

**Timberlane Regional School District**  
30 Greenough Road  
Plaistow, NH 03865

**Minutes of Deliberative Session**

February 9, 2006  
7:00 pm

Timberlane Performing Arts Center  
Plaistow, New Hampshire

Moderator Barry Sargent called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm, and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moderator Sargent asked the panel to introduce themselves from the TRSB, Mrs. Champey, Mrs. Aubrey, Mr. Baldwin, Mrs. Kosta, Mrs. Miller, Mr. Stack, Mrs. Withee,  
Administrators: Superintendent Dr. McDonald, Assistant Superintendent Mr. LaSalle, Business Administrator Mr. Stokinger and School Counsel Atty. Sayward.

Budget Committee Mr. Balanoff, Mrs. Hess, Mrs. Lambert, Mrs. Meehan, Mrs. O'Neil, Mrs. Quigley, Mrs. Suech, Mrs. Zerba.

Arlene Champey, Chairperson of TRSB recognized retiring board member Vice-Chair Richard Brayall for his honesty, integrity and leadership over the past ten years.

George Stokinger, Business Administrator recognized retiring Budget Committee Chair, Dan Tarushka for his nine years of district support and thanked him on behalf of the district.

Moderator Sargent reviewed parliamentary procedure. Approximately 75 people were present.

**A verbal vote was taken to approve the following non-voters to speak or make presentations at the Deliberative Session**

Dr. Douglas McDonald, Superintendent of School  
George Stokinger, Business Administrator  
Charles Coker, Principal- High School  
Gil Johanson, Principal - Middle School  
Douglas Rolph, Principal – Sandown Central School  
John Holland, Director of Technology  
Dwight Wilder, Assistant Principal – Evening Division

Richard LaSalle, Assistant Superintendent  
David Sayward, School Counsel  
Anthony DiBartolomeo Director of Performing Arts  
Margaret Ralph, Principal - Danville School  
Michelle Auger, Principal – Pollard School  
Linda Heuer, Technology Coordinator  
Scott Strange, School Improvement Facilitator/Humanities

➤ **Approved**

**Article 2 – Operating Budget**

**A motion was made by James Foucault of Atkinson, seconded by Mrs. Quigley**

➤ **To place on the floor for discussion the following:**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling \$52,998,948. Should this article be defeated, the operating budget shall be \$52,500,643 which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Timberlane Regional School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Note: Warrant Article 2 (the operating budget) does not include appropriations proposed under any other warrant articles.

***Recommended by the School Board***

***Recommended by the Budget Committee***

Mr. Balanoff, Budget Committee Vice Chair summarized the budget and major budget factors, also reviewed the components of the default budget, the difference between the default budget and proposed budget and the tax impact to each community.

The Moderator opened the floor to questions; James Foucault, Atkinson resident, inquired about the difference between the proposed and the default budget.

Mrs. Champey, TRSB Chair, clarified the position of the TRSB regarding the proposed Safety Resource Officer's position for the TRMS. The TRSB did not agree with the Budget Committee to cut this position from

the proposed budget. The TRSB re-arranged staffing requirements to keep this position in the proposed budget. The TRSB felt strongly that it is important to move this position forward.

Robert Zukas of Plaistow explained his view and support of the SRO at the TRMS. He also inquired regarding the portables that were previously used by the Timberlane School District. Dr. McDonald explained that some portables were rented and the others were old and not re-usable.

Mr. Zukas asked if the PAC is operating at a profit or a loss. Dr. McDonald clarified that it is currently operating at a profit. Without any further questions from the residents.

**The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #2 as presented on the official ballot.**

#### **Article 3 - Timberlane Teachers' Association**

➤ **A motion was made by Mr. Stack, seconded by Mrs. Champey**

➤ **To place on the floor for discussion the following:**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Timberlane Teachers' Association and the Timberlane Regional School Board, which calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits:

Cost Distribution	2006-2007 Year 1	2007-2008 Year 2	2008-2009 Year 3
Salaries	\$923,622	\$1,006,376	\$1,053,499
Longevity	16,400	11,700	15,300
School Improvement Pay	(50,000)	0	0
*Insurance	(37,794)	(63,353)	(83,023)
Professional Development	2,500	7,500	7,500
FICA	68,087	77,883	81,765
NH State Retirement	39,321	46,658	44,052
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$962,136</b>	<b>\$1,086,763</b>	<b>\$1,119,091</b>

And further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$962,136 for the 2006-2007 fiscal year, such sum representing the increase in salaries and fringe benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year.

