

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2011

PRESENT: Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Dorazio, Mr. Lanctot, Mr. Jerram, Mr. Gauthier, Mr. Torrant, Superintendent Palmer, Director of Finance and Operations Newbury, Middle School Principal Perez, High School Principal Chichester.

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Sexton Read at 6:05 PM.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Millar, Board of Finance Chair, Colebrook, stated that due to reevaluations, and an increased number of sixth grade students going to Northwestern in the fall the Colebrook increase costs would result in increasing the mil rate for residents. Mr. Millar stated that any savings the Board might seek would be appreciated.

PUBLIC

Ms. Sexton Read stated the budget is a work in progress. Input from the town's representatives and residents is much appreciated and encouraged. Ms. M. Moore, New Hartford, expressed her appreciation to the Board of Education in the tremendous efforts they have put into the budget.

Superintendent Palmer discussed a new graduation date. Because there have been no further snow days and arrangements need to be finalized with the Warner, speakers, etc., the new graduation date will be June 20, 2011.

GRADUATION
DATE
6/20/2011

MOTION by Mr. Torrant, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to set the date for Graduation on Monday, June 20, 2011.

An updated/revised budget was given to the Board members and public. The members of the Board of Education held a review and discussion session on the 2011-2012 2011 -2012 working budget. Each member expressed his/her concerns.

BUDGET
REVIEW

Ms. Perez and Mr. Chichester were available to answer questions. The Board members thanked them for being available to attend and to discuss their concerns. There were questions concerning class sizes, electives, transportation, and world language. Ms. Perez and Mr. Chichester expressed how volatile the middle school students are at this age and how important the team concept is, along with middle school expectations, close communication with parents, communities and staff.

PRINCIPALS
INPUT

Members discussed reductions in the working budget and requested Superintendent Superintendent Palmer and Mr. Newbury to review the present proposed budget and further reduce it considering the Board priority list. Dr. Palmer stated she will bring forward what is possible for the students.

BUDGET
REVIEW

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MOTION by Mrs. Dorazio, seconded by Mr. Jerram, and passed unanimously, to hold a Special Budget Meeting on Tuesday, March 22, 2011 at 6:00 PM. **SPECIAL BDGT. MTG. 3/22/11**

Mr. Dan Jerram, First Selectman, New Hartford, stated he understands that difficult choices are being made in all communities and homes. He stated the reimbursement rate has been decreased, tax rates have increased, revenue has been lost and unknown factors affect the budget. **PUBLIC**

MOTION by Mr. Torrant, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM. **ADJOURN**

Respectfully submitted,

Kaye M. Sweeney, Board Clerk