

RTM Education Committee Minutes
February 6, 2017
Town Hall Room 119

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Dennis Maroney at 8:02 pm

15 voting members were present including: Dennis Maroney, Sandy Savage, Lucy Fiore, Derek Lublin, Deborah Ven, Emily Mc Dermott, Susan Morrison, Barbara Thorne, Janet Grogan, Young-Sup Lee, Ann Reed, Shannon Silsby, Jay Hardison, Joanne Sawitsky and Ed Wacheska.

Pamela Sparkman was absent.

Guests: Members of the Darien Board of Education along with several parents of students.

It was noted that no response has been forthcoming from the Board of Education to our comments made at the Board of Education budget meeting.

Topic #1 Alternative School

We were informed by Betsy Haggerty-Ross that the Board of Education would be receiving more information from Dr. Brenner on the Alternative School at its scheduled meeting on February 14th.

Barbara Thorne provided information on the prior alternative HS program at DHS in the 1980's.

Discussion ensued

Topic #2 Increase in Guidance Counselor positions

Discussion centered around whether it was appropriate to add one position which would be split between MMS and DHS or to add a full time counselor to either or both of MMS and DHS.

Discussion ensued

Topic #3 Curriculum Supervisors

Discussion centered around whether these positions would increase content and exam synergy and create better coordination between MMS and DHS. We also asked what would be the metric to measure success of these positions and whether all 6 Curriculum Supervisors needed to be added at the same time or could be phased in.

Discussion ensued.

Topic #4 Expansion of Cafeteria at DHS

Discussion centered around efficiency of scheduling lunch waves and students choosing to eat lunch in alternative locations at the school.

Further discussion as the current and projected student capacity as allowed by the Fire Marshall and anticipated future enrollment.

Discussion ensued

Darien Board of Education Member, Elizabeth Haggerty-Ross stated that last year the Facility Committee discussed many of the issues that we were discussing and that the tapes of those meetings were on the Board of Education website.

Mrs. Haggerty Ross also informed us that the Board of Education would hold their vote on the Budget at their scheduled meeting on February 14th.

Dennis informed the committee that there will be a joint meeting between the Education Committee and FNB on February 22nd, and that there would be a joint meeting between the Board of Education and the Board of Finance on March 7th.

9:45 Approval of the Minutes from January 18th. 14 members approved, 1 abstention.

9:50 Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Reed