

Timberlane Regional School District Budget Committee
Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, Sandown

Timberlane Budget Meeting
April 8, 2010

Timberlane Performing Arts Center
Plaistow, NH

Mrs. O'Neil opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Present: Ms. Rochford, Mr. Murray, Mr. Mullen, Mrs. O'Neil, Ms. Conte, Mr. Bouchard, Mrs. Chaput, Mrs. Lisi and Mr. Collins.

Absent: Mr. Balanoff.

Mrs. O'Neil led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mrs. O'Neil stated the legality of the previous meetings votes were questioned due to the Right to Know Law, so it was recommended by the School District Attorney to reaffirm decisions reached at the last meeting. A vote was taken in regards to Mrs. O'Neil being the Chair for the 2010-2011 school year. Vote: Five in favor, three against. Mrs. O'Neil was reaffirmed as chair.

Mrs. O'Neil made a motion to reaffirm all decisions made at the previous meeting. Ms. Rochford seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous.

Mr. Bouchard made a motion to accept the Organizational minutes of March 25, 2010 as amended and was seconded by Ms. Rochford.

Vote: Unanimous.

Ms. Rochford made a motion to accept the minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 25, 2010 as amended and was seconded by Mr. Murray.

Vote: Unanimous.

Mrs. O'Neil stated there was one correspondence received regarding the validity of the secret ballot which was previously addressed.

Expenditures and Receipts Reports were listed on the Agenda per the By Laws. Mr. Stokinger was not sure what this agenda item was referring to.

Mr. Collins reported that he brought the requests made by the Budget Committee to the School Board. The question regarding if mileage would be paid for training, the School Board stated that it would be paid to anyone who drove to Concord for training. The question regarding going live with the Budget Committee meetings was not approved at this time, due to the technical help not always being available for all Budget Meetings.

Mrs. O'Neil reported that she spoke to Mr. Holland about forwarding the correspondence to all members and he would have that request completed soon. The SharePoint website space will be

available by September. Mrs. O'Neil also reported that Mrs. Belcher researched the training the Budget Committee members are interested in and found it will be open to reservations in July or August. The session will be held on September 23, 2010 in Concord. All members are hoping to attend except Mr. Murray who has a previous engagement.

Mrs. O'Neil stated she didn't receive any emails regarding the committee assignments. Ms. Conte volunteered to be the representative to the Curriculum Committee. Ms. Rochford stated that she will remain the Facilities/Safety Committee Representative but it is dependent upon her work schedule if she can attend the meetings. Ms. Rochford asked if the minutes of the various committee meetings could be made available for the Budget Committee members to review. Mr. Stokingier stated that he knows that minutes are taken for some of the committee meetings and he would find out additional information.

Mr. Stokingier distributed and explained various spreadsheets in regards to the Budget Committees request to review positions and staffing at this meeting. The SAU listing consisted of thirteen positions. The TRSD listings were divided into Administrators, Teachers (including specialists) and support staff. A summary of benefits for support staff was distributed and the TTA contract is available on the Timberlane website. Mr. LaSalle was unavailable to attend this meeting to review staff because of School Board training being held at the PAC. The total number of permanent employees is 739, consisting of 36 Administrators, 412 TTA staff and 291 hourly support staff. Many questions were asked regarding the position descriptions and what activities they perform. Other topics discussed were the Sped Department being responsible for children ages 3 to 21 yrs, the NH Retirement System costs, Retirement incentives, state certification levels for Para professionals and the certification bonus' earned for holding the certification. Questions were also asked about the TTA education money as well as the workshop money and committee work. Professional Development money is budgeted for both the support staff and the teachers/administrators. Mr. Stokingier explained that the support staff is encouraged to earn their state certification to better the programs here at Timberlane.

Ms. Rochford brought up a concern she has regarding emailing within the Budget Committee members. It was brought up last year that an email seen by more than two members constitutes a meeting. Mr. Collins reported the School Board has had numerous conversations about this issue and it was finally agreed that emails are allowed for the dissemination of information, but not a back and forth conversation. Mr. Mullen stated that topics to be discussed at the next meeting can be addressed but not trying to influence someone one way or the other. Mr. Bouchard suggested all emails be sent to the chair who, if need be can redistribute to the entire committee. Ms. Rochford suggested all members get the emails but the topic be put on the agenda to be discussed at the next meeting.

The topic of posting the salary information distributed this evening on the Budget Committee SharePoint site. It was agreed that even though it is public information, it was not to be posted on the site. Ms. Rochford made a motion to not post any distributed salary information. The motion was seconded by Mr. Murray.

Vote: Eight in favor, zero against, and one abstain, Mr. Mullen.

Mr. Mullen requested the spreadsheets be made available electronically. Mr. Stokinger explained that he is hesitant to do so because it inevitably ends up being edited but appears to be data from the District and he ends up explaining what other people have done to the data.

Mr. Mullen question why so many special education students need to be sent to out of district schools. He thought the Timberlane School District is supposed to be one of the best in the State. Mr. Stokinger stated that even the best programs cannot handle all special education students depending upon what the individual circumstances are.

Mr. Stokinger reminded the Budget Committee members the SAU Board Meeting is coming up this month if any members would like to attend.

The next scheduled meeting is Thursday September 9, 2010. Mr. Mullen made a motion to schedule another meeting on May 13, 2010 at 7:00 pm here at the SAU office, for the purpose of inviting the Special Education administration to discuss special education costs in more detail. Mrs. O'Neil stated this meeting would be contingent upon Mrs. Lovett and Mrs. Rincon being available. The motion was seconded by Ms. Conte.

Vote: Eight in favor, one opposed.

Mrs. Rochford made a motion to adjourn at 8:40 pm. Mrs. Chaput seconded the motion.

Vote: Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Smith,

Recording Secretary

Approved May 13, 2010