

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Special Meeting** held on **February 19, 2008**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: Jen Larsen, Mary Stocks, Bob Dolan

Administrative Attendance: J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, P. Cosentino, D. DeBlois, B. Germinaro, K. Gombos, B. Kirmil, L. Pica

B. Kingston, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

A. ***Roll Call for Quorum***

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, J. DeRosa (arrived 7:43 p.m.), M. Duff, K. Harrison (arrived 7:50 p.m.), W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner

Board Members Absent: None

B. ***Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America***

Motion by R. Renner: Move to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of employment status of a staff member.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

Motion Carried Unanimously

Board of Education Members Present: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, M. Duff, W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner

Board of Education Members Absent: J. DeRosa, K. Harrison

Administrators: J. Jordan, T. Yonsky

Motion by R. Renner: Move to come out of Executive Session at 7:43 p.m.

Seconded: S. Carlsen

Motion Carried Unanimously

2. **Correspondence**

- Email from Janet Colla, Cafeteria Director, Sodehexo Food Services, regarding recall of USDA Ground Beef.

Ms. Yonsky informed the Board the recalled beef received by our Sodehexo staff will be discarded and has not been used in any of the schools.

RECEIVED

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

3. 2008-2009 Education Budget Workshop

Ms. Yonsky, Director of Fiscal Services, reviewed the five (5) modifications to the proposed budget reducing the budget by \$59,678, a decrease of 0.17%.

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve the Superintendent's Recommended 2008-2009 Education Budget in the amount of \$37,601,449, an increase of 4.98%.
Seconded by J. DeRosa**

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to amend the motion to include an increase in the Summer School Enrichment Program tuition by \$5, reducing the budget by \$4,625.
Seconded by R. Renner
Motion Carried Unanimously**

The Board discussed Segal's estimate on health benefits. It is the consensus of the Board to allow Terry DeMattie, Segal Representative, to explore other carriers in part or in full.

The Board discussed the need for security and the proposed high school security guard.

The Board discussed the need for the proposed middle school world language teacher.

**Motion by R. Renner: Move to remove the proposed Middle School World Language Teacher from the proposed budget, reducing the budget \$71,818.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
AYE: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, M. Duff, K. Harrison, W. Kingston, R. Renner
NAY: J. DeRosa, B. Foulk, M. Knickerbocker
Motion Carried**

**Motion by R. Renner: Move to increase one (1) staff member for the 5th grade, increasing the budget \$71,818.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
AYE: M. Knickerbocker, R. Renner
NAY: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, W. Kingston, B. Foulk
Motion Failed**

**Motion by L. Craybas: Move to remove the proposed High School College & Career Center position from the proposed budget.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
AYE: L. Craybas
NAY: S. Carlsen, J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner
Motion Failed**

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to remove the proposed SW Elementary Science Assistant position from the proposed budget, reducing the budget \$24,589.
Seconded by R. Renner
AYE: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, M. Duff, K. Harrison, W. Kingston, R. Renner
NAY: J. DeRosa, B. Foulk, M. Knickerbocker
Motion Carried

The Board discussed the need for this position. Dr. Jordan discussed with the Board the need for more than a paraprofessional position to support science. Mr. Kingston and Mr. Duff said they would support a science teacher position in the 2009-2010 budget.

The Board discussed the Educational Cost Sharing (ECS) the Town will receive from the State in the amount of \$343,817.

S. Carlsen called the question.

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to vote on the motion.
Seconded by R. Renner
Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to remove the proposed one (1) of the two (2) High School Custodian positions from the proposed budget.
Seconded by L. Craybas
AYE: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas
NAY: J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner
Motion Failed

Ms. Cosentino, Principal, Bethel High School, and Mr. Germinaro, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, explained the need for the custodial position with the use of the building for many activities at night and on the weekends and the new 38,000 sq. ft. Mr. Duff, Chairman, Facilities Subcommittee, said with the addition to the high school, its size and complexity, there is a need for more personnel as activity in the building will increase. The Board discussed the need for High School Custodian position

S. Carlsen called the question.

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to vote on the motion.
Seconded by R. Renner
Motion Carried Unanimously

J. DeRosa called the question on the original motion to approve the Superintendent's Recommended 2008-2009 Education Budget in the amount of \$37,601,449, an increase of 4.98%

**Motion by J. DeRosa: Move to vote on the motion.
Seconded by R. Renner
Motion Carried Unanimously**

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve the Superintendent's Recommended 2008-2009 Education Budget in the amount of \$37,601,449, an increase of 4.98%.
Seconded by J. DeRosa
AYE: J. DeRosa, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner
NAY: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, M. Duff, K. Harrison, W. Kingston
Motion Failed**

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve the Superintendent's Recommended 2008-2009 Education Budget as amended in the amount of \$37,500,417, an increase of 4.697%.
Seconded by J. DeRosa
AYE: S. Carlsen, J. DeRosa, K. Harrison, W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner
NAY: L. Craybas, M. Duff
Motion Carried**

**Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to approve the budget for the 460 School Building Maintenance Account in the amount of \$451,129.20, an increase of 19.68%.
Seconded by R. Renner
Motion Carried Unanimously**

Mr. Germinaro, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, reviewed the 460 School Building Maintenance Account. He reviewed what services and needs are funded by this account. Mr. Duff, Chairman, Facilities Subcommittee, and Mr. Craybas expressed the need for maintenance and repairs.

**Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to amend the 460 Account budget to eliminate all projects listed as Priority 3.
Seconded by J. DeRosa
AYE: S. Carlsen
NAY: L. Craybas, J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, W. Kingston, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner
Motion Failed**

Mrs. Yonsky discussed the list of long term capital items and requested the Board's permission to forward the list to the Town.

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to table item for further study.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Motion Carried Unanimously

Mr. Knickerbocker requested the Facilities Subcommittee look into the lighting project in the Educational Park (Project #1002). Mr. Knickerbocker recalled former First Selectman, Judy Novachek addressing the Board about CL&P including installing lighting in the park as part of their underground cable project.

4. Adjourn

Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to adjourn at 10:20 p.m.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Paré
Board Recorder