

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
April 9, 2012
REGULARLY SCHEDULED BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
THE LEARNING CENTER**

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri, Vice Chairman
Susan Baccaro
Beth Duffy
Kathy Deprey
Paul Omichinski
Phil Penn
Ted Scheidel
Elaine Schiavone
Ray Sikora, Chairman
Noel Turner

Absent:

Also Present:

Alan Beitman Superintendent of Schools
Robert Choiniere Interim Assistant Superintendent
David Lenihan Business Manager
Rebecca Spitz Student Representative
Matthew DiSorbo Student Representative

<p>Chairman of the Board, Raymond Sikora, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 8:04 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>	<p>CALL TO ORDER</p>
<p><u>Student Representative Report:</u> Ms. Rebecca Spitz reported on the LSM cultural talent show, the Make A Mark Chess Tournament, and the Unified Sports Team's final tournament. Mr. DiSorbo reported on the Region 10 Math team competition, the FBLA statewide competition, and spring sports.</p> <p><u>Superintendent's Report:</u> Updates to 2012-2013 Estimate of Expenses: Mr. Beitman stated that there were no updates to report.</p>	<p>COMMUNICATIONS</p>
<p><u>Consent Agenda:</u></p> <p>A motion to approve the minutes from the February 13, 2012 Special Meeting, the March 5, 2012 Regularly Scheduled Board of Education Meeting, the March 12, 2012 Regularly Scheduled Board of Education Meeting, the April 2, 2012 Budget Workshop and the Financial Report dated March 31, 2012 was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mr. Penn. All in favor one abstention due to absence. Motion carries. (9/0/1)</p> <p>Mr. Beitman indicated that non-renewals are a matter of procedure and are issued as a safety valve in case the budget does not pass. He said non-renewals are an important formality. He went on to explain that all</p>	<p>CONSENT AGENDA</p>

<p>the non-renewed staff members would be rehired if the budget passes on May 8th.</p> <p>A motion to approve the recommended non-renewal of contracts for budgetary reason for the following staff members: Tiffany Albert, Caitlyn Hardy, Kathryn Lenehan, Derek Santoro, Allison Klaus, Tara Fischer, Diane Premus, Laurie Claffin, Kyle Chaves, James Barone, David Sprowson and Tania McNaboe, was made by Mr. Penn and was seconded by Mr. Omichinski. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)</p>	
<p>There was no public participation.</p>	<p>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</p>
<p><u>Approval of the Final Estimate of Expenses for the 2012-2013 School Year:</u></p> <p>A motion to approval the Final Estimate of Expenses for the 2012-2013 School Year in the amount of \$35,494,242 was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mr. Arcuri.</p> <p>Mrs. Duffy expressed reservations about not including the funds for the technology replacement plan. In addition, she recommended adding \$10,000 to the budget to be allocated for the Student Resource Officer program. Mr. Beitman indicated that the district does have contingency funds that can be used for the SRO program.</p> <p>Mr. Arcuri agreed that he would like to see the \$10,000 for the SRO included in this budget.</p> <p>Mr. Beitman indicated that the \$10,000 is not a rock solid number at this time but is a reasonable estimate.</p> <p>Mr. Omichinski expressed his feeling that the funds for the SRO program can be found in the budget and since Mr. Beitman is comfortable with this he is comfortable with it as well.</p> <p>Mr. Scheidel stated that he feels that \$10,000 can be found in the presented budget and if Mr. Beitman feels he can find the funds than he is comfortable with that. He went on to comment that he supports an all day kindergarten program but he does not feel comfortable allocating contingency funds. Furthermore, Mr. Scheidel commented that he would like to see the \$300,000 of surplus be set aside for the all day kindergarten program and if all day kindergarten is not approved this year than the funds be set aside for the following year should the all day kindergarten program be approved at that time.</p> <p>Mr. Sikora reminded Mr. Scheidel that the Board would be discussing the return of surplus later in the meeting, as it is an agenda item.</p> <p>Mr. Scheidel asked for a breakdown of the cost to the district for an all day kindergarten program. Mr. Beitman reported that the latest</p>	<p>ACTION</p>

estimate is \$105,000. He went on to explain a possible phase in option where parents can opt their child out for the first year and he explained how that option would impact the cost.

Mrs. Duffy commented with regard to a full day kindergarten program that nothing is set in stone and that the discussion over its implementation has not yet been had. She asked Mr. Beitman if curriculum writing funds and professional development funds have been factored into the \$105,000. Mr. Beitman indicated that the estimate includes the addition of kindergarten teachers, the credit for transportation, additional supplies, equipment, curriculum writing and professional development.

With regard to Mr. Scheidel's suggestion that the return of surplus be set aside for the all day kindergarten program, Mr. Omichinski indicated that he gave his word to both Boards of Selectmen and the Boards of Finance that the \$300,000 would be used only for the replacement of unit ventilators and if money was left over it would be returned to the two towns.

