

Town Meeting

3-26-15

TOWN MEETING

3/19/15

Precursors - none

Announcements

- Marie Johnson (11th) announced that she has corresponded with her favorite poet, Linda Pastan, and Ms. Pastan has agreed to give a reading at HB, probably on Friday, May 15 during TA.
- o Liz's reaction: "WOW! She is an amazing poet."
- Committee for HB will meet today during H block in Rebecca's room.
- o Tom asked how middle school students could participate if the meetings were held at a time they have classes.
- o Bennett (12th) answered that it had been an oversight, not an intentional means of exclusion, and that they will discuss it at the meeting and seek a solution.

Consent Items

- Jennifer brought a request for outside teacher funds to cover four 4th quarter English elective courses: one yoga class and three electives to be taught by Brendan. Rate set earlier in the year had been \$30/hour, which would bring the total to \$1600. **Consent given.**

Motions

- Frank again brought a motion to accept four students as representatives for the principal hiring committee. He said that 13 students had given their names to Vanessa, and his proposal was to pick their names at random, striving to get two middle school and two high school students.
- o Nana (11th) said she thought the choices should be spread among grades and that seniors should be excluded. This led to more discussion about the pros/cons of including seniors, culminating in Frank agreeing to accept the exclusion of seniors as a friendly amendment.
- o Dave Soles then proposed separating the idea into two motions, as he believed that seniors *should* be allowed to serve on the committee. More discussion followed, with Eleanor saying that the impression left last week was that seniors were not going to be included, so that would have prevented them from adding their names to the hat. People spoke for and against the idea, with Emma (12th) saying even though seniors could add a reflective attitude to the committee, the true responsibility should lie with the juniors.
- o Motion (to separate issues) called and passed.
- o Motion to allow seniors on committee called and **did not pass.**
- o Discussion then continued on the best make-up of the student pool. Eleanor asked about seeking various unique characteristics: gender, grade, etc.
- o Tom said he wanted to propose that one of the members be a junior.
- o Frank accepted this as a friendly amendment.
- o Tom asked about the level of confidentiality expected of committee members, and Frank answered that utmost confidentiality was required and that failure to adhere to the rules could result in legal difficulties for the committee and the school board.
- o Question called and Frank's motion **passed.**
- Frank and others then pulled names out of the bag. The order of names pulled was: Fernando Rocha (10th), Marie Johnson (11th), Nolan Bateman (7th), Jacob Hall (9th), Makyla Loeffel (7th), Katie Moore (8th), Casey Ruggiero (8th), Calla Ritland (8th), Caroline Greenhalgh (10th), Sophia Anderson (10th), Devin Smith (8th), and Jake Bennett (9th). Student representatives will be: Fernando, Marie, Nolan and Katie.
- Aidan (10th) then made a motion to put up signs by the double water fountains asking students to use the shorter fountains for refilling water bottles.

- o Eliza (11th) said that some places have special fountains designed for filling water bottles.
- o Liz said that any signs would probably be ignored.
- o Emma (12th) asked what kind of signs Aidan had in mind. Nice? Nasty? Aidan said he envisioned nice but humorous signs, urging responsible water fountain use.
- o Bill said he thought such an action was probably contrary to the general HB philosophy of self-governance.
- o Eleanor suggested that since remodeling was going to be started in this building prior to our departure, we might want to ask for new water fountains as an early change.
- o Nana (11th) said that the wall space around water fountains was valuable real estate for student fliers, so it might be better to put it off until we move to the new building.
- o Dave, speaking as a TALL person, said that we could remind people that water pressure is stronger closer to the ground, and that therefore, water bottles could be filled faster using the shorter fountain [Note - I AM NOT MAKING THIS STUFF UP].
- o **Motion to put up signs gently encouraging people to fill their bottles from the shorter water fountains passed.**

Discussions - none

Chair: Margaret Gorman

Co-Chair: Bennett Weinshank

Secretary: Amanda Hayes