

**Regional School District No. 7
Board of Education Minutes
March 31, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Barkhamsted School Cafeteria
SPECIAL MEETING**

Present:

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

APPROVED 4/19/2010

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

Absent:

Mark Lanctot	Barkhamsted
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<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>
Ms. Sexton Read called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.	CALL TO ORDER
<p>Questions from the audience focused on the reduction in staff at the middle school level and the impact on students. Concerns were raised regarding class sizes and ability of the four teams to function as they have in the past. These issues were addressed and answered by BOE members and administrators. It was stressed that class sizes will increase for two of the teams but will still remain at a moderate level and lower than many neighboring districts. The audience was informed that the looping plan will be maintained and most programs will remain intact. Other specific questions and comments addressed included the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The BOE's attempts at seeking concessions from the various bargaining units (several meetings were held with the NTA with no agreement to date. The administration agreed to a freeze in salary for the coming year), 2. The "Pay for Play" concept for raising additional revenue. (The BOE has discussed this issue but concerns about the negative impact on participation has resulted in the issue being tabled.) 	PUBLIC
<p>Ms. Sexton Read presented the R7 budget with a detailed analysis of the assumptions and major factors influencing the budget, indicating that the budget was designed to be a balance between the difficult economic times, the needs of the community and the importance of maintaining quality programming at the middle and high schools. It was explained that the major factors impacting the budget were significant increases in special education costs, health insurance premiums, and contractual obligations. Ms. Sexton Read discussed various activities for increasing revenue, including efforts at attracting additional tuition students. She reviewed the major areas of increase and decrease that resulted in a total budget increase of 1.75% over last year. She indicated that Barkhamsted realized the a decrease in the R7 assessment of \$55,032 related primarily to the decrease in Barkhamsted students attending the middle and high schools in relation to other districts.</p>	INFORMAL PRESENTATION OF THE BUDGET

<p>Mr. Montgomery indicated that regulations require that the BOE discuss and approve any recommended non-renewals of non-tenured staff. Currently, there are four staff that would need notification prior to April 1st, 2010. These staff are on a list of staff cuts necessary for balancing the 2010-2011 budget at a 1.75%. Mr. Montgomery stated that these staff have received letters of non-renewal to meet the deadline but BOE notice and approval is necessary at this time. He indicated that he has met with each of the staff and discussed the possibility and hope that some of them would rehired on a part-time status prior to the new school year. The recommended staff for non-renewal are Audra Leach, Louisket Edmond, Elyse Kycia, and Kim Baron. Mr. Montgomery indicated that one of the staff members is also in a position of where appropriate certification is not possible in the State of Connecticut.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Torrant, seconded by Mr. D. Jerram, and passed unanimously, that the contract of employment for Louisket Edmond, Elyse Kycia, Audra Leach and Kimberley Baron not be renewed for the coming school year upon its expiration at the end of the current school year, and that the Superintendent of Schools notify the above-mentioned staff members in writing of this action.</p>	<p>DISCUSSION OF NON-RENEWAL OF NON-TENURED STAFF</p>
<p>None</p>	<p>QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. D. Jerram, seconded by Mr. R. Jerram, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.</p>	<p>ADJOURNMENT</p>

Respectfully Submitted,



Clint Montgomery, Superintendent of Schools