

The regular meeting of the School Board was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Town Hall Council Chambers.

School Board members present:

Rebecca Millett, Chair
Kathy Ray, Vice-Chair
John Christie
David Hillman
Mary Townsend
M. Kate Williams-Hewitt
Linda Winker

Student Representative present:

Matt Miklavic
Julia Springer

Alan H. Hawkins, Superintendent of Schools

Chairperson Rebecca Millett called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

1. **Adjustments to Agenda** – Item 7d to be removed from agenda.
2. **Approval of School Board Minutes** –
 - a) **Business Meeting, Tuesday, January 12, 2010** - Ms. Ray made a motion that the minutes for the meeting be approved as presented. Mr. Christie seconded. (Approved 7-0)
3. **Comments by Student Representatives** – Middle School representatives, Isabel Clarke and Emma Dineen, and High School representatives, Julia Springer and Matt Miklavic, spoke briefly on items of interest from the students' perspective.
4. **Comments from Public On Non-Agenda Items** – none
5. **RECOGNITION**
 - a. **State's Native American Essay Contest and more Middle School student achievements** – Principal Connolly recognized the following students for their award-winning writing in the Native American History and Culture Essay Contest: Deven Roberts and Heather Chase. In another contest, the Southern Maine Writing Project competition, Alexa Carrington won for her personal essay; Lily Jordan won for her persuasive essay; Hanna Preble and Ethan Murphy won awards for their short stories. Lily Jordan also recently won the Cumberland County spelling bee and will soon represent our area in the Maine State Bee.
 - b. **Noelle Webster** – Principal Shedd shared art teacher Richard Rothlisberger's statement about the Scholastic Regional Art Award that Noelle won. Ms. Webster thanked the Board for the recognition.
 - c. **HS Speech Team State Championship** - Principal Shedd briefly explained the accomplishments of the students on the Speech Team who had to work doubly hard this year to raise the nearly \$6,500 in funds necessary to compete and hone their craft. They went on to win the State Championship. The group's advisor, Mr. Mullin, introduced the team and some examples of the championship efforts were displayed.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

- a. **Retirements** – Superintendent Hawkins announced the following staff retirements, including the announcement of Pond Cove teacher Angela Moore’s medical leave due to the birth of her child earlier this week.
 - Nancy Murphy, High School English teacher
 - Sharon Merrill, High School Guidance
 - Pam Vose, PC & MS Social Worker
 - Gary Record, Middle School math teacher
 - Hayden Atwood, Middle School librarian
 - Janice Small, Pond Cove teacher

- b. **Nurses’ Office Update from Nurse Cindy** - Middle School nurse, Cindy Tardif, spoke on behalf of Barbara Cummings, Pond Cove nurse, Paula Harris, and High School nurse, Tatiana Green, to provide a brief overview of the district’s immunization efforts to date. Over 1,000 doses of seasonal vaccine and over 2,000 doses of H1N1 vaccine were provided through 5+ district clinics. Ms. Tardif informed the Board that through the efforts of many volunteers, our district has become a model for vaccination efforts. The US Centers for Disease Control selected Cape Schools for a visit in January. The CDC will do further research, using our data, in hopes of helping to explain the reduction of disease prevalence experienced. The CDC’s goal will be to investigate how the vaccine worked with the prevalence of the disease; how the disease spread among specific groups in our school; and review immunization priorities to see what worked and what didn’t. The Maine CDC will later select a limited number of model schools for a more in-depth study on the process and efforts required.

