

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
District Meeting - Public Hearing
Lewis S. Mills Auditorium
26 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013
Monday, April 17, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Phillip Penn –Chairman
Thomas Fausel – Vice Chairman
John Vecchitto (via Facetime)
Paul Omichinski
Eleanor (Ellie) Parente
John Goodno
Brooke Joiner

Absent:

Bruce Guillemette
Susan Baccaro
Corey Rewenko

Also Present:

Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Cheri Burke, Director of Student Learning
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

- I. Call to Order:
Board Chairman Phillip Penn called to order the Public Hearing/District Meeting at 7:02 p.m.
- II. Mr. Penn 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 Paul Omichinski and seconded by Thomas Fausel to elect Mr. Reid Matusek as the moderator of the meeting; no other nominations were cast; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Election of Secretary of the Meeting

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

V. 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.

VI. Review and discussion of the Estimate of Expenses for 2017/2018

Mr. Matussek asked that the Board present the Estimate of Expenses.

Superintendent Beitman provided a Power Point presentation of the most current Estimate of Expenses and began his talk with an editorial commentary stating that the cornerstone of the Region 10 Estimate of Expenses has always been one of predictability, common sense and careful management of district's resources.

The Estimate of Expenses continues to address the critical themes of careful and measured allocation of new and existing funds; maintaining health and safety for all of its students, staff, and visitors; maintaining Board of Education standards for class size guidelines; enhanced transparency to understanding how funds are allocated and expended; continued year-to-year predictability to manage future needs; continued efficiencies; and the continued collaboration between and among schools, departments, and the towns of Burlington and Harwinton.

The current increase recommended and approved by the Board is \$749,455 or 1.92% over last year's approved referendum budget. Of importance, it was noted that the proposed budget does not account for the need to add supplementary teachers to address the steady increase of kindergarten student enrollments realized to date. If the Board were to consider the addition of one teacher at a cost of roughly \$50,000 or two at \$100,000, the proposed budget with one additional teacher would be \$39,767,721 or an increase of \$795,442 / 2.04% and with two teachers the proposed budget would be \$39,813,708 or an increase of \$841,429 / 2.16% over last year's budget.

Several options for tackling the need were offered including a wait and see approach, which then translates to the district having to freeze the budget coupled with the challenge of locating the money or adding the one or two teachers to the contingency fund and earmarking those funds directly to that need.

Before the budget was compiled, funds removed as a result of reduced class size in the higher grades or reduced need, staff retirements, certified staff reductions, non-certified staff reductions, bond savings as a result of maturing, and fuel oil savings were nearly \$1,000,000 overall.

VII. Public Participation

John Stiefel
Burlington, CT

Mr. Stiefel expressed his concern regarding district's lack of fiscal responsibility. He said that the budgets should be based on a worst case scenario as opposed to a best case scenario and asked the Board to cut back spending as it was bankrupting the towns.

Theodore Plawecki
Burlington, CT

Mr. Plawecki and his wife have lived in Burlington for 50 years and the taxes always go up. He asked why can't the school system look for ways to hold off on certain things and keep the budget down as low as they could?

Jerry Mullen
Burlington Board of Finance

Mr. Mullen wanted to make it publicly clear that the increase to the town of Burlington was higher than the increase to the Region 10 budget primarily because of the demographics. Burlington's share will be over \$800,000 or essentially 1 mil on the tax rate or 3.3%.

Karen Mathewson
Burlington

Ms. Mathewson questioned student enrollment at the elementary schools, which made her wonder about the increase in Burlington.


Art Dale
Burlington

Mr. Dale asked why didn't the budget reflect a worst case scenario or is the district asking voters to vote against the budget?

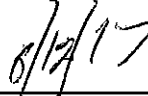
VIII. Adjourn

A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by John Vecchitto to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:32 pm; all in favor; none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



John Vecchitto, Secretary



Date

Board of Education Meeting Minutes are placed on our web page (www.region10ct.org) within seven (7) work days following the Board of Education Meeting.

