

TRI-BOARD MEETING MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 5, 2008

In attendance from the Advisory Board of Ashburnham, Bill Johnson, Maggie Whitney, Dottie Munroe, Leo Janssens, Frank Lombardo, Marie Zbikowski, and Jamie Piedrafite. Also in attendance members of the Ashburnham/Westminster Regional School Committee, Jonathan Dennehy, and Mark Carlisle, members of the Ashburnham Board of Selectmen, in addition representatives from the Westminster Board of Selectmen and the Westminster Advisory Board.

SCHOOL BUDGET DISCUSSION

Discussion of the Ashburnham-Westminster-Regional School District and budget assumptions regarding 2.5% plus growth increase from the two Towns which makes a total with this formula a total of \$27,659,695 at this point, with a shortfall of approximately \$900,000, with chapter 70 dollars now in place, but these dollars may increase slightly.

CURRICULUM RE-NEWAL CYCLE

Curriculum re-newal cycle is planned to move the school district forward, if not funded perhaps it should be re-visited.

Suggested the school district should consider a Curriculum Director at a cost of \$75,000. Discussion on the possibility of having a full day Kindergarten with E & D money to fund it. The school district has received a \$90,000 grant for a study of looking into a full day kindergarten which includes planning, supplies, materials, etc. Also the question of timing, is the timing right for this change.

CAPITAL PLANS '02' '04' '06'

Maggie passed out copies of the "capital Improvement" sections of the Ashburnham Town Reports from the years '02', '04', and '06' to members of the School Committee, Boards of Selectmen and the Advisory Boards.

FEASIBILITY STUDY/BUDGET FOR BRIGGS SCHOOL

Mike distributed report/study from Ralph Wallace of Ralph Wallace School Buildings, regarding the cost and reimbursement rate for conducting a feasibility study for the John R. Briggs Elementary School. (report attached)

Respectfully submitted,

Dorothy J. Munroe, secretary