

Special Budget Board of Education Meeting
February 27, 2014

Minutes

Meeting came to order at 6:05 p.m.

Attendance: Richard Hayes, Julie Begin, Alison Romkey, Kristin Heckt, Karen Bergin, Matthew Giuffre, Ronald Rousseau and Katherine Galle

Superintendent Heckt and Town Administrative Office Joyce Stille meet with Anthem and the Board of Education received another \$63,000 decrease.

Superintendent Heckt requested a consensus of the board for self-funding dental, which will be a cost savings of \$9,371.00. After discussion, the board gave a consensus.

There was a request for the maximum threshold amount for the cafeteria overage.

Discussion regarding pay to play. Rich Hayes suggested that we think about getting rid of pay to play altogether at some point in the future to see if it is holding back some kids from participating.

Superintendent Heckt sent in the Choice Declaration Form. 7 Kindergartners declared Bolton as their first choice so one additional Kindergarten seat was opened.

A request to add a teacher to the elementary level due to high number of kids in grades 4 and 5 was made by Katherine Galle and Julie Begin. It was discussed and agreed that if a teacher is added, that it would be up to the administration to decide which grade level would benefit most from this. There is room to add a class room, it would just require moving of furniture.

A request was made by Matthew Giuffre to remove pay to play altogether this year.

Karen Bergin asked the board how they would like to proceed. If they would like to vote on the budget or entertain motions regarding the requests.

Katherine Galle made a motion to add an additional teacher for grades K-5 at the administration's discretion.

Matthew Giuffre seconded

Yes – Katherine Galle, Julie Begin, Karen Bergin, Alison Romkey

No – Richard Hayes, Ronald Rousseau, Matthew Giuffre

Motion carries

Matthew Giuffre made a motion to remove pay to play. Katherine Galle seconded, motion passed unanimously.

The budget is now \$13,776,139 representing a 4.8% increase.

Alison Romkey made a motion to approve the current budget of \$13,776,139, Matthew Guiffre seconded.

Discussion: Matthew Guiffre thanked Kristin for the great job she did on the budget and the insurance negotiations.

Yes – Alison Romkey, Katherine Galle, Julie Begin, Karen Bergin, Matthew Guiffre

No – Richard Hayes, Ronald Rousseau

Motion carries

Retreat is scheduled for March 4th to discuss roof proposal, strategic planning; press releases policy and other outstanding items. Please send any agenda items to Kristin by 10:00 a.m. February 28, 2014. Agenda will be sent to board members.

Matthew Guiffre made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:31, Katherine Galle seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Alison Romkey, Board Secretary