The minutes are marked as DRAFT, pending Board of Education approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

When participating in or attending a Board of Education meeting or reviewing minutes, please note that the Board of Education uses formats prescribed by Robert's Rules of Order for conducting meetings and publishing minutes.

Robert's Rules state, "Minutes are a record of what was done at a meeting, not a record of what was said." [RONR (11th ed.), p. 468, ll. 16-18] which is the standard for which board minutes strive. For this reason the minutes will typically not reflect the discussion surrounding a motion, only its outcome.

Additionally, Robert's Rules in brief advises "The name and subject of a guest speaker or other program may be given, but no summary of the talk." [RONRIB page 149]

Both books can be found at our local libraries for anyone interested in more information.

RSD10 Chair

~Brief Recess~

Regional School District #10
Special Meeting of the Board of Education
Lewis S. Mills Auditorium
26 Lyon Road, Burlington, CT
Monday, April 17, 2017
(Immediately following Public Hearing)

*Amended 5/8/2017

Board Members Present:

Phillip Penn –Chairman
Thomas Fausel – Vice Chairman
John Vecchitto (via Facetime)
Paul Omichinski
Eleanor (Ellie) Parente
John Goodno
Brooke Joiner

Absent:

Bruce Guillemette
Susan Baccaro
Corey Rewenko

Also Present:

Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Cheri Burke, Director of Student Learning
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

- I. Call to order
Board Chairman Phillip Penn called the meeting to order at 7:52 p.m.

- II. Action
 - A. Approval of the final Estimate of Expenses for the 2017/2018 school year

Discussions ensued regarding the need for one to two additional staff members to satisfy the growing kindergarten enrollment numbers and the best course of action to address the additional cost.

Discussions were also had regarding the waitlist for students wishing to attend Wamogo. The Board Chair had asked the Superintendent to explore the possibility of adding the wait listed students at a substantially reduced tuition, in this particular budget, that figure would equate to \$20,000 (five students at \$4,000 tuition per year).

Mr. Penn suggested that a committee be established to address the number of students allowed to attend Wamago from Region 10. It was his opinion, that due to the size of the Region 10 School District, three students was very low, but he also felt that the number should not be 12 or 15.

Paul Omichinski made a motion to include in the budget two additional kindergarten staff members, the allocation of \$20,000 for Wamago waitlisted students, minus \$50,000 of the GWI contingency for a total approved budget of \$39,783,708 or a 2.08% increase; seconded by John Vecchitto; five*(six) in favor; Brooke Joiner opposed; motion carried.

B. Approve the call of the May 1, 2017 Annual Budget Meeting

A motion was made by Eleanor Parente and seconded by Thomas Fausel to accept/approve the call of the May 1, 2017 Annual Budget Meeting; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

III. Consent Agenda:

A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Eleanor Parente to accept/approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Items exhibited were:

- Approval of the Financial Reports dated March 2017;
- The resignation of Emily Doty, Biology/Science Teacher, at the conclusion of the 2016/2017 school year;
- The resignation of Gabrielle McTighe, Spanish Teacher, at the conclusion of the 2016/2017 school year;
- The resignation of Dana Albrycht, Guidance Counselor, at the conclusion of the 2016/2017 school year;
- The resignation of Paula Moscato-Biondino; Speech and Language Pathologist, at the conclusion of the 2016/2017 school year;
- Non-renewals due to budget constraints.

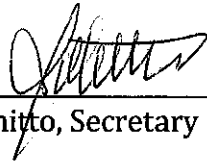
For the record, there were no Leaves of Absence, Retirements, or Appointments.

All in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

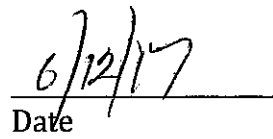
IV. Adjourn

On a motion made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Eleanor Parente to adjourn the Special Meeting of the Board of Education at 8:40 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



John Vecchitto, Secretary



Date

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RSD10 Chair