

**Regional School District # 7
Board of Education Minutes
March 27, 2006**

PRESENT: Chairman Thomson, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Lafave, Mrs. Yard, Mr. Gregor, Mr. Lanctot, Superintendent, Dr. Roberta S. Ohotnicky, Director of Finance and Operations, Mr. Roger Newbury, and High School Principal, Mr. Connor

Chairman Thomson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

There were no members of the public present who wished to speak on agenda items. **PUBLIC**

Motion by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mrs. Yard to approve the minutes of the March 7th special meeting of the Board of Education. APPROVED MINUTES

Motion by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mrs. Yard to approve the minutes of the March 14th special meeting of the Board of Education.

Mr. Newbury presented the budget transfers for the Board's approval.

**FINANCIAL
REPORT**

Motion by Mrs. Lafave, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson and passed unanimously, to approve the transfers, as presented.

Mrs. LaFave reported the updates on the recent CAFE initiatives and their role in supporting them. **CAFE REPORT**

Mr. Newbury reported that there wasn't any new information regarding the transformer **OLD BUS.** update, other than that the engineers are working on it, and by mid-April he would have more information.

Chairman Thomson had two updates to report regarding the budget, as follows: **UPDATE**

- 1) Several Board members attended the Colebrook budget presentation on Thursday. He commented that the budget was well received by those in attendance. He stated that they indicated that it was a fair budget, but that it needed to be trimmed down.
- 2) Chairman Thomson received a letter from New Hartford Board of Finance Chairman Daniel Charest, requesting by a unanimous vote at their March 21 Special Meeting, that Regional School District #7 Board of Education reduce its proposed budgeted assessment to the town of New Hartford by a minimum of \$50,000, as well as to move to bring the budget to a public vote by way of a ballot referendum.

Superintendent, Dr. Roberta S. Ohotnicky stated that even though budget cuts needed **BUDG. DISC.**

to be made, the administrations true priorities are the students of Regional School District #7. She stated that her top four priorities are as follows:

- 1) Staffing **BUDG. DISC. continued**
- 2) Direct student-teacher contact, being the most effective part of the budget, focusing on student activities when they are not in class.
- 3) Classroom materials, specifically textbooks.
- 4) Support staff – secretarial staff being an unresolved area.

Board members addressed, commented and discussed these items with Dr. Ohotnicky and Director of Finance, Roger Newbury.

The Board has decided not to adopt the budget at this time, but has called a Special **NEW BUS.** Meeting on April 7th at 5:30 p.m. to further discuss the budget that is to be presented to the Budget Hearing on April 11, 2006.

Motion to adopt Call of Budget Hearing on April 11th at 7:00 p.m., to take place in the Little Theater, by Mrs. Yard, seconded by Mr. Gergor and passed unanimously.

Motion by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mrs. Yard and passed unanimously to designate May 1st for the Annual District Budget Meeting.

Decision on Referendum will be made on April 11th.

The Board received a letter of resignation from Special Education Teacher, Mary Bowen. **CORR.** She will be completing the 2005-2006 school year.

Motion to accept her resignation with regret and thanks by Mrs. Yard, seconded by Mr. Gregor and passed unanimously.

Mrs. Shelley Lloyd commented on the budget discussions that took place during this **PUBLIC** meeting.

Motion by Mrs. Lafave, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson and passed unanimously, to go into Executive Session at 8:51 p.m.

Motion to come out of Executive Session by Mrs. Lafave, 2nd by Mrs. Kenneson at 9:16 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Mrs. Yard, seconded by Mr. Gregor at 9:19 p.m. ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Ann Bocchetta
Board Clerk