

Town Meeting

2-23-12

TOWN MEETING

2/23/12

Precursors:

- SAB - no.
- Staff Mtg - yes. Discussed midyear items such as the Family Portal and the Teacher Evaluations that will be coming next year. Carl has been commissioned to write a piece of music to play at the inauguration of the President of the College where Jeff Benson teaches. He and his wife are also now expecting their second child.

Announcements:

- Mindset! Next week (Thurs, Fri, Sat in the Blackbox) Go to it. There's an Accordion.
- Instrumental music concert next Tuesday night, 7:30pm - It's free.

Motions:

- Jam Club - Joe Rutowski. (Not present) Motion previously TABLED Carl is sponsoring. It would be Tuesday and Friday in the Band room during TA. All would be welcome. PASSED
- Funding for computer science class - Quinn. Motion previously TABLED. HBW Computer Science would like \$100 to pay for hosting a website and other expenses. There might be other funds to pull it from. But there is definitely enough money. No administrator present, TABLED
- (From discussion below) Starting immediately the Sky High Lab is closed during Town Meeting. We need to get those people involved. Shutting it down might not be the best of ideas. What you get done at in the library is different than what you get done in a computer lab. A better idea might be to have adult supervision. But that takes time and energy. You can't punish people for not going to Town Meeting. Could you have a study only computer lab? That would be very difficult to enforce. HBW has our own rules aside from county rules, but gaming is still prohibited. People are blatantly gaming anyway. It's hard to peer check the gaming because there are far more gamers in there than non-gamers. The issue isn't necessarily about what they are doing. It's about the condition of the equipment and the fact that they are taking away from those with an academic need. In the Middle Earth lab, there is Drew and no games being played. In the High Sky lab, there is no person and many games. There are some individuals who play music really loudly. The majority of the people in the computer lab are playing games. Would a sign work? It would be laughed at. There are already signs, they are being ignored. No administrator present, TABLED

Discussion:

- Computer Lab Use. The computers were in bad condition when it came to get them ready for the SOLs. The Sky High computer lab was especially in bad condition. There are missing keyboards and mice. The wires are tangled and misplugged. There were also many files added to computer such as games that needed to be removed for the testing and can carry viruses. At HBW we have unsupervised labs and that is a great thing and also a great responsibility. We have enough keyboards and mice people just keep on moving them. Could you use Tech Cadre or a tech savvy TA to monitor? Could we move Town Meeting to a computer lab? We could also vote to close the lab. The people in the labs are not participating in this process even though Eleanor just went over there and told them what we are talking about. It's hard to complete a homework assignment when people are playing games and shouting at each other in the labs. Both High Schoolers and Middle Schoolers game in the labs. The people at fault (the gamers) aren't here and they refuse to come. We are going to need more space and we also need the computers so maybe we can do away with the Sky High lab and then use the space for another classroom. Many teachers use the computer lab for testing. Most of the students are respectful to teachers and will give up their spots for the computers. The people eating food is the worst part. The computers are there for a reason and that reason is academic. What will we do if we do get rid of the Sky High lab? We will lose those computers and we need that space and the computers. Incorrect, we

don't lose the computers, they get farmed out somewhere else. Posted signs there are ignored. Many people here are using mobile devices. We should try and move away from the computer lab desktops and move to the more mobile laptops. There are a number of issues here; whether or not we will need that space for a classroom, whether or not people with an academic need have easy access to the laptops, and the treatment of the equipment and the space. We do need those computers for teachers with classes. Changing from laptops to desktops won't stop people from playing games.

Chair: Liza Gibbs/Stephen Moran

Co-Chair: Will Hubbert

Secretary: John Ponder White