

Minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Regular Meeting** held on **Thursday, February 18, 2010**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: None

Administrative Attendance: G. Chesley, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky, D. DeBlois, K. Gombos, B. Kirmil, L. Pica, K. Smith, C. Troetti

L. Craybas, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**

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

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, M. Duff, K. Harrison, C. McCorkindale, M. O'Brien, R. Renner

Board Members Absent: J. DeRosa, A. Mannion

B. ***Pledge Allegiance***

2. **Audience Participation**

None.

3. **2010-2011 Education Budget Workshop**

L. Craybas, Chairman, put back on the table the motion from the previous Board of Education meeting on February 4, 2010.

Motion by L. Craybas: Move to reduce the Superintendent's proposed operating budget for 2010-2011 to \$37,750,000, a reduction of \$276,031. This revision represents a 3.23% increase versus the current school year, 2009-2010.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

Motion by L. Craybas: Move to amend the motion as follows:

To reduce the Superintendent's proposed operating budget from \$37,750,000 to \$37,504,875, a reduction of \$521,156. This revision represents a 2.56% increase versus the current budget for the school year 2009-2010.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

Discussion:

Mrs. Yonsky explained the cost to carry forward the budget has decreased by \$1,060,341. Segal, the Board's insurance consultant, has informed her that due to a very good claim rate Cigna's negotiated renewal is a 3.1% increase.

Reductions in the budget include:

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

HS & MS Coach and Advisor Stipends
HS & MS Increase in Pay-to-Play \$100/\$75
JS - 5th Grade Accelerated Math Program
RS & BS Eliminate 1.0 Elementary Teacher including benefits
HS Eliminate 1.0 World Language Teacher including benefits

Adjustments to Carry Forward Costs:

Additional costs for Danbury Magnet School
No increase from WERACE

Additions to Budget:

HS – TASK (Alt. Ed.) Paraprofessional including benefits
HS & MS – Coach and Advisor Stipends

The administration and Board discussed presenting the budget to the Board of Finance and the community. The administration spoke about what the impact of any additional budget cuts would have on meeting the educational needs of students and student academic achievement at each school.

**Motion by M. Duff: Move to move the question.
Seconded by None**

R. Renner spoke about the need to support this budget at the 2.56% increase. Any additional decreases would mean cutting additional staff.

Motion by L. Craybas: Move to approve the Superintendent's proposed operating budget of \$37,504,875, a 2.56% increase versus the current budget for the school year 2009-2010.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

AYE: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, M. Duff, K. Harrison, M. O'Brien, R. Renner

NAY: None

Abstain: C. McCorkindale

Motion Carried Unanimously By Those Voting - 6/0/1

Motion by M. Duff: Move to add to the agenda Item #4 – 460 Account.

Seconded by S. Carlsen

Motion Carried Unanimously

Motion by M. Duff: Move to approve the amount of \$333,335 in the 460 Account for the 2010 - 2011 school year.

Seconded by K. Harrison

Motion Carried Unanimously

4. **Adjourn**

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to adjourn at 8:07 p.m.
Seconded by C. McCorkindale
Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Paré
Board Recorder