning - 30 million to build – town likely not ready for that
 - Budget restraint can change and enrollment can change
 - 20-30% of students go to Mercy, Xavier, Choate etc. for HS
 - Encourage students to stay by having more language, advanced science programs, robotics, etc.
 - High school was built for 600-700 students
 - Strategic Visioning Team – (Made up of teachers and community members) April 24th 4-7pm & May 15th 5-8PM – Potluck dinner meeting at the high school. Drop in meetings. Educational visioning – program/curriculum based
 - Will replace furniture gradually in the budget
 - Surveys – are about the programs & the physical structure
 - This situation is different because a program is being threatened.
 - Not fair that there is a split in the district
 - Bring the 2 schools together more often
 - * The play – only get 10% of proceeds. 90% goes to Paper House because it brings the children together
 - * They have an opportunity to come together through sports as well
 - If tomorrow vote doesn't get rescinded - we won't do anything at public hearing
 - Dr. Taylor – pick an issue and research it and provide it to the board – will help them make better choices. Ie:
 - * Democratic process
 - * Grouping
 - * Buddy systems
5. Yearbook – need photos of any student based events
6. Field Day
- 5/25 (AM); Raindate: 5/29
 - Everyone gets bussed to Peckham
 - Will come back to school 1:30ish
 - Have different activities – performances
 - Food: Send Nina Healy an email to volunteer. Using Volunteer Spot website for sign-ups. Unanimous vote , JLPA to absorb the cost of food per student.

Call to Adjourn