

**Regional School District No. 7
Board of Education Minutes
January 27, 2010
Newbury Library Media Center
6:30 P.M.**

Present:

Molly Sexton Read	Barkhamsted
Theresa Kenneson	Colebrook
Janice Dorazio	Colebrook
Daniel Jerram	New Hartford
Rob Jerram	New Hartford
Don Tarrant	Norfolk
Tara Yard	Norfolk
Clint Montgomery	Superintendent of Schools
Roger Newbury	Director of Finance

Absent:

Mark Lanctot	Barkhamsted
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<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>
Ms. Sexton Read called the regular BOE meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.	OPENING OF THE BOE MEETING
<p>Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Newbury provided information concerning the major factors that were influencing the coming budget. They indicated that contractual obligations, special education costs and especially increased costs of medical benefits were the major factors resulting in significant increases to various line items. They indicated that the budget process was still in the initial stages and the information remained preliminary. However, they stated that these factors have resulted in an increase in excess of \$1,000,000 to the current budget. Mr. Newbury indicated that a 33% increase to the medical benefits has resulted in an increase of approximately \$500,000 to this line item. He indicated that discussions have been completed with the bus contractors and their rates would not be increasing for the coming year in response to the economic conditions. Mr. Montgomery stated, in response to questions from BOE members, that there have been a number of meetings with the NTA to discuss the budgetary challenges and the possibility for contractual changes. Ms. Sexton Read indicated that at the last meeting that she attended, the NTA representatives indicated that they wished to notify the BOE of their willingness to continue these discussions with the shared goal of continuing high quality programs for the Northwestern students. Ms. Sexton Read indicated that additional meetings were planned for the near future.</p> <p>Various budgetary scenarios were presented to the BOE members that included information on the impact to the staff, district and students. Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Newbury indicated that, depending on the final outcome of the budget, the number of impacted staff could range from 14 to 33 (both part time and full time). They emphasized that this analysis was preliminary and that additional information would be available in the coming weeks. It was decided by the BOE that the date for the presentation of the budget would be the second BOE meeting in February rather than the first.</p> <p>BOE members emphasized the need to approach all contractual units in the district to share in the financial challenges presented by the budget increases and the current economic conditions.</p>	BUDGET INFORMATIONAL DISCUSSION
MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to go into Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. for the purpose of contractual issues. Present in Executive	

<p>Session: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Dan Jerram, Mr. Rob Jerram, Mr. Tarrant, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Dorazio, Mrs. Kenneson, Superintendent Montgomery, Director of Finance and Operations Newbury.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to come out of Executive Session at 9:05 p.m.</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Tarrant, and passed unanimously, to empower the Chairman of the Board of Education to request in writing salary and benefit concessions from all bargaining units to provide savings to the District in order to maintain the quality and integrity of the educational services provided students at Northwestern Regional Middle/High Schools.</p> <p>There was a discussion of the current contract with The Gilbert School regarding the shared football program. Mr. Montgomery indicated that he has met with Mr. Cressy at the Gilbert School to discuss The Gilbert School’s request to examine this agreement. The BOE indicated that no changes could be considered to this agreement until the budget process was further along.</p> <p>Ms. Kenneson requested that the BOE consider changing the time for the start of the BOE meeting from 6:30 to either 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. This issue was tabled for a meeting in the near future.</p>	<p>RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Dorazio, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 p.m.</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Clint Montgomery

Clint Montgomery, Superintendent of Schools