

**Regional School District No. 7
Board of Education Minutes
March 17, 2010
Roger Newbury Library Media Center**

SPECIAL SESSION

Present:

Don Tarrant	Norfolk
Daniel Jerram	New Hartford
Molly Sexton Read	Barkhamsted
Janice Dorazio	Colebrook
Theresa Kenneson	Colebrook
Rob Jerram	New Hartford

APPROVED 4/19/2010

Clint Montgomery	Superintendent of Schools
Roger Newbury	Director of Finance and Operations

Wayne Conner	High School Principal
Candy Perez	Middle School Principal

Absent:

Tara Yard	Norfolk
Mark Lanctot	Barkhamsted

<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>
Ms. Molly Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.	CALL TO ORDER
No Comments	PUBLIC
<p>The BOE members and administration discussed the proposed budget for the coming school year. Ms. Sexton Read began the discussion with an update on the meeting held in New Hartford in which the Region 7 budget was informally presented to the Board of Finance. Ms. Sexton Read and Mr. Montgomery and Mr. Newbury reviewed the basic assumptions underlying the budget and the major factors, such as the economic conditions, special education costs, insurance increases, and contractual obligations that impacted the construction of the budget. Ms. Sexton Read indicated that the development of the budget was based on the core goal of maintaining services, programs and classes for students.</p> <p>There were questions addressed at broad budget issues such as the overall increase (1.75%) and major influences and factors on the changes to the 2010-11 budget. There were also a number of questions and comments regarding specific line items in the budget. Line items discussed and/or questioned included the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Concern by some that non-curricular areas were not reduced enough, 2. Concern regarding the cost of fuel and insurance benefits, 3. Concern about the impact of two years of reducing staff, 4. Question regarding the expenditure of legal fees over the recent years, 5. Discussion regarding the fact that AP and honors courses had not been impacted by the current budget except for possible class size increases, 6. Discussion regarding the difference between the Object and the Program budgets, 7. Discussion regarding the pros and cons regarding the implementation of a "Pay for Play" program, 8. Discussion of the costs associated with the NEASC review of the high school in 2012, 	REVIEW OF THE 2010-2011 BUDGET

2 | Board of Education Minutes

<p>9. Discussion of the time line for paying off district bonds</p> <p>10. Discussion of the continuing process of meeting and collaborating with the NTA on the possibility of concessions. Mr. Montgomery stated that these meetings continue to be held with the shared desire of finding ways to minimize the loss of staff.</p> <p>Mr. Rob Jerram requested that information be gathered for the next meeting on district legal expenses as well as the use by students of school activities, sports, clubs, and parking. It was agreed that this information would be presented at the next meeting.</p>	
<p>No additional comments. Otherwise, included in the budget discussion section.</p>	<p>PUBLIC COMMENTS</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. D. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m.</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>

Respectfully Submitted,

Clint Montgomery

Clint Montgomery
Superintendent of Schools