

The Webutuck Board of Education held their April 4, 2011 meeting at 7:30 p.m. in the Webutuck High School Library.

The following Board members were present:

Dale Culver, President

Joanne Boyd

Joseph Herald

Joseph Matteo

William McGhee

John Perotti

Casey Swift

Also Present:

Steven D. Schoonmaker, Superintendent

Mary Grden, School Business Administrator

Therese Trotter, District Clerk

Absent:

CALL TO ORDER

President Culver called the business meeting of April 4, 2011 to order at 7:37 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following are comments made by audience members:

- Rumor of cutting French and other courses
- Why cut courses first and not administration
- Why French was singled out
- Excelled students would have to begin a new language
- Need courses for the variety of students found here
- Look at administration first
- Hear rumors don't really know who is being looked at
- Grid showing languages offered in other districts
- Looked at reserves
- German has been wonderful for my college aged son
- Why didn't you pick Spanish
- Is home and careers being cut completely or an option
- Student described her problems taking courses and being dyslexic
- Family and consumer science needs to have one person in-charge of that space
- Reducing a course to a .4 would be hard for someone to support their family
- Webutuck is a Regents school; disservice by offering one language w/ a regents and one without if you cut French
- Did Superintendent go into the classroom of the classes that are being suggested to cut.
- Can you guarantee that modified baseball won't be taken out of the budget
- Audience member want five minutes in executive session
- Marathon project is a great choice for kids if they don't want to join a sport

- Son is looking at coming to Webutuck, disappointed French and Technology might be cut
- Coaches need to know first aid
- If one language is cut, you are not listening to these parents

DISCUSSION

1. 2011-2012 Budget

The Chairman gave an update on the Finance Meeting – As it stand the budget is \$20,050,447.00 which represents 1.36 % budget increase, the tax levy is .91 % with State Aid.

The President will meet with the Teachers union tomorrow and see if they can help with the fiscal situation. There was a question whether anyone reached out to the CSEA Union; the President stated a meeting will be held tomorrow with the Union. The Board President discussed a concern he heard that if there were any concessions would that money go strictly to salaries. The President and Board members agreed. He suggested a possible MOA that would state clearly that any money would go back into salary line to save program.

Board member discussed the \$300,000 in the bus reserve account that has been sitting there for a period of years. What impact would there be if we moved that money into general fund through a voter proposition to fund these programs that are being suggested we cut? The Business Manager stated that it would be a one-time fix; the District is already pulling \$200,000 from reserves with other one-time fixes. She also stated the Federal Jobs money will be going away next year. Discussion ensued.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

1. The Superintendent announced upcoming meetings:

- Finance Committee Meeting next Monday, April 11th 6:30 – 7:30 pm
- DLT meeting tomorrow night at 6:30 pm in HS library
- Science Night Wednesday of this week
- 4-6 Grade parent meeting at 5:00 pm on Thursday for next year start and end times

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following are comments made by audience members:

- shared services
- has a 4 day school week been discussed
- hosting an Ace program and pulling in other student from other districts

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Boyd made and Mr. Matteo seconded a motion to adjourn to executive session at 9:10 pm for the purpose of discussing the employment history of a particular person or persons.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

RECONVENE PUBLIC SESSION

Mr. Herald made and Mrs. Swift seconded a motion to adjourn the executive session and to reconvene the public session at 9:59 pm.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mrs. Boyd made and Mr. Herald seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting of April 4, 2011 at 10:00 pm.

Ayes 7 Nays 0 The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Therese M. Trotter
District Clerk