

Vocational Education Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

November 3, 2015

7:00 a.m.

Boxborough Town Hall

PRESENT: Susan Bak, Hugh Fortmiller, Anne McNeece, Brigid Bieber, Gary Kushner

Public Participation: Simon Bunyard

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 a.m.

1. The minutes of the October 20th meeting were accepted.
2. Discussion and Updates:

Simon (Who is on the Minuteman Building Committee) shared the following:

- 628 is the lowest number of students to have in the new Minuteman building to satisfy programming needs and support the academic curriculum. A smaller population would mean reduced offerings. It is not useful to argue about the number.
- The new building will support an academy approach – with two academies with very different physical plant requirements.
- If towns move out of the district the school might be oversized. If too many towns were to leave the district, the state wouldn't pass it.
- We are better off being in a district – we have some say in how decisions are made and students get their choice of programs. We want to give students the best district and the best education we can.
- Lincoln has turned down Wayland's bid to withdraw from the district. (Should be Lexington not Lincoln)
- The current building is in bad repair because they have known since 2008 that they were going to build a new building and have only done emergency repairs.
- The building committee is currently going forward with the schematic design, looking at total square footage, classroom size, and how the building will flow. Building security has permeated the whole design.
- There will be a theater program in the new building.
- The design will go to two independent estimation teams, and the estimate will be compared to MSBA guidelines – They need to come out with a project that the MSBA will support.
- The MSBA number is less than the 145 million-target numbers. There is an allowance for furniture, equipment, etc.
- Simon feels that demand for the new building will be so great that there may not be space for out-of-district students.

3. Dates for tour of Assabet were discussed. It will be 12/2, 12/9, or 12/11. Brigid will follow up.

4. Susan reviewed the report of the trip to Nashoba Tech.

5. Next Meeting will be Tuesday, November 18th at 7 AM at Town Hall

Meeting Adjourned at 8:14 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Anne McNeece