

Russell Bolarinho

Room 509

On March 15, 2010, our town was celebrating its 150th anniversary. For that reason the town has said that we should have a Student Government Day. That is when kids go to the town hall and shadow a town official. I was chosen to be on the school community along with Brock, Phebe, Alexis, and Halle. We were honored to go to the town hall and learn about our town officials. We have learned a lot about what the school committee does.

Our School Committee consists of five members. They brought us up into their meeting room and sat around the table so we could ask questions. One of our first questions was, “Do you get paid, and if not why do you do it.” They chuckled and said, “We don’t get paid, we’re all volunteers.” Then the School Committee member said, “We do it to give back to the town.” Mr. Deterra said that he had a daughter go through the school system and she has learned a lot. Then he said that he still has a daughter at Ford Middle School, and he says she is getting ready to go to high school and Ford has really helped her with that. Then he said, “The schools have done so much for my family, and now it’s time to give back.”

Before I went to the town hall I really didn’t know a lot about the school Committee. I always thought that the Superintendent was the boss, but when I went there I was wrong. The School Community was the “boss”. The School Committee can fire and hire a Superintendent. They make the laws while the Superintendent and Principals enforce them. I also learned that they have to be elected to be on the School Committee. Each term is three years long and they have to be reelected to continue to be on the committee.

I was very excited to be going to the town hall. I have learned a lot. I thought the School Committee would be an easy thing to do in spare time, but I was very wrong. The School Committee has its ups and downs just like every other job. I will never forget this experience.