

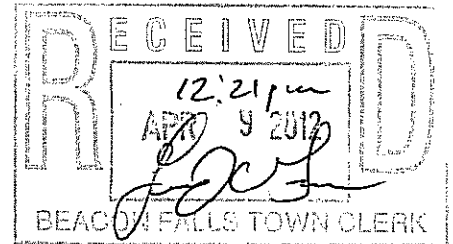
REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 16
Special Board of Education Meeting
Budget Workshop
March 21, 2012

EXHIBIT
I

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Beacon Falls... Priscilla Cretella
Wendy Oliveira
Sheryl Feducia
William Fredericks (*arrived at 7:40 p.m.*)

Prospect... Donna Cullen
Robert Hiscox
Nazih Noujaim

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Tim James, Interim Superintendent of Schools
Hugh Potter, Business Manager
Leigh Barbour, Assistant to Business Manager
Dr. Arnold Frank, Principal-Woodland Regional High School
Ms. Jayne Lanphear, Principal-Long River Middle School
Ms. Regina Murzak, Principal-Laurel Ledge School
Mr. Joseph Nuzzo, Principal-Community School

I. CALL TO ORDER

The budget workshop was called to order by Chairperson Priscilla Cretella at 7:08 p.m. at Long River Middle School, Prospect, CT.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**III. RECORD OF MEMBERS PRESENT**

A roll was taken. A quorum was present.

IV. BUDGET DISCUSSION

Chairman Cretella turned the meeting over to Interim Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Tim James. He explained that personnel budgets were scheduled for tonight, but the discussion will be on local control budgets. Mr. Potter and Ms. Barbour distributed a handout for the budget figures along with showing the figures on screen. Mr. James stated the meeting would go line by line with questions. Mr. Potter said the key for different schools is as follows:

202 Algonquin	204 Community	206 Woodland High
203 Laurel Ledge	205 Long River	

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Mr. Potter said there should be no references in the budget numbers to toner and that line items that still show toner will be less. Mr. Potter also said the paper cost is going down so many line items will be adjusted. As the line items were discussed, adjustments were made where needed. Mr. Hiscox asked if there are double numbers for technology.

There was further discussion on possible budget items that could be recalculated. Ms. Jayne Lanphear said she was given a directive to cut by a certain percent and there was nothing that went up in her budget.

Ms. Cretella said the budget software system is difficult to follow and this may be the last year using it. Line items having no description are not in next year's budget.

Mr. Hiscox wanted to know how many students are in the high school art classes this year and next year's enrollment. Dr. Frank responded that he doesn't know the enrollment numbers. Mr. Hiscox said we should have enrollment numbers now. Mr. James stated the enrollment numbers will be available at next week's meeting.

Ms. Cretella asked Dr. Frank to take her through the steps to come up with enrollment numbers and could the numbers be done earlier. He said he cannot give definitive numbers before the end of the first semester. Ms. Cretella suggested doing the enrollments online to get the numbers quicker. Dr. Frank said it takes time to do the enrollments properly.

Dr. Frank stated that the total numbers for supplies, not including athletics, was \$125,000 this year and will be \$89,000 for next year. The total for everything at the high school this year is \$377,000 and next year's budget is \$330,000.

There was discussion concerning textbooks budgeted for next year, and Ms. Cullen wanted to know when these textbooks were approved. Ms. Lanphear responded that the increases may be because of the state core changes. Ms. Murzak explained that new books a year ago had to be upgraded now in accordance with state core changes.

Ms. Cretella asked each of the principals what line items in their respective schools are going up. Mr. Nuzzo from Community School said reading items are up because of new books.

Ms. Feducia asked if 10 percent could be cut from each of the textbook numbers and that each year it gets harder and harder to cut. They responded that it would not be detrimental, but the levels have to be continuously built up.

Ms. Lanphear said the only line item that went up was for textbooks due to the readers/writers workshop.

Dr. Frank said there were no significant increases in any of the line items at the high school, but there were significant cuts.

Mr. Hiscox asked for a list of codes for athletics by individual sports. Mr. Potter will provide those codes to them.

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Ms. Cretella said the principals could leave at 8:10 p.m.

It was discussed that the principals were not prepared for the meeting. However, they were emailed the day prior by the Superintendent and not all had read their emails.

The procedures for enrollment were discussed, and Ms. Feducia said the procedure should be better streamlined. Ms. Cullen said in defense of the administration, we should go by the previous year's numbers and adjust slightly.

Ms. Cretella stated the general public loves the individual meetings students have with counselors to choose their classes.

Mr. Fredericks asked what the feeling is on this local control budget. Ms. Cretella would like to bring the budget in at 1 percent. Mr. James said to achieve a 1 percent increase, there would still be cuts of \$550,000.

Ms. Cretella asked Mr. James what direction should be taken now. He said the Board has to look for a reduction of \$550,000. He suggested changing the early retirement incentives and insurance to make reductions to the budget. He is waiting to hear back from the union representative. He also suggested changing the cycles for the budget numbers in the future.

Mr. James said he will supply 2011-2012 enrollments by Friday to the Board, the athletic codes, and uniform cycles.

Ms. Cretella said the student activity funds will affect the budget, and the schools should provide the use for these funds. Mr. Hiscox explained that the audited numbers were high and the following year they were higher. Mr. James will target April 1 for the response.

Ms. Cretella said that next Wednesday the Board meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. with an Executive Session. A budget discussion will be held from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

A MOTION was made by Sheryl Feducia and SECONDED by William Fredericks to adjourn the March 21, 2012, Special Board of Education Meeting/Budget Workshop at 8:43 p.m. ALL IN FAVOR 12-054

Wendy Oliveira,

Board Secretary

*These minutes are subject to Board Approval,
Susan Vaill, Board Clerk*

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