- c. **Superintendent’s Budget Update** - Superintendent Hawkins reported that as this year’s budget was frozen, he continued to review any purchase order submitted so that teaching necessities could be fulfilled. Early communications with DOE contacts provided insight that the district’s General Purpose Aid to Education (GPA) would go from \$2,571,272 to \$1,671,272, a loss of \$900,000 in state funding and federal stimulus money for fiscal year 2011. The DOE’s February 1 preliminary report instead showed our estimated loss to be \$40,031.24. This change was explained by multiple factors, including a 6% decrease in town property valuation, an increase in ARRA stabilization funds in the amount of \$233,364, and receipt of some penalty monies as a result of school districts that have not yet consolidated. (If the state removes those penalties, we could expect an additional \$110,000 loss.) However, with additional staff contract increases of \$650,000, energy and other costs, combined with revenue changes, there will need to be a total of \$897,433 reduced from our current budget if we were to get to a 0% tax increase for the Superintendent’s Budget for 2010-2011. Mr. Christie asked how the Board might best assist the superintendent on the development of next year’s budget. The Superintendent responded that in recent years the Board has provided some initial direction or a dollar amount that might also work within the parameters of the Town, adding that that would be appreciated again this year. Mr. Christie proposed a budget that makes no further cuts to academic programs. Saying that he believed meeting the \$897,000 gap through spending reductions would further erode the quality of education. Mr. Hillman proposed having multiple scenarios presented - for example 0%, 3%, 6% tax increase - to help the Board create value choices. Ms. Townsend agreed that a few scenarios might be helpful. Ms. Millett said that if the majority of the Board wanted to meet to discuss a budget target amount, they should contact her and a public meeting would be scheduled. Superintendent Hawkins expressed that time was quickly passing and requested some

general target for its creation at this meeting. Ms. Ray expressed discomfort discussing further because a budget target discussion wasn't on the agenda, and so neither the Board nor the public could be well prepared. Ms. Winker agreed. Mr. Hillman expressed his belief that offering non-binding guidance was appropriate. Superintendent Hawkins said that a public meeting could be scheduled prior to the February 23 workshop. Board consensus was that holding a public meeting on February 23 would be preferred.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **Consideration to approve the Modern and Classical Languages district curriculum goals, as presented to the Board at its meeting on January 12, 2010 -** Ms. Townsend thanked the world language group for their efforts leading up to the initial presentation and the workshop presentation on January 26, 2010. She stated that goals and reports from each curriculum group would be posted online soon. Ms. Ray requested clarification that if there were any additional expenses associated with the goals being approved that evening, they would be looked at in terms of the overall budget versus being approved now with the expenses. Ms. Townsend clarified that only the goals were to be approved this evening. - Ms. Townsend motioned for approval of the goals as presented. Mr. Hillman seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- b. **Consideration to approve the School Board Goals and the School Board District Goals for 2010 as presented -** Ms. Townsend motioned for approval of the Board goals as presented. Mr. Hillman seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- c. **Consideration to approve Board Chair's signing of a joint resolution seeking fair, equitable and transparent funding of education in Maine -** Ms. Millett motioned for approval of the Board Chair's signing of a joint resolution on behalf of the School Board with any non substantive changes seeking fair, equitable and transparent funding of education in Maine. Mr. Hillman seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- d. **~~Consideration to approve the Superintendent's recommendations for administrator contract renewals for 2010-11 -~~** ITEM REMOVED FROM AGENDA
- e. **Consideration to approve 2009-10 budget adjustment to off set curtailment of state funds in the amount of \$621,440 and additional expenses in the amount of \$318,000 (\$939,940 total).** - Ms. Ray motioned for approval as set forth in the Superintendent's recommendation. Ms. Winker seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- f. **Consideration to approve proposed World Affairs Council trip to Boston University Model UN, February 19-21, 2010 -** Principal Shedd spoke briefly to this item, which came to fruition at the students' request only recently. No school funding would be required, as parents of students attended will be paying the costs associated. - Ms. Townsend motioned for approval as presented. Mr. Christie seconded. (Approved 7-0)
- g. **Consideration to approve Cape Elizabeth's PATHS Part II Budget Costs for 2010-11 (A 0% increase from last year.) -** Superintendent Hawkins clarified that there is a PATHS Part I budget increase of \$3,880.49 (Total \$50,122.09). Part I is the cost

for our students to participate and the Board has no control over approving. - Ms. Ray motioned for approval. Mr. Winker seconded. (Approved 7-0)

8. **Committee Reports** – none

9. **Public Comment on Agenda Items** – none

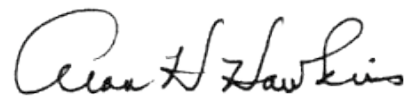
10. **School Board Agenda Requests** – none

11. **Announcements of Upcoming Meetings** - Ms. Millett reminded the audience that all committee meetings agendas and minutes are available on the school web site. On February 23 the Board will be meeting to discuss a budget target amount.

12. **Adjournment** – Ms. Winker made a motion for adjournment. Ms. Townsend seconded. (Approved 7-0)

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Alan H. Hawkins
Superintendent of Schools