

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
MARCH 8, 2010 BUDGET WORKSHOP
LEWIS S. MILLS AUDITORIUM**

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri – Chairman
Noel Carmody
Kathy Deprey
Jeanne Doerr
Beth Duffy
Paul Omichinski
Phillip Penn
Ted Scheidel
Elaine Schiavone
Raymond Sikora - Vice Chairman

Absent:

Also Present:

Alan Beitman	Superintendent of Schools
Michael Landry	Assistant Superintendent
David Lenihan	Business Manager
Jordon Brault	Student Representative

<p>Chairman of the Board, Joseph Arcuri, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:38 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p>
<p><u>Student Representative Report:</u> Mr. Jordon Brault reported that CAPT testing ended the week of March 1 and that Lewis S. Mills High School would be hosting the New England Music Festival from March 18 through March 20, 2010.</p> <p><u>Superintendent's Report:</u> Mr. Beitman presented an update to the 2010-2011 Estimate of Expenses. He reviewed the revised administrative configuration for the 2010-2011 school year as follows: Har-Bur Middle School – One (1) principal and two (2) assistant principals. Lewis S. Mills High School – One (1) principal, one (1) assistant principal, and two (2) .45 dean of students. Mr. Beitman explained that this restoration of positions was accomplished through savings Region 10 was able to reap from putting the insurance contract out to bid. In addition, there were savings from reducing unemployment compensation, and the potential for additional savings as a result of a football proposal from the Football Booster Club. The savings of \$7,500 for the football proposal could be allocated, subject to Board approval, to professional development. As a result of these savings, there is no net change to the bottom line. If the “new funds” were approved, the net increase would be 1.47% over last year.</p>	<p>COMMUNICATIONS</p>

<p>A motion to accept the resignation of Ms. Stacy Vocasek, Lewis Mills High School English teacher, to approve the minutes for the special meeting of January 11, 2010, approve the minutes for the Alternative Learning Sub-Committee meeting of January 25, 2010, approve the minutes for the regular Board of Education meeting of February 8, 2010, approve the minutes for the special meeting of February 4, 2010, approve the minutes for the Alternative Learning Sub-Committee meeting of February 22, 2010, and approve the financial report dated February 28, 2010 was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (10/0/0)</p>	<p>CONSENT AGENDA</p>
<p><u>Football Proposal Review:</u> Mr. Tanner requested permission to form a Junior Varsity and Varsity football team at Lewis S. Mills High School due to a high participation rate. Mrs. Duffy asked if there are currently enough athletes to support this addition. Coach Flammia indicated that there are currently thirty-three (33) players and twenty-four (24) incoming freshmen that have signed up for the fall season for a total of fifty-seven (57) athletes. Mr. Tanner explained that the varsity team would play their games on Friday nights and the JV team would play their games on Saturdays so scheduling would not be a problem. Mr. Omichinski asked what impact this would have on the district. Mr. Tanner explained that it is very difficult to schedule a "JV only" football program because most schools have both a Junior Varsity and Varsity program. Mr. Omichinski asked if having both would increase the cost to the district. Mr. Tanner stated that there would be an added cost due to travel expense. He indicated that it would mean about a \$2,600 increase to the budget. Mrs. Duffy asked if there is currently sufficient equipment to outfit all of the athletes. Coach Flammia confirmed that there is a sufficient supply and that they have enough equipment to outfit sixty-five (65) players. Mr. Penn asked, if each player pays approximately \$300 how is it not "pay to play". Mr. Tanner indicated that funding came from the initial fundraising efforts of parents and that a cost sharing plan was developed to disperse funds over a five (5) year period of time. He looked at this plan as providing money to get the program off the ground.</p> <p><u>Football Booster Club Request:</u> Mr. Robert Dunn, President of the Football Booster Club, presented the football proposal as follows: Allow the football team to practice at Lewis S. Mills for a one (1) year pilot program and re-evaluate at the end of the season. In return the Football Booster Club will forgo all of the previously agreed upon funding, (\$7,500) from the Board of Education for the 2010/2011 school year. He presented the budget numbers and explained how each line item would be impacted. Ms. Schiavone asked who would be evaluating the field conditions and approving practices. Mr. Beitman indicated that Mr. Fortin would oversee that aspect. Mrs. Duffy asked if both JV and Varsity would practice at the same time. Coach Flammia explained that both would practice at the same time. Ms. Niehoff commented that the most important thing to consider is the mission of the school and that what they are proposing is in line with the school's</p>	<p>REVIEW OF 2010-2011 ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES</p>

