

## **Community Engagement Committee**

### **Minutes**

**Location: VUHS Library**

**February 27, 2018**

**5:38-7:30PM**

Present: Diana Raphael, Kristina MacKulin, Laurie Gutowski, Chris Cousineau, Kathryn Wyckoff, Finn Yarbrough, Beth Brodie, Judy Elson.

1. Kristina M. moves to accept minutes of 1/19/18 meeting, Laurie G. seconds. Motion carries.
2. Review Community Engagement Plan for presentation to ANWSD school board in March. In the context of the SO decision to reduce principals' FTE without broad prior communication, and resulting community backlash, the importance of transparency is evident. The CEC finds transparency to be vital to the central goal of authentic engagement. Concrete recommendations discussed to facilitate this engagement: attach upcoming SB meeting warnings to school newsletters, with live-links to agendas when possible. Create a publicly available listserv for warnings and agendas. Significant website redesign to conform with best practice, and to make information intuitively structured and readily accessible. Wide-ranging discussion on CEC charge, responsibilities, and strategic plan to present to the board, recorded collaboratively in a Google Doc to be finished and shared.
3. Online survey on preferred methods of communication is finalized. Beth will create a paper copy for distribution at Town Meetings. She will also contact principals about having teachers ask parents to fill out the surveys at parent conferences. Diana, Laurie G. and Chris will make sure these copies get to meetings in their towns. Tom Borchert will be asked to disseminate it in Waltham. Kathryn W. will set up a table and recruit students to get parents to fill the survey out before parent conferences. It will also go on FPF and in school newsletters.
4. Next meeting set for 5:30 P.M. Thursday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, at the Bixby Library.

Submitted by  
Finn Yarbrough