Ms. Schiavone asked Mr. Beitman how an all day kindergarten program could reasonably be offered as an "option". She expressed concern that this would create a gap in learning between students who went all day and those who were opted out. Mr. Beitman stated that this is why he invited experts in for the scheduled workshops so that they can explore the best options.

Mrs. Duffy reminded the Board that they are not discussing whether or not to support an all day kindergarten program but whether they want to include \$105,000 in the budget as a placeholder to be used should the Board decide following the all day kindergarten workshops to implement the program in the 2012-13 school year.

Mr. Penn expressed interest in setting aside \$105,000 as a placeholder for the all day kindergarten program.

Mr. Omichinski said that for a couple of reasons he cannot support funding a program that does not yet exist. He feels that without a full understanding of the program and the long-term impact this will have, it is putting the cart before the horse.

Mr. Sikora agreed with Mr. Omichinski about putting aside funds for a program that has not yet been explored. He stated that there are many important elements that must be discussed and the Board needs more time to study the full impact. He feels the district is in the first phase of planning.

Mrs. Duffy reminded the Board of the motion that is on the floor. She went on to say that the vote would reflect whether or not each Board member supports the budget as presented.

Vote: Four (4) in favor five (5) opposed. Motion denied. (4/5/0)

A **motion** was made by Mr. Penn to approve a budget in the amount of \$35,541,032 or a 2.44% increase over next year which would include \$105,000 in contingency funds to be set aside for the all day kindergarten program should it be approved for the 2012-2013 school year following the upcoming workshops. Mrs. Baccaro seconded the motion.

Mr. Beitman indicated that if the \$105,000 is not spent for the all day kindergarten that it would be put in the capital reserve for the 2012-2013 school year.

Mrs. Duffy asked for confirmation that if the \$105,000 were included in this budget that it would bring the increase to 2.44%. Mr. Lenihan confirmed that it would.

Mrs. Turner commented that including the contingency funds is not something she is comfortable with. As a member of the curriculum committee she feels it is important to have the discussions first.

Mr. Arcuri commented that if he knew prior that contingency funds were going to be considered he may have not have voted to include other new funding items. Other Board members agreed.

Vote: Six (6) in favor three (3) opposed. Motion carries. (6/3/0)

Approval of the Call of the May 7, 2012 Annual Budget Meeting:

A **motion** to approve the call of the May 7, 2012 Annual Budget Meeting was made by Mr. Turner and was seconded by Mr. Omichinski. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

Approval of the Contract between Regional School District #10 and CESA, Local 21, SEIU (Teaching Assistants:

Mr. Lenihan reviewed the following key elements to new agreement:

1. Three-year agreement from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2014.
2. Wage increases of 2.25% for 2011-12, 2.25% for 2012-23 and 2% for 2013-14.
3. Sick time accrues by month rather than all at the beginning of the fiscal year. Increase accumulated sick days.
4. Workers compensation language clarified.
5. Medical benefits unchanged except for increase of premium cost shares for grandfathered individuals 11% ion 2011-12, 12% in 2012-13 and 13% in 2013-14.

He pointed out that the teaching assistant union ratified the agreement on March 24, 2012 and he recommended ratification by the Board.

A **motion** to approve the contract between Regional School District #10 and CESA, Local 21, SEIU (Teaching Assistants) from July 1, 2011

through June 30, 2014 was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

Approval of 2012-2013 Board of Education Meeting Schedule:

Mr. Beitman reviewed the Board of Education Meeting Schedule for the 2012-2013 school year. He pointed out that the only major change to the schedule is that meetings will begin at 7pm instead of 7:30pm. He recommended the Board approve the meeting schedule.

A **motion** to approve the Board of Education Meeting Schedule for the school year 2012-2013 was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Mrs. Turner. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

Appropriation of Surplus for Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2011 to Offset Expenditures in Fiscal Year Ending 2012-2013:

A **motion** to direct the Superintendent of Schools to allocate \$300,000 of the FYE10-11 surplus to the Capital Fund for replacement of unit ventilators at Lake Garda School and to apply the \$217,000 as revenue for the 2012-13 budget was made by Mr. Penn and was seconded by Mrs. Turner. Eight (8) in favor one (1) opposed. Motion carries. (8/1/0)

There were no business items.

BUSINESS

Curriculum Committee Report:

Presentation of the Advanced Science and Mathematics Courses at Har-Bur Middle School:

Mr. Sikora introduced Mr. Choiniere who chairs the Curriculum Committee who then introduced Mr. Ken Smith to present a change to the advanced mathematics and science programs as a result of the changes to the Common Core State Standards. Mr. Smith presented a presentation detailing the changes to the programs.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A **motion** to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mrs. Turner. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (9/0/0)

ADJOURN

The meeting ended at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Duffy, Secretary

Date