Chair: Chris Oxenford
Co-chair: Drew Levin
Secretary: Michael Gibbs

January 27, 2005

Italics are my thoughts since I can't talk, raise my hand, and type at the same time. You try it!

"Indeed" in a sentence means typing in a question.

Dance-John: gobbledygook. Motion passes unanimously.

The motion/discussion/announcement is about a dance, was brought to TM by John, and the discussion was "gobbledygook". The motion then was voted on and passed unanimously.

Precursors:

SAB: Met with member of board. Creating committee to get students involved with diversity.

Staff: No meeting yesterday. Last week, online SOL testing was discussed. AP testing was also discussed. Allocations begins on Thursday. Ends in April. Jennifer Risotto is working here half time with Francisco. Sandy Sinclair is working with Susan. Lottery is this Friday at 2:30. Music addition is starting in July. They'll start by moving trailers. David, Brain's, and Francisco's trailer will be moved. Will probably go to the bottom of the sledding hill.

Announcements:

1. Scholastic Art Awards-Frank: Scholastic Art awards were given out. We got many that were given out. Show on exhibit until February 15th.
2. Dr. Smith Visits today (Superintendent of Arlington Schools: Dr. Smith is coming today between 3 and 4 o'clock.
3. Lebanese Taverna-Theresa: Lebanese Taverna is donating a portion of their proceeds today to Tsunami relief.

Motions:

1. Spirit Squad: Nobody here. Moved to end.
2. Follow-up on Janey Turner's show-Mark Dodge: Move that Janey Turner perform here during TA time. Cost will be $500 out of Outside teacher fund. World's best glass harp player. Will play a lot of things. Wants to come. Will kick off physics festival, which emphasizes sound. Good with Frank. For the whole school. February 15th. Currently the outside teacher's fund has $15000. Will have money left over with current spending plan. Motion passes unanimously.

Discussion:

1. Online testing-Frank: In Virginia, there are several districts that are having students test online, rather than in paper. This is good because you get immediate results. If you fail, you could take it again that year. No bubbling. Very good on that. When you finish, it tells you if you missed any items. Only one question per screen at a time, so easy to concentrate. About 99 computers that can do online testing. World geography would be one, along with one from each discipline. It would be voluntary as to which teacher did this. Students could be guinea pigs. 8th and 11th English have former tests online.
2. Banning snowball fights?-Mary and Frank: There are some concerns. Time has been spent with the snow. Older students have thrown at cars. People have covered rocks in snow. Large groups can target one person. Not play, but bullying. Too much time is being spent. Signs went up in middle school that fights are now banned. People are throwing at unwilling. Signs aren't working. You have to make people take the consequences. Frisbees in the HS parking lot are a problem. They can damage cars. Shouldn't ban them; some students do enjoy them, and if you ban them, they'll do it elsewhere. Why not punish just those who are being a problem. Time is being spent doing this. Put them under grounding. Punish only those in a group who are guilty. This is risky to philosophy if police get involved. It is like trying to get people to eat vegetables-really difficult. It is hard to pin down on the guilty. Make snowball zones. Only one area can have snowballs. Food in the halls isn't the same. Like dances. Can't enforce a total ban. Swarms of kids are fighting. The 7th graders formed a league. Then everybody attacked one kid. For a short time, middle schoolers can't throw snow. One idea is that you can't go outside except for academics

purposes. It is affecting everybody. Can't truly ban it. No mobs. If everyone gets punished, then people will ostracize those who got the innocent in trouble. Create areas. Discipline problems. Kids aren't listening. Take away free block. Kids, not teachers, should police. We could have snow patrols. Can't have teachers patrolling. However, teachers have to work in TA's to stop this. Throwing a rock in snow is an attack with a weapon. People have to suffer. Depends on teachers, not kids. Kids can't police themselves except on a witch-hunt. Suspend. *H-B can't and shan't suspend!!!!!!!!!!!* This is bullying and must stop. Banning won't work. Consequences train for the world. Problem with the signs is that they are a hidden consequence. Let kids know the consequence. Same as magazines. If you leave a backpack in the hall or you leave people alone is policing yourself. You don't just police at problems. During rush hour, teachers police. Kids have to decide this. Nobody likes the signs that are put up. This has been going on in middle school classrooms. Self-policing won't work. It will for some people, but not all. Fun for older kids to police younger students. There is a mob-mentality. Hard to create a solution in one day.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:01 unanimously.