

**TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

**Special Board Meeting
December 6, 2016
6:00PM**

**Superintendent's Office
30 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH**

Call to Order [00:00:05]

Chairman Bealo called this December 6, 2016 Special Meeting of the Timberlane Regional School Board to order at 6:06pm with the roll call.

Board Members Present

Peter Bealo, Rob Collins (via telephone, joined the meeting in person at 6:41pm and left the meeting at 6:59pm), Donna Green, Dan Guide, Kelly Ward, Stefanie Dube, and Gregory Spero. Not present: Susan Sherman and Jack Sapia.

Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Metzler and Business Administrator, George Stokinger were present.

[00:01:05]

MOTION: Mr. Guide motioned to allow Mr. Collins to call into the meeting; seconded by Mrs. Dube.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: The motion to allow Mr. Collins to pass unanimously (6-0-0)

Mr. Collins joined the call via conference call and Chairmen Bealo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

DELEGATES AND INDIVIDUALS [00:02:50]

Mrs. Sarah Machemer, 6 North Ave., Plaistow, NH, thanked the Board. As a parent, alumnus and resident, she spoke on the renovations needed in the practice rooms at the Performing Arts Center. She asked the Board remove the \$40,000 for the funding of an acoustical study and for the repairs needed from the FY2017-18 budget in favor of having the work completed in the current fiscal year. Staff should have a safe working environment; particularly since hearing loss is so impactful for musicians, both inside and outside the classroom. Block scheduling will cause 90 minutes of class time. She closed with a request that the Board find the funding to undertake sound mitigation work this year.

BUDGET DISCUSSION [00:07:05]

Mr. Stokinger presented the second draft of the FY 2017-18 budget of \$71,595,092 - \$1.4M over prior year budget and reflected \$1,932,516 in reductions from the previous budget draft. Major factors over \$25,000 were articulated. Mr. Stokinger walked through \$1,932,515.60 in cuts by account.

Mr. Stokinger confirmed a correction had been made to the School Board salary line. Discussion on the initial position cuts of \$663,450.79 compared to additional cuts of \$324,000. Dr. Metzler noted exact positions have not yet been identified.

Discussion on whether giant TV's, with reference to the Communications Plan, were included in the Budget for school lobbies. Mr. Stokinger noted the only cuts Budget Committee cuts for technology were the upgrades to the Board Room.

Discussion on whether Achieve 3000 expenses were included to be rolled out for elementary schools. Ms. Armfield did present her budget to the Budget Committee; her full budget has been presented.

[00:16:00]

MOTION: Mrs. Green motioned to strike \$100,000 from curriculum line for Achieve 3000 in the Elementary School; second by Mrs. Dube.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: Vote failed 2-5-0 with Mrs. Green and Mrs. Dube in favor.

[00:16:45]

MOTION: Mrs. Green motioned to withdraw \$9000 (the value of lobby TV's at each school, including installation) from the communication and technology budget; second by Mrs. Dube.

Discussion surrounded the nature of the proposed communication equipment. Communication dissemination outside the schools was identified as a higher priority than internal communication. The specific line item(s) which featured the lobby TV's was not identified in the Budget.

[00:20:40]

MOTION: Mrs. Green motioned to amend the motion to withdraw the value of lobby TV's at each school, at \$9000, including installation, only if it is in the communication and technology budget; second by Mrs. Dube.

Discussion: None.

VOTE: Vote on the amendment failed 3-4-0 with Mrs. Green, Mr. Bealo and Mrs. Dube in favor.

[00:21:44]

VOTE: Vote on the original motion failed 2-5 with Mrs. Green and Mrs. Dube in favor.

[00:22:00]

MOTION: Mr. Guide motioned to pull the \$40,000 PAC study from 2018 budget and undertake the work in 2016-17; seconded by Mrs. Green.

Discussion surrounded around liability and the accuracy of decibel readings. A resident with industry experience noted a survey for 8 hours, with three employees, measuring decibels, was reported to cost under \$4,000. Discussion surrounded the work being a study and the remediation work. Current process for project recommendations by the Capital Improvement Committee and the Facilities Committees was discussed relative to best practices going forward.

[00:32:40]

MOTION: Mr. Collins amended such that the study was to be done as soon as possible; second by Mr. Guide.

Discussion: Assurances were sought that the study funding would be well spent. A cap on the study of \$5,000 was discussed. It was recommended the resident with experience in this area be included in the process. This was not discussed as viable.

VOTE: The motion to amend passed unanimously (7-0-0).

VOTE: The amended motion passed unanimously (7-0-0).

Mr. Stokinger discussed the Default budget of \$71,563,517 and related factors which included increases in Bargaining Unit Salaries of \$744,324, NH Retirement System contributions of \$585,464 and Special Education Services of \$207K. Decreases include a reduction of \$250K for Capital Reserve Fund contribution. NH Retirement System employer contributions increased 11% for teaching staff and a smaller percentage for non-teaching employees.

One-time items which are not included in the Default budget were discussed. Books and A/V for Sandown North, a \$1,300 refrigerator, Pollard School Playground equipment and desks and chairs were suggested to be removed. The replacement of classroom furniture is considered a cycle. The RSA on the default budget was discussed relative to replacement of equipment. 4600 account code descriptions were read. 4200 account budget items were discussed relative to default budgets.

Assurances were provided that one-time items, Sandown playground and phone system project were identified as items removed. Nursing salary increases were discussed. It was noted, the District does not always replace senior employees with lower cost employees, so it is possible the budget does not go down with new hires.

Mr. Stokinger was requested to look into citizen request for items for reduction in the budget. Dr. Metzler clarified the individual school buildings budget for lobby TV's and these were included in the communication plan.

Business Services line items for Infinite Visions enrollment and SQL licenses and installation should be removed of \$38,000. 2219 50th anniversary expenses of \$2,500 were suggested to be removed. 2340 Curriculum reduction of \$7,499 for furniture in the previous budget year was recognized as having been removed. \$40,000 was suggested to be removed from the Default Budget for PAC Study expenses.

[01:02:30]

MOTION: Mr. Ward motioned to approve the Default budget of \$71,519,011; second by Mr. Guide.

Discussion: Default after cuts would be \$71,519,011 if the \$40,000 for the sound study would be removed from the budget to be completed in the current fiscal year, if 50th Anniversary costs were removed of \$4,506.

[01:06:10]

VOTE: The motion to approve the default budget passed 4-2-0 with Mrs. Green and Mrs. Dube voting against.

The Kindergarten report showed a net profit to the District. Revenue was also discussed and a drop in State Aid revenue was noted as a factor in the Revenue Budget.

Meeting adjourned at 7:13pm by Chairman Bealo.

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Dowd
Recording Clerk

Approved by the School Board December 15, 2017.