

Uxbridge School Committee Meeting
December 19, 2018
UHS Library

Received by
Uxbridge
Town Clerk

	Present	Not Present
Debbie Stark, Chair	x	
John Morawski, Vice Chair		x
Matthew Keane, Secretary	x	
Brett Pomeroy, Member		x
Jennifer Chamberland, Member	x	
Erik Voigt, Member	x	
Member to be determined, Member		x

1. Call to order 6:32 pm by Debbie Stark, Chair.

2. Public Comment
No public comment

3. Student updates

Debbie Stark introduces a new format for Student Updates to include all schools to present the happenings at each school.

Dr. Tiano presents

Taft Early Learning Center

Nina Bandstra and Jack Postera presented on the recent happenings at the Taft ELC.

Whitin Intermediate School

Samuel Weeks and Grace Mathieu present the happenings at Whitin Intermediate School including 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th graders.

Uxbridge High School - to present at next meeting

4. Nature's Classroom Field Trip –

Motion to approve Whitin Intermediate School 6th grade class trip on March 19th – 20th 2019 by Debbie Stark. Second by Erik Voigt. Vote 4-0.

5. School Reconfiguration update –

Dr. Tiano presents an update from Principals Rubin, Demarco and Sirois on the status of the reconfiguration of the buildings from 4 to 3.

Taft –Mrs. Sirois presents current update for Taft –

Truly early learning center.

Highlights – Full time art teacher

Enrichment opportunities rolled out to all grades – STEAM example

Third grade continues to have recorders for music

Shorter bus routes lead to less behavioral issues over time

Challenges –

Arrival/dismissal

Lack of all school facility

Full to capacity causes storage/meeting space concerns

Overlap with Whitin is lacking for grade 3/4 conversations

Levers for improvement-

Asst Principal in building

Technology improvements lead to increase opportunity

ELA curriculum common k-3

Cohesion of curriculum development and PD

Whitin – Mrs. Demarco describes the changes that occurred over the transition

Concern of integration of grade 4/5 and 6/7 has turned into a positive opportunity

Highlights –

Kids are happy coming into school. Adjustment for grade 7 was most difficult, but occurred quickly

Transition well received – schedule working very well.

Cohesion of curriculum aligning k-7 grade levels

Club inclusion of 4 and 5 in activities and athletics

Start time adjustment was quick and is going well

Grade 6/7 recess/flex block is very successful

Transition time between classes allows grade 4/5 some autonomy

Breakfast cart has been successful in fueling students for learning

Positive interactions with all grade levels

Challenges –

PBIS merging between buildings

Grading systems are different

Sixth grade team separated by part of the building

Maximization of space for usage

Levers for improvement-

Creation of intermediate school identity – creation of mission statement

Grade level integration

Report card system review

Health curriculum improvement

UHS – Mr. Rubin presents transition update for UHS

Highlights –

Culture throughout grades was an important challenge that became a success

Space has not been an issue – 8th grade in somewhat contiguous areas

Grades 8-11 working in some classes working at the same level

Postive feedback from families

Challenges –

Extra 130 students strains counselors and admin staff to a degree

Continuing collaboration with 6/7 challenging

Availability of electives at higher levels a challenge as grade 8 merges in this year and following years

Solicitation of feedback from students (ie adjustments to schedules)

Maximization of space

Levers –

NEASC follow up will provide recommendations

Leverage cultural successes

Common planning to align across buildings

Increase incorporation of grade 8

Dr. Tiano points out the district wide improvements from pk-12.

Going forward – strategic planning process

Reflection and self-study

Vertical Coherence

Questions –

MK – Is space at Whitin a concern? Mrs. Demarco- no

MK – When do UHS kids determine where they will go? Mr. Rubin – May

MK – will space be a concern? Mr. Rubin – NO

EV – Are older grade levels working with 8th graders to expose them? Mr. Rubin – Yes

JC – At Taft – any concerns with incoming student population that may impact space concerns? Mrs. Sirois – no concerns at current but will be a concern based on preschool inclusion

DS – What is flex block? Is it consistently used by all teachers? Mrs. Demarco – 20 minute break between two classes where students have time to go outside during the day or have enrichment based on the day.