*\*(The cost of the current insurance plan, as required by law, is budgeted in the 2006-07 operating budget. The negotiated contract includes an increase from a five-dollar to ten-dollar co-pay that results in a reduction of health insurance costs by \$37,794 in Year 1 and increased savings to the district in Year 2 and 3 as shown above.)*

**Recommended by the School Board**

**Recommended by the Budget Committee**

Dr. McDonald presented a power point presentation highlighting the points of the proposed TTA contract. Without any further questions from the residents.

**The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #3 as presented on the official ballot.**

#### **Article 4 - Authorization for Special Meeting on Cost Items**

➤ **A motion was made by Mrs. Quigley, seconded by Mrs. Champey**

➤ **To place on the floor for discussion the following:**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District if Article 3 is defeated, authorize the Timberlane Regional School Board to call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 3 cost items only.

Dr. McDonald explained that without this Article the District would have to petition Superior Court for a Special School District Meeting. This saves the District the expense of attorney fees and court costs.

**Recommended by the School Board**

**Recommended by the Budget Committee**

Without any further questions from the residents.

**The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #4 as presented on the official ballot.**

**Article 5 – Capital Reserve Fund**

- **A motion was made by Mrs. Hess, seconded by Mrs. O'Neil**
- **To place on the floor for discussion the following:**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District raise and appropriate up to \$100,000 to be placed in the School Building Construction, Reconstruction, Capital Improvement and Land Purchase Capital Reserve Fund previously established, with such amount to be transferred from the June 30, 2006, undesignated fund balance.

*(The funds for the article come from the 2005-2006 school budget surplus, not from additional taxes.)*

***Recommended by the School Board***

***Recommended by the Budget Committee***

James Foucault, resident of Atkinson inquired what the current balance of the capital reserve fund. Mr. Stokinger clarified that the current balance is \$695,000. Dr. McDonald clarified that the monies can only be used for a specifically stated purpose, which also requires approval by the voters. Without any further questions from the residents.

**The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #5 as presented on the official ballot.**

**Article 6 – Kindergarten – By Petition by Linda Meehan, et al**

- **A motion was made by Mrs. Hess, seconded by Mrs. Kosta**
- **To place on the floor for discussion the following:**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District provide a program, classrooms and transportation for Kindergarten students in the towns of Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow and Sandown by the school year 2007-2008.

***Recommended by the School Board***

Mrs. Meehan presented her reasons as a Sandown resident that she submitted the petition for the Timberlane District to provide kindergarten to the towns of Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow and Sandown by the school year 2007-2008. Mrs. Meehan presented three scenarios regarding private kindergarten and why it is in the best interest of the district to provide kindergarten.

Robert Zukas of Plaistow inquired what the cost of classrooms, busing and teachers would be if Article 6 was approved and if any monies are available from the state to help with these expenses.

Mr. LaSalle clarified the provisions of the grant that helps offset the cost of kindergarten. Mrs. Champey clarified the TRSB support of the petition for kindergarten and the value of early childhood education. Mrs. Champey explained the TRSB focus this year was on the proposed budget and the proposed TTA contract. Mrs. Meehan clarified her position on kindergarten. David Mason of Atkinson asked for clarification of the state adequacy monies per child in the future, Norman Major (Assistant Moderator) explained his understanding of the state adequacy aid. Without further questions or comments from the residents.

**The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #6 as presented on the official ballot.**

**Article 7 – General Acceptance of Reports**

- **A motion was made by Mrs. Hess, seconded by Mr. Balanoff**
- **To place on the floor for discussion the following:**

Shall the Timberlane Regional School District accept reports of agents, auditors, and committees as written in the 2005 Annual Report.

Dr. McDonald noted the Annual Report is now on the Timberlane website for residents to view.

Without further questions or comments from the residents.

**The Moderator instructed the Clerk to place Warrant Article #7 as presented on the official ballot.**

**On a motion by Mrs. Hess, seconded by Mr. Balanoff to adjourn the deliberative session.**

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the Moderator declared the Deliberative Session closed at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Helen Phinney  
School District Clerk

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Nancy Danahy  
Recording Secretary