

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
District Meeting - Public Hearing
Lewis S. Mills Auditorium
26 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013
Monday, March 31, 2014
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri, Chairman
Phillip Penn, Vice Chairman
Theresa Foley
Paul Omichinski
Tom Fausel
Brooke Joiner
Bruce Guillemette
Susan Baccaro
Ellie Parente

Absent:

Beth Duffy

Also Present:

Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
David Fortin, Director of Facilities
Robert Choiniere, Director of Student Learning
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

- I. Call to Order:
Board Chairman Joseph Arcuri called to order the meeting of the Board of Education at 7:09 p.m.
- II. Mr. Arcuri led the pledge of allegiance.
- III. Election of Moderator of the Meeting
The Board Chair called for nominations of a moderator of the meeting. On a motion made by Phil Penn and seconded by Paul Omichinski to elect Mr. Reid Matussek as the moderator of the meeting; no other nominations were cast; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Election of a Secretary of the Meeting

Mr. Matussek called for nominations for secretary of the meeting. On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Theresa Foley to nominate Ms. Patricia George as the secretary of the meeting; no other nominations were cast; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

IV. Reading of the "Call of the meeting"

Mr. Matussek called for the secretary to read the "Call of the meeting".

Ms. George read the "Call of the Meeting" and let it be known when and where the legal notices were posted and published.

V. Review and discussion of the Superintendent's Estimate of Expenses for 2014/2015

Mr. Matussek asked that the Board present the budget. Superintendent Beitman provided a power point presentation of the most current Estimate of Expenses.

With the failure of the exterior athletic renovation referendum, a long-term solution representing the least cost to the taxpayers was offered.

New money allocations included funds for a STEM program for students in grades 6-12, an additional \$25,000 for writing for Common Core following the Governor's recommendation (January 2015), a writing program for students in grades K-5, a Mathematics program for students in grades K-2, a new electronic oil tank monitoring system, a water softener at Lake Garda School, and floor and tile replacement at Harwinton Consolidated School to name a few.

With declining enrollment a reduction of 10.50 positions is anticipated in the district for a total savings of \$461,866.

Budgetary issues to monitor included what educational reforms the legislature will pass onto local boards of education, magnet school tuition and transportation, anticipated increases in enrollment during the summer, levels of state and federal funding, Project Choice impact, uncertainty of special education grants, health care and prescription costs, anticipated new state and federal laws and unfunded mandates.

VI. Public Participation

Elizabeth Chapman
Burlington

Ms. Chapman addressed the board regarding her concerns over the elimination of the Administrative Assistant's position in the nurse's office at Lake Garda School. Having a child with a chronic disease, she felt it was a health and safety issue.

Paula Shellito
Burlington

Ms. Shellito echoed Ms. Chapman's sentiments. She, too, has a child in the school system with a very serious medical condition.

Theodore Plawecki
Burlington

Referring back to the athletic referendum, he inferred that many people in town were upset. The people will back the Board, if a budget is put forward that is reasonable. They will support you (the Board) if they stay within the peoples' means, as well as the Board's.

Michael Kosciuszek
Burlington

Enrollment is going down, prices are going up, and there are changes in industry. He made the suggestion to take away pensions and life insurance and have employees pay for their own.

Gerry Mullen
Burlington

Mr. Mullen commented that the economy is in the tank. He said the budget went up 3% even with a \$400,000 cut in personnel. The field project was voted down rather substantially, but over the next five years, money is being put back into the infrastructure. He suggested to put the money in the nurse's administrative position and to think long term about not going up 3% every year.

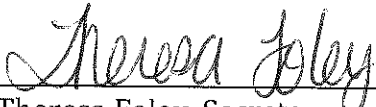
Paula DeMichael
Burlington

Ms. DeMichael was just apprised of a cut in special education at Lake Garda School. She does not want to move her children from Lake Garda. She asked the Board to reconsider.


VII. Adjourn

A motion was made by Phil Penn and seconded by Paul Ominchinski to adjourn the public hearing at 8:01 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Theresa Foley, Secretary



Date