**Minutes**
**Regular Meeting/Budget Workshop #1**
**Region 14 Board of Education**
**Monday, March 10, 2025; 6:00 p.m.**
**Mitchell Elementary School**
**Flanders Room**
**Official Minutes – Board Approved – Monday, April 7, 2025**

**Present:**
Jim Crocker, Chairman
Chris Matta
Carol Ann Brown
Alice Jones
Caren Lipinski

**Absent:**
Tikva Rose
Michael Carbonneau
Chris Griffin

**Also Present:**
Brian Murphy, Superintendent
Tina Tanguay, Director of Finance and Operations
Mark Sommaruga, Attorney for the Board

**I. Call to Order**
Chairman Crocker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance/Introductions**
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and members of the Board of Education and Central Office staff introduced themselves.

**III. Board of Education Workshop #1**

**A. Discussion of the Superintendent's Proposed 2025/2026 Budget**

At their previous meeting, Board members were asked to review the proposed 25/26 budget and to reach out to Tina Tanguay with questions. A brief discussion was had regarding the capital reserve fund and the status of the already approved projects.

The meeting scheduled for Monday, March 17, 2025 has been cancelled

**IV. Discussion with Board Attorney on referendum advocacy issues**

- Legal counsel explained the fundamental law prohibits spending public money to influence voter decisions in referendums
- Law only takes effect when referendum becomes legally pending on (**April 7, 2025)**
- State Election Commission enforces these regulations

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- Legal counsel clarified that public funds cannot be used to influence referendum votes after (**April 7, 2025)** when referendum becomes legally pending
- Board members retain full rights to personal advocacy using private resources (after **April 7, 2025)**
- Neutral communications about referendum facts, dates, and locations are permitted using district resources

**V. Adjournment**

A motion was made by Jim Crocker and seconded by Chris Matta to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m., all in favor, none opposed, motion carried unanimously.

*Respectfully Submitted,*



*Patricia Paige*
*Board Clerk*
*Recorded and filed subject to Board of Education approval by: Patricia Paige, Board Clerk*

*Minutes created with assistance of Circleback AI"*