



QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Committee Meeting

Minutes –April 8, 2010

Educational Support Center

PRESENT

Chairman	Edward Leonard	Member, Hubbardston
	Lee Wolanin	Member, Barre
	Mark Brophy	Member, Barre
	John Barringer	Member, Oakham
	Paula Bolger	Member, Barre
	Ned Kelly	Member, Hardwick
	Charles Miller	Member, Barre
	Dr. Thomas Tashjian	Member, Oakham
	Peggy Thompson	Member, New Braintree
	Timothy Williams	Member, Hubbardston
	Mark Wigler	Member, Hubbardston
	Cheryl Wolfe	Member, Hardwick

ALSO PRESENT

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Cheryl Duval	Director of Administrative Services
Kelsey Carpenter	Student Representative, QRHS
Jackie Chisholm	Student Representative, QRHS
District Administrators/Staff	
QRTA Representative	
Townspeople	
Press	

ABSENT

Dr. Richard Allan	Member, Barre
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I. The meeting was called to order at 7:50 PM.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by John Barringer and seconded by Mark Brophy to approve the minutes of March 11, 2010.

The motion passed by a vote of 11-0-1. Mr. Leonard abstained.

III. **Administrative Reports**

a) Superintendent of Schools –

1. Blue Ribbon Recognitions – The Superintendent shared a PowerPoint presentation on student/staff recognitions and achievements.

b) Director of Administrative Services –

1. Presentation of Warrants: AP Warrants 19 & 20 were presented for signature and Payroll Warrants 23 & 24 were approved by the Warrant Subcommittee.
2. A motion was made by Mark Brophy and seconded by Ned Kelly to authorize the District Treasurer to open a joint bank account with the Town of Oakham to allow deposit and withdrawal of funds solely related to the Massachusetts School Building Authority reimbursement for the Oakham Center School roof project. Such account to be established on or before April 15, 2010 and to be closed at the conclusion of the building project. Furthermore, the only signors of the account are to be the District Treasurer, District Assistant Treasurer and the Town of Oakham Treasurer.

The motion passed unanimously.

c) Teachers Advisory Council – No report was given.

d) Student Advisory Council –Kelsey Carpenter and Jackie Chisholm presented the student report.

IV. **Subcommittee Reports**

a) Administrative Review Subcommittee – No report was given.

b) Alternative Funding Adhoc Subcommittee – No report was given.

c) Audit/Central Office Subcommittee – No report was given.

d) Policy, Review and Reform Subcommittee – No report was given.

e) Barre Building Subcommittee – No report was given.

f) Budget Subcommittee – Mark Brophy reviewed the results of the subcommittee meeting held earlier in the evening.

1. A motion was made by Mark Brophy and seconded by Ned Kelly to adopt an FY11 budget in the amount of \$31,899,140, which includes \$16,300,021 in Chapter 708 Aid and \$2,470,395 in district revenues and reserves to offset member town assessments; using \$1,822,000 in School Choice Revolving Account revenue, \$429,395 from Excess & Deficiency (E & D) and \$219,000 in fees and miscellaneous revenue.

The motion passed unanimously.

A discussed ensued regarding the FY11 budget.

2. A motion was made by Mark Brophy and seconded by Charles Miller to defer half of the \$365,622 that represents the amount the district advanced to the towns for the shortfall in Chapter 71 transportation reimbursement in FY10.

The motion passed 11-0-1. Peggy Thompson abstained.

3. A motion was made by Mark Brophy and seconded by Lee Wolanin to authorize the administration to look at incentives for potential savings.

The motion passed 11-0-1. Tim Williams abstained.

4. A motion was made by Ned Kelly and seconded by Cheryl Wolfe to transfer \$80,000 from SPED tuition account and transfer into account 2100-3200 instructional support.

The motion passed unanimously.

- g) Collective Bargaining Subcommittee –Mark Brophy reported that the Collective Bargaining Subcommittee is meeting with all of the bargaining units.
- h) Plants & Facilities Subcommittee – A Plant & Facilities update will be provided later on the agenda.
- i) Special Education Subcommittee – Paula Bolger reported that the SPED Subcommittee interviewed the finalist for position of Director of Student Services on March 17th.

The Supt. reported that at the recommendation of the Special Education Subcommittee, she offered a contract to the final candidate. The candidate accepted the position and has signed a contract. The Supt. will invite her to the next meeting of the School Committee.

- j) Technology Subcommittee – Tim Williams reported that members of the subcommittee had an impressive tour of the middle/high school. No additional meetings have been scheduled at this time.

5) **Unfinished Business**

- a) Oakham/New Braintree Merger – The Superintendent provided an update on the Oakham/New Braintree merger and commended Principal Worthington for her efforts.

A motion was made by Dr. Tashjian and seconded by John Barringer that subject to the Quabbin Regional School District Agreement, Section VII: Pupils, Subsection (a) 2, move to reconfigure New Braintree Grade School and Oakham Center School in order to provide better educational opportunities for students of both communities. Beginning with the 2010-2011 school year, the pre-k program and students from both communities attending kindergarten and grade 1 will attend New Braintree Grade School. Students from both communities attending grades 2 through 6 will attend Oakham Center School. In addition, this new configuration will be reviewed and revoted at the conclusion of the 2012-2013 school year.

A brief discussion ensued.

Committee members echoed the Superintendent's praise of Principal Worthington.

The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair, on behalf of the committee, expressed appreciation for all who participated in this merger review and recommendation.

- b) Oakham Roof – Bill Burnett provided an update on the timeline for the Oakham Roof project.
- c) Quabbin Middle/High School Atrium Roof/Panels – The Supt. informed the Committee that the administration continues to work with the architects on the repair estimate for the atrium roof and panels. The district is obtaining a second opinion from another structural engineer. A joint meeting with the select boards and architects will be scheduled during the week of April 26th to walk through the project in detail.

6) **School Committee Concerns**

There were no items of concern.

7) **New Business**

- a) School Choice 2010-2011 – The Supt. stated that the law requires that all schools are open for choice students. QRSD has openings at most grade levels but will be cautious not to take a number of choice students that will cost the district additional money.
- b) SPED Contract Extension – Bill Burnett informed the Committee that the district's SPED transportation provider, Van Pool, has agreed to extend their contract for two more years and has agreed to defer their 2.5% increase to the last year of the contract (2011-12).

8. **Public Comment**

Barre Resident Craig Shibley addressed the Committee and asked that a public comment section be added to future agendas. Mr. Shibley also requested that discussion relative to the shared services agreement be opened up to the public. The Chair stated that all meetings are posted and open to the public.

Barre Resident Rodney Josephson addressed the Committee and requested that the district provide more information to students regarding voter registration.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mark Brophy and seconded by Lee Wolanin to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy A. Landry, Secretary