DS – Do the periods rotate or stay standard? Mrs. Demarco – 7th grade unified arts/specials first period mon – fri. 6 and 7 Core classes rotate Mon – Fri and repeat

DS – Is library time available for 4th and 5th grade students or access to the library? Mrs. Demarco – there is no library special, but access to the library is increased due to full time librarian throughout the day. Teachers bring students to the library during ELA/Literacy time.

JC – is there additional ability for students to access the library throughout the day outside of the class time? Can students be offered additional time? Mrs. Demarco – Will review that as an option for future. Some students use the library during flex time.

DS – what does impact to counselors mean? Mr. Rubin – Adjustment counselor is very busy. Adjustments to other positions being made as needed

DS – important to recognize our administrative teams through the process.

6. FY20 budget update

Dr. Tiano updates on current status of budget including draft is complete. Level service budget with some needs included.

Mr. Hyde – working backward from Feb 28th date. Budget subcommittee January 9th. January 16th public hearing. Vote on budget February 6th.

Capital improvement plan – current update on ongoing projects, 5-year plan presented to CIP and FY 20 capital requests

7. New Position/Job description approval (A)

Dr. Tiano discusses the position of administrative assistant for facilities management in the FY19 allocation

Position necessary for admin work to structure department

JC – is there knowledge necessary to accept this position – Mr. Pashooian – some knowledge preferable to allow for some tasks to be taken from facilities director.

JC – can someone be trained into the position? Mr. Pashooian – yes

MK – How many FTE's were budgeted into the FY19 budget? Mr. Hyde – money budgeted not FTE's

DS – bothers that we hadn't hired facilities person to date and now looking to add admin position.

EV – sees both sides of the need.

JC – understands need for admin work. Potential for pushing this to next year. Was there consideration for hiring an additional maintenance worker?

Mr. Hyde – the admin team strongly recommends the position

No action taken

8. Unit D Contract Ratification – (A) Pass over

9. Meeting minutes (A)

Motion to approve December 5, 2018 Uxbridge School Committee regular session meeting minutes by Matthew Keane. Second by Jen Chamberland. Vote 4-0

10. Old/New Business

Old –

MK – Capital items list are they in progress? - Brian Hyde – in process of procurement and identification of locations, etc.

New –

JC and EV – McCloskey building transfer – The McCloskey parcel includes the school, the fields and Taft School. Decision needs to be made on how to divide the parcel. Committee will need to determine if we will maintain "ownership" of the fields/parking lot when divided out. Question of whether facilities staff will remain in the building. Question of language for warrant article on whether contents of the building will be able to remain in the building after transfer. Need action item on Jan 2 agenda to determine what the committee's wishes are in terms of what parts of the parcel to maintain.

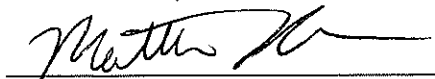
DS – has the district discussed blizzard bags? Dr. Tiano - No

11. Next school committee meeting –
January 2, 2019 at 6:30 pm in the Uxbridge High School library
 12. Whitin School Tour – committee will take a tour of the building to review with no business to follow.
 13. Adjourn
- Motion to adjourn at 9:23 PM by Matthew Keane. Second by Jen Chamberland. Vote 4-0

Respectfully Submitted,
Matthew Keane
School Committee Members:



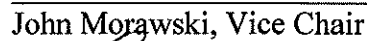
Debbie Stark, Chair



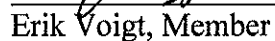
Matthew Keane, Secretary

D. Brett Pomeroy, Member

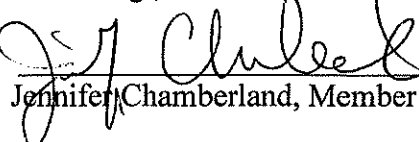
Member to be determined



John Morawski, Vice Chair



Erik Voigt, Member



Jennifer Chamberland, Member