<p>mission statement. Mrs. Duffy asked Mr. Fortin about the field use. Mr. Fortin said that the football team would be alternating between two (2) fields; therefore, he expects that the fields should have sufficient recovery time between uses. Mr. Omichinski requested that a policy be developed designating the Building and Grounds Supervisor as the individual who would evaluate field conditions and approve the use of practice fields at the Lewis Mills complex. Mr. Beitman indicated that he would have a policy drafted for the Board's review.</p>	
<p><u>Interscholastic Sports for Lewis S. Mills High School:</u> Mr. Tanner presented an overview of the athletic budget. He indicated that each line item has either remained flat or has seen a reduction in funds. Overall the athletic budget is down 4.4% compared to last year.</p> <p><u>General Budget Discussion by Board Members:</u> Mr. Penn asked how a decrease in the electricity estimate in 10-11 was accomplished. Mr. Lenihan explained that he had locked in at a lower rate than last year and that usage is down. Mr. Penn asked about the \$100,000 budget contingency for unexpected costs and Mr. Beitman said that with the climate being what it is, he would not recommend decreasing that amount. Mr. Penn asked Mr. Pont to outline the technology account. Mr. Pont explained that the two (2) major technology expenses are the two (2) leases and the completion of the elementary switch project. Mr. Sikora asked Mr. Pont the status of the condition of the current fleet of computers. Mr. Pont explained that they are seeing computers that are now ageing and that some are unable to handle the newer programs. Mr. Scheidel asked if it is possible to reap some savings by changing the lease conditions. Mr. Pont explained that because we lease the computers for three (3) years and then at the end of the lease period we purchase the computers for \$1.00 each, that it is really a lease/purchase contract more than a lease agreement and, therefore, is the most economical approach. Mr. Scheidel asked how much stimulus money was received last year. Mr. Beitman reported that approximately \$206,000 was received and that Mr. Lenihan would provide a breakdown at the next meeting. Mr. Scheidel asked what the annual salary for the preventative maintenance technician is. Mr. Lenihan said it is roughly \$51,000 per year but about \$25,500 for this year because the position does not go into effect until July 1, 2010. Mr. Scheidel asked if Region 10 has a recycling program. Mr. Beitman confirmed that we do have one and it is supported by the students. Mr. Scheidel asked about the dues and fees line item reduction. Mr. Beitman indicated that this was achieved by sharing memberships at the administrative level. Mr. Schiavone asked Ms. Carabis about the increase to the special education budget. Ms. Carabis reported that the increase is due primarily from the reduction of the reimbursement of excess cost funds from the state. Mr. Scheidel asked Mr. Choiniere if he feels that the supplies budget is adequate. Mr. Choiniere shared that at Lake Garda School they are at</p>	<p>BUDGET WORKSHOP</p>

<p>an <i>adequate</i> level at this time.</p>	
<p>Ms. Pat McGlynn, READ 10 President - Read a letter thanking Mr. Beitman for investigating potential savings options that allowed him to ultimately restore the principal position at Har-Bur Middle School.</p> <p>Tim Bergstrom – Burlington – Thanked Mr. Beitman for hearing the communities concern regarding the administrative reorganization plan and for answering everyone’s questions. He also encouraged an increase in professional development funding.</p> <p>Elliott Kleinrock – Burlington – Stated that he chose to move to Burlington eight (8) months ago because of the outstanding school system. He raised concerns that reductions to the budget could lead to a decline of the school system that would then impact property values negatively.</p> <p>Liz Cornish – Burlington – Was concerned that words like “adequate”, “make it work”, and “no new initiatives”, are being used to describe the school system. She also urged the Board to restore the elementary assistant principal positions to twelve (12) months.</p> <p>Teresa Foley – Harwinton – Spoke in support of restoring the Chinese Program. She expressed concern that if grant possibilities fall through, the program will not be put back into place.</p> <p>Bruce Guillemette – Burlington – Thanked Mr. Beitman for restoring the administrative positions and urged the Board to restore the assistant principals to 12 months.</p>	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p>
<p><u>Har-Bur Middle School Schedule:</u> Mr. Smith presented a brief review of the proposed new middle school schedule. A motion to approve the new Har-Bur Middle School schedule was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mr. Scheidel. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (10/0/0)</p> <p><u>2012-2013 School Year Calendar:</u> Mr. Bogen presented and reviewed the results of the 2012-2013 calendar survey. A motion to approve the 2012-2013 school year calendar was made by Ms. Deprey and was seconded by Ms. Schiavone. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)</p> <p><u>Varsity Football:</u> A motion to approve a varsity football team at Lewis S. Mills High School was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mr. Penn. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (10/0/0)</p> <p><u>Football Booster Club Proposal:</u> A motion to approve the football proposal as explained earlier in the</p>	<p>ACTION</p>

<p>meeting was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Mr. Scheidel. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (10/0/0)</p> <p><u>Sikorski Bus Company Contract Extension:</u> Mr. Lenihan explained that this extension is similar to the one approved for All-Star Transportation, LLC and it extends the contract with Sikorski Bus Company by two (2) years to June 30, 2014 and now puts both bus company contracts in sync with each other.</p> <p>A motion to accept the Sikorski Bus Company contract was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Mr. Omichinski. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)</p> <p><u>Teaching Assistant Arbitration Award:</u> Mr. Lenihan provided a summary of the teaching assistant arbitration award.</p> <p>A motion to accept the teaching assistant arbitration award was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mr. Sikora. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (10/0/0)</p>	
<p>A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Ms. Schiavone. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (10/0/0)</p> <p>The meeting ended at 10:17pm</p>	<p>ADJOURN</p>

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne Doerr, Secretary

4/19/10

Date