

**Regional School District No. 7
 District Budget Hearing and Board of Education Minutes
 April 8, 2009
 7:00 P.M.
 Roberta S. Ohotnicky Little Theater**

Present:

Molly Sexton Read	Barkhamsted
Mark Lanctot	Barkhamsted
Theresa Kenneson	Colebrook
John Griffey	New Hartford
Daniel Jerram	New Hartford
Schuyler Thomson	Norfolk
Tara Yard	Norfolk

APPROVED
5/13/09

Averill Cantwell	Student Representative
Clint Montgomery	Superintendent of Schools
Roger Newbury	Director of Finance and Operations
Candy Perez	Middle School Principal
Wayne Conner	High School Principal

Absent:

Janice Dorazio	Colebrook
Shelby Mainville	Student Representative

<u>DISCUSSION</u>	<u>ISSUE</u>
Ms. Sexton Read called the District Budget Hearing meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.	CALL TO ORDER
<p>Several residents and parents in attendance responded to Ms. Sexton Read's invitation for input regarding the proposed R7 budget for 2009-2010. Concerns were expressed by some parents regarding the loss of the ninth grade boys and girls basketball program. Mr. Conner discussed the statistics regarding the number of students participating in the program and the costs of the program. Board members reminded the residents that, in proportion to the total budget and overall cuts, the district athletic budget reduction was very small. Comments were otherwise supportive of the current budget and the 0% increase.</p> <p>Ms. Sexton Read adjourned the District Budget Hearing at 8:14 p.m. when there were no additional questions or comments.</p>	<p>PUBLIC PORTION</p> <p>District Budget Discussion</p>
Ms. Sexton Read called the BOE meeting to order at 8:15 p.m.	CALL TO ORDER
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mrs. Yard, to accept the minutes of the March 25 special meeting and regular meetings as presented. Aye: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Thomson, Mrs. Kenneson, Mr. Jerram. Nay: None. Abstentions: Mr. Griffey, Mr. Lanctot, Mrs. Yard. Motion passed.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Yard, to accept the minutes of the March 31, 2009 special meeting. Aye: Mr. Griffey, Ms. Sexton Read, Mrs. Kenneson, Mr. Lanctot. Nay: None. Abstentions: Mr. Jerram, Mr. Thomson, Mrs. Yard. Motion passed.</p>	<p>APPROVAL OF MINUTES 3/25/09</p> <p>3/31/09</p>
It was noted that there were no minutes from the April 2 nd , 2009 meeting in New Hartford, since it was an informal presentation and discussion of the NWR7 budget.	
Averill Cantwell provided a report on high school activities for the last quarter of the year.	STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE RPT.

<p>Ms. Perez reported on the International Guest Program and the French visitors and activities associated with their visit. She also discussed communication with the sending elementary schools and the upcoming visits of sixth graders for transition to the middle school.</p> <p>Mr. Conner provided a high school report, highlighting the continuing communication and interactions with parents regarding the elimination of substance abuse in the school. He discussed the proposed survey to be administered to students to collect additional information about the extent of this problem. This survey would also be administered to middle school students and shared with all parents prior to the administration.</p>	<p>PRINCIPAL REPORTS</p>
<p>The superintendent's report included a discussion of the upcoming reception for the ten students in the highest academic standing. It was agreed by the Board of Education that this student reception would be held at the first meeting in June (10th).</p> <p>Mr. Montgomery provided an update on the current process and progress in identifying new staff for the coming school year. He indicated that interviewing is ongoing and two staff have been identified as replacements for retiring teachers.</p> <p>Mr. Montgomery indicated that the Education Foundation now has an operating website that although basic, is functional. He stated that the directors have decided to offer as their first project an observatory for the telescope.</p> <p>Mr. Montgomery stated that he will be meeting with those staff members that are working on their 092 certificates since it is now necessary for them to seek DSAP (temporary certificates) as department leaders. A meeting has been set for 4/23/09.</p> <p>Mr. Montgomery provided an update on the upcoming graduation plans.</p> <p>Mr. Montgomery also indicated that the Silk Town roofing company will be visiting the school on April 14th to review the plan for placement of solar panels.</p>	<p>SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT</p>
<p>Mr. Newbury reported on the plan for the re-sanding and re-painting of the gym floor this summer. He also explained the necessary budget transfers to cover additional costs in the area of special education.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to accept the monthly transfers as presented.</p>	<p>DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS REPORT</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Lanctot, and passed unanimously, to move agenda items 6.1, 6.2, and 6.3 forward.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Thomson, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to adopt a budget of \$17,602,371 and to send it to a referendum vote on Tuesday, May 5, 2009.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Thomson, and passed unanimously, to adopt the Call of the Annual Budget Meeting as presented.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Thomson, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to accept the referendum question as read.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Griffey, seconded by Mr. Lanctot, and passed unanimously, to allow Mr. Jerram to sign the documents on the posting of the Budget Hearing Notice behalf of the Secretary/Treasurer.</p>	<p>NEW BUSINESS</p> <p>Motions regarding Adopting Budget and the Annual District Budget Mtg</p>

<p>There was discussion regarding the new policy regarding the transporting of students in privately owned vehicles and the difficulties associated with this activity by staff.</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Lanctot, to approve Policy #3541.44 – Transporting Students in Privately Owned Vehicles. Aye: Mr. Lanctot, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Kenneson, Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Jerram. Nay: Mr. Thomson, Mr. Griffey. Abstentions: None. Motion passed.</p>	<p>Policy on Transporting students in privately owned vehicles</p>
<p>There was some brief discussion and questions regarding the eventual need to establish funds for the repair of the school driveway. The current status of the Athletic Director’s position was discussed. Lastly, there was a discussion regarding heating oil usage and costs.</p>	<p>OLD BUSINESS: Updates</p>
<p>Mr. Montgomery read a letter from Ms. Sarah Geunther regarding a FMLA leave for childrearing.</p> <p>MOTION by Mrs. Yard, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to approve a childbearing/childrearing leave in accordance with FMLA for Sarah Guenther.</p> <p>Mr. Montgomery also read a letter of resignation from Cindy Yu regarding her position as Chinese teacher.</p> <p>MOTION by Mrs. Yard, seconded by Mrs. Kenneson, and passed unanimously, to accept the resignation of Cindy Yu.</p>	<p>CORRESPONDENCE</p> <p>Sarah Guenther FMLA Leave</p> <p>Cindy Yu, Chinese Teacher, Resignation</p>
<p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Thomson, and passed unanimously, to go into Executive Session at 9:24 p.m. for the purpose of possible student expulsion and student residency issue. Present in Executive Session: Ms. Sexton Read, Mr. Griffey, Mr. Jerram, Mrs. Yard, Mrs. Kenneson, Mr. Lanctot, Mr. Thomson, Superintendent Montgomery, Director of Finance and Operations Newbury, Mr. Conner (?), Ms. Perez (?).</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Jerram, seconded by Mr. Thomson, and passed unanimously, to come out of Executive Session at 9:43 p.m.</p>	<p>EXECUTIVE SESSION</p>
<p>MOTION by Mrs. Kenneson, seconded by Mrs. Yard, and passed unanimously, to cancel the second meeting in April (April 22, 2009).</p> <p>MOTION by Mr. Griffey, seconded by Mr. Jerram, and passed unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 p.m.</p>	<p>CANCEL 4/22/09 MTG</p> <p>ADJOURNMENT</p>

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,

CA Montgomery
 Clint Montgomery,
 Superintendent of Schools