

RTM Education Committee Minutes
March 27, 2017
Town Hall Room 119

Meeting called to order at 8:02 pm.

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

Also present Michael Harman and other members of the Board of Education as well as parents and members of the CDSP.

Discussion initiated by Jay Hardison regarding alternative solutions to expanding the cafeteria at DHS. Jay reported on his conversation with the architect who drew up the various plans that had been considered by the Administration and the Board of Education. Discussion ensued as to design and cost and the tightness of seating. Michael Burke from the BOE spoke to the Board's intent of creating a nice space for the students to eat and have a few minutes of respite.

Discussion ensued within the RTM Education Committee as to cost and design of the cafeteria. It was noted that the current 8th grade is large but the current 7th grade is the largest class to enter the high school bringing seating requirements to a new high.

Discussion ensued regarding voting alternatives for the Committee on this issue.

Deborah Ven then presented an analysis of the purchase of Chromebooks in the Technology budget. She noted that it was very difficult to analyze prices because no detail was included that

would indicate whether the purchase was for new or refurbished machines and whether any warranties were included. Deb's questioned were going to be forwarded to the BOE and the Administration.

Discussion then moved to the introduction of the Curriculum Supervisors and whether this could be introduced more slowly.

The Committee next focused on Fitch Academy. What might be future budget implications of this program? Using the Library for its home base for academic year 2017-2018 is a known cost but what might be the cost implications if the program outgrows the library space? Discussion ensued.

The next item was a brief discussion of the renovation of the Town Garage as the school system houses vehicles there.

Next Meeting will be on May 1st.

Meeting adjourned 10:04

Respectfully submitted

Ann Reed