

**THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO BOARD APPROVAL AT THE NEXT
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
DEEP RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 19, 2011**

The regular meeting of the Deep River Board of Education was held on Thursday, May 19, 2011. In attendance were Christine Daniels, Dave Berardis, Gale Dilger, Lauri Wichtowski, Karen Nelson-Oliveria, and Liz Tracy-Montecalvo. Also in attendance were Dr. Ruth Levy, Superintendent, Ian Neviasser, Assistant Superintendent, Jack Pietrick, Principal, Mr. Garth Sawyer, Business Manager and Kelley Frazier, Clerk.
Absent: Art Robbins

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Daniels called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

CONSENT AGENDA

Lauri Wichtowski moved to approve the minutes from the March 17, 2011 meeting and the Accounts Payable report. Jim Olson seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

Audience of Citizens

No Comment

Other Items

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE- Dr. Pietrick

Student Presentation

Dr. Pietrick introduced Grayson Kohary, Stephanie Bartlett and Jennifer Roberts. These sixth grade students gave the student update. They highlighted many school activities such as the Student Council collected over one hundred dollars for the Hole in the Wall Camp. High on Life activities included the student body exercising together and painting murals on Main Street. The school Chorus had a spring concert. The Student Council is collecting money for Save the Children. The Tip a Teacher fundraiser is June 6th. Donations made will support the Buddy Baseball program. There is a mentor picnic at the end of June. Sixth grade will participate in Unity day at John Winthrop Middle School and also Sixth Grade Graduation. Ms. Daniels thanked the kids for presenting to the Board. She also mentioned that May 3rd was Teacher Appreciation Day and she wished to thank all of the teachers.

Ms Daniels requested from Dr. Pietrick a report highlighting the school activities for the year. This should be sent to all Board members. She would also like included in the report any issues that he would like addressed. Ms. Daniels discussed the school issues that the town will be addressing. She will email this information to the Board members.

Reports:

Financial Status Report

Financial Status Report – Mr. Garth Sawyer

Mr. Sawyer gave a brief update of the financial status. He is trying to simplify the reporting process. He noted that electricity usage will be over budget. He reported that at this time, it looks as if the school will have a deficit of approximately \$8,000 due to a number of unanticipated special education costs for the 10-11 school year. The Principal has placed a budget freeze on non-essential discretionary spending. Dr. Levy will report on the end of year numbers at the end of June.

Mr. Sawyer reviewed the requested budget transfers.

KC Nelson-Oliveria made a motion to approve the 2010-2011 budget transfers as recommended by Superintendent Levy and Business Manager Sawyer. Mark Malcarne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Cafeteria Update:

Mr. Sawyer reviewed the cafeteria status report. The school is projected to come in at budget with the board subsidy. Dr. Pietrick noted that the salad bar has been very successful.

Committee Reports – L. Seidman:

Joint PK-12 Committee:

Policy Committee:

Will be rescheduled

Finance Committee:

No update. There will be a Special Meeting scheduled on June 22nd to review the procedures manual and the end of the year finances.

Curriculum Committee:

No Update. The meeting has been postponed and will be rescheduled.

Supervision District Committee Update:

At the next scheduled meeting, the topic of discussion will be the region's website.

DRES Facilities (Buildings and Grounds) Committee – C. Daniels

Dr. Pietrick and Ms. Daniels discussed the roof issues. On Friday, the Art teacher noted a leak in the art room. It was discovered that one of the supporting 2 x 6 beams had been damaged by water. Mr. Smith requested that the school call a roofer to repair the leak. It has been repaired. The roofer assessed the other areas of concern and found a large hole in the roof which has caused considerable damage. The roofer feels it is fixable and it will be considered for a summer repair. The roofer also looked at the leak in the Kindergarten room and said that there should have been copper sheeting used to prevent leakage. He also noted that the shingles also need replacing. The roofer will submit estimates to Mr. Smith. Dr. Levy noted that the collaboration with the Town has been very good and their willingness to address these issues so quickly is appreciated.

Other Committee Reports

Ms. Daniels noted that several members attended the Public Hearing. Ms. Daniels asked the Board to get the word out to vote on May 24, 2011.

Assistant Superintendent's Report – I. Neviaser

Mr. Neviaser noted that the Math Committee is meeting and making progress. They have developed a plan to work on the Common Core Standards. He feels confident that we are ahead of many districts. The Civics Bee at John Winthrop Middle School was sponsored by Civics First. Fourth, Fifth and Sixth graders competed and it was fun for everyone. This event will take place again next year. The data fair will be held at the next Joint Board of Education meeting on June 2nd. The presentations will be lined up by grade level. There has been professional development in phonics in Kindergarten through Sixth grade teachers. Deep River will spend their last day with their consultant doing demonstration lessons. The state is piloting a Math CMT in June. John Winthrop will have eleven students participating. There is about the same number of students as last year participating in the summer program, Celebrate Learning.

Superintendent's Report – R. Levy

District Update:

Region 4 and Chester budgets have been approved. It has been a tough year for budgeting, but a good collaborative effort with the towns and schools. It has been positive that more parents have been involved in the budgeting process. Dr. Levy said that the plays at the High School and Middle School were great this year. Prom will be held on May 21st. The issue regarding the special education student at the Middle School has been cleared and the school has been totally exonerated. The High School is receiving many awards and it has been an outstanding year for the students in music, art, athletics as well as academically. Graduation is June 20th. Kristina Martineau has been appointed as the Principal of Valley Regional High School. Dr. Levy stated the interviewing process for the Associate Principal position is underway. There will be a site visit interview and then they will have a recommendation for the Board. Someone should be in place by July 1st. Dr. Levy will be working on a five year vision for the district.

After a brief budget discussion the Board decided to approve the revised budget with an increase of 5.54%.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED to recommend bringing the revised Deep River Elementary School Budget for school year 2011-12 to the Deep River Board of Finance in the amount of \$5,192,900 (five million, one hundred and ninety two thousand, nine hundred dollars). The motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Comment

ADJOURNMENT

On motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously VOTED to move into Executive Session at 8:07pm to discuss a personnel matter and the Board of Education Self Evaluation. The motion passed unanimously. Dr. Levy and Dr. Pietrick were invited to attend the Executive Session.

The Board Moved out of Executive Session at 9:07pm.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board unanimously agreed to allow Dr. Pietrick to roll over five vacation days for the 2011/2012 school year.

On a motion duly made and seconded the Board unanimously VOTED to adjourn at 9:08pm.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8.1 Next Supervision District and Regular Joint BOE June 2, 2011

8.2 Next Regular Deep River Board of Education Meeting September 15, 2011

Respectfully Submitted,

Kelley Frazier, Board Clerk