

The Bromfield School
School Council Minutes 11/15/2017
Faculty Lounge 3:00 - 4:30pm

Attendees: Robin Benoit, Deb Barton, Coleen Nizgus, Ellen Sachs Leicher, Ben Myers, Chris Jones, Kate Selig, Karen Strickland, Trish Nilan, Nancy Lancelotti, Jessie Jiang, Drew Skrocki

Vision Statement: The Harvard Public Schools community, dedicated to educational excellence, guides all students to realize their highest potential by balancing academic achievement with personal well-being in the pursuit of individual dreams. The students engage in learning how to access and apply knowledge, think critically and creatively, and communicate effectively. They develop the confidence and ability to understand diverse perspectives, collaborate, and contribute to their local, national and global communities.

Robin led the meeting because Scott was at a mandatory rehearsal for “Guys and Dolls”.

- **Principal’s Update (Robin)**

- Administered PSATs
- Arm in Arm Event at Volunteer’s Hall to be held Thursday, 11/16
- Host Priest, Rabbi, and Imam at Bromfield-grades 7 and 10.
- Club and Picture retakes done.
- Great Fall Season - Golf, Field Hockey, Boys and Girls Soccer qualified for MIAA State Tournament
 - Golf and Boys Soccer won Central District titles.
 - Boys Soccer plays in state finals for MIAA Division 4 on 11/18.
 - The Girls Soccer team competed in the District Semi-Finals.
 - Girls and Boys Cross-Country had fine seasons.
 - The two football teams, Ayer-Shirley and Maynard, for which Bromfield provides co-op players, were both competitive.
 - The rowing team was again strong.
- A school-wide pep rally is planned for Friday, 11/17
- Quiz Bowl Team qualified for TV again, one of 16 teams out of 99 to qualify.
- Great PD Day at Ayer-Shirley and other locations (Guidance-visit Assumption and Holy Cross; others NPEN).
- The Grade 7-9 dance is scheduled for Friday, 11/17 from 7 to 9 pm.
- Harlem Rockets play local “all-stars” also at 7:00 pm this Friday.

- Coffee House
 - First Term over, Report Cards sent.
 - Half Days for parent-teacher conferences are 11/20 and 11/21.
 - After Thanksgiving break, Bromfield musical thespians will perform “Guys and Dolls”.
- **National Youth Risk Survey Results/Update - Drew Skrocki** -The survey was conducted in Spring 2016 with several neighboring school systems. Compared to previous survey two years earlier, some of the results are increased sexting and cyber bullying, high academic stress. The percentage of student who tried cigarette smoking is down, but the use of electronic cigarettes (vaping) is up. In grades 10 and up, over 50% of students have tried drinking alcohol. Over 30% of students in grades 10 and up have been at parties where alcohol is consumed by teens. Use of cell phones while driving has increased, both texting(!!!) and talking. The 18 month time lag between survey and availability of results was discussed, to see if the time lag could be reduced.
- **Budget Update (School Committee update) - Nancy Lancellotti** – The 2017-2108 budget passed School Committee, which supported the entire budget. The budget assumes maintenance of level service. (Robin) - The 2.75% contracted salary increase is largest increment in budget. The budget also includes money to maintain and update the facility, including fans for classrooms.
- **Sub-Committee Assignments and Dates** - Should Balance be just a topic of regular School Council Meetings?
 - Climate
 - Handbook
 - Career Inspiration
 - Balance Committee (consensus to remain as separate subcommittee)
 - **Examine NY Times Article on Stress** - Read for next meeting
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/10/11/magazine/why-are-more-american-teenagers-than-ever-suffering-from-severe-anxiety.html>
- **Next Meeting: December 12, 2017**

Ben Myers, Bromfield School Council Secretary

