

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES
MARCH 15, 2010 BUDGET WORKSHOP
LEWIS S. MILLS AUDITORIUM**

Board Members Present:

Joseph Arcuri – Chairman
Noel Carmody
Kathy Deprey
Jeanne Doerr
Beth Duffy
Paul Omichinski
Phillip Penn
Ted Scheidel
Elaine Schiavone
Raymond Sikora - Vice Chairman

Absent:

Also Present:

Alan Beitman	Superintendent of Schools
Michael Landry	Assistant Superintendent
David Lenihan	Business Manager
Jordon Brault	Student Representative

Chairman of the Board, Joseph Arcuri, called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:36 pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.	CALL TO ORDER
<u>Superintendent's Report:</u> Mr. Beitman presented an update of the 2010-2011 Estimate of Expenses.	COMMUNICATIONS
Mr. Beitman reported that enrollment has not changed much at this time in kindergarten and grade 1 and that enrollment in those grades will firm up in the next couple of months. He explained that if those numbers do not go up, we would have to look at addressing staffing in those grade levels. Mr. Beitman again reviewed all staffing and expense reductions. This was followed by a long question and answer period by the Board and administration regarding all aspects of the estimate. A motion to limit public participation to 90 seconds per person was made by Mr. Sikora and was seconded by Mrs. Duffy. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries. (10/0/0)	REVIEW OF THE 2010-2011 ESTIMATE OF EXPENSES
Jessie Smiley – Burlington – Thanked everyone for their continued hard work on the estimate of expenses. She appreciated the revised plan of reinstating the principal position at Har-Bur Middle School. She expressed concern over the reduction of the elementary school assistant principals from 12 months to 11 months. She feels it would be detrimental to running the schools effectively. Michele Shingleton – Burlington – Echoed Mrs. Smiley's comments regarding the elementary assistant principal positions.	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Lynn Ringquest – Burlington – Read a letter expressing concern over the reduction of one (1) grade 4 teacher at Harwinton Consolidated School for the 2010-2011 school year. She also presented the Board with a petition from parents requesting that that position be restored.

Bruce Guillemette – Burlington – echoed Mrs. Smiley and Mrs. Shingleton's comments regarding the one (1) month reduction to the elementary school assistant principal positions.

Jaye Tower – Burlington – Thanked the Board for all their hard work and asked the Board to consider a pay to play program at Lewis Mills High School.

Christine Neal – Harwinton – Asked the Board to reconsider a proposal to limit building use to the high school/middle school complex for small groups such as Cub Scout meetings.

Liz Cornish – Burlington – Asked the Board to restore the assistant principal positions to twelve (12) months. She also expressed concern over the cut of freshmen teams.

A **motion** to adopt the 2010-2011 Estimate of Expenses at \$33,837,459 with an increase of \$507,525 or 1.523% increase that includes restoring the assistant principal positions to 12 months, adds back \$2,500 to professional development, includes the novice crew coach position and the .5 preventative maintenance position was made by Mrs. Duffy and was seconded by Mr. Penn.

Mr. Scheidel was opposed to the motion due to the financial difficulties that everyone is experiencing. He did not think these two (2) cuts would be harming the quality of education that each student would receive.

Mr. Omichinski commented that if positions are cut now it does not mean that they will not be restored in better economic times. He reminded Board members that they represent not only a few parents but the entire community and that their job is to see that students receive the best educational opportunities. He placed confidence in the administrators who put the estimate of expenses together.

Mr. Deprey indicated that the Board cannot ignore the fact that these are tough times and they are going to get tougher. She shared the thought that sacrifices need to be made now.

Mr. Sikora commented that the reductions are even across the accounts and that this lessens the overall impact.

Two (2) in favor (Duffy, Penn) eight (8) opposed (Arcuri, Carmody, Deprey, Doerr, Omichinski, Scheidel, Schiavone, Sikora). Motion denied. (2/8/0)

A **motion** to approve the 2010-2011 estimate of expenses at \$33,825,459 with an increase of 1.487% that includes the novice crew coach position, the .5 preventative maintenance technician position,

ACTION

and the addition of \$2,500 for professional development was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mr. Penn. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (10/0/0)	
A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Omichinski and was seconded by Mr. Sikora. All in favor none opposed. Motion carries (10/0/0) The meeting ended at 11:12pm	ADJOURN

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanne Doerr, Secretary

4/19/10

Date