



**QUABBIN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**School Committee Minutes**  
**Thursday, May 28, 2015**  
**Educational Support Center**

**PRESENT**

Chair	Mark Brophy	Member, Barre
Vice – Chair	Lee Wolanin	Member, Barre
	Debra Chamberlain	Member, Hubbardston
	William Hansen	Member, Hubbardston – arrived 7:48
	Ned Kelly	Member, Hardwick
	Steven Labarre	Member, Oakham
	Charles Miller	Member, Barre
	Ada Pease	Member, Oakham
	Lori Siefert	Member, Hardwick
	Peggy Thompson	Member, New Braintree
	Mark Wigler	Member, Hubbardston

**ALSO PRESENT**

Dr. Maureen Marshall	Superintendent of Schools
Cheryl Duval	Director of Administrative Services
Sheila Muir	Assistant Superintendent
District Administrators/Staff	
Press	

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

No minutes presented for approval

**3. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

a) Superintendent of Schools

- Superintendent Marshall reported that graduation events will take place next week. Town meetings begin next week with Oakham and Hubbardston on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Superintendent publicly thanked NJROTC, the art department and the engineering department on the beautiful construction of the Statue of Liberty for the Memorial Day program. The Superintendent also reported that Representative Berthiaume had visited the high school with citations for Tiffany Klaesges for her singing of the National Anthem; Allyson St. Pierre for her work organizing the Special Olympics and Sophia Kornitsky was presented a green award from the State House for her work in the composting program.

b) Assistant Superintendent

- No report was given

c) Director of Administrative Services

d) Teacher Advisory Council

- Mr. Barringer reported that the District had three elementary teachers present at a teacher leadership conference and discussion ensued on the importance of teacher leadership.
- Pinning of IB Diploma candidates took place this week. The first year class has 10 candidates with 23 juniors completing their first year.

- Discussion ensued in regard to the article in the Telegram and Gazette about the District's ASL Program.
- e) Student Advisory Council
- No report was given

#### 4. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) Administrative Review
- No report was given.
- b) Audit
- No report was given
- c) Barre Building
- No report was given
- d) Budget

FY16 Budget Discussion - Director Duval presented a PowerPoint which made recommendations to the FY16 budget in an effort to alleviate the large assessments for the towns. Discussion ensued where cuts could be made to help with this need. Discussion then ensued in regard to the possibility of rather than further cutting the expense side, we could increase the revenue side. Recommendation made was to make the cuts outlined this evening (\$52,245 in Plant & Facilities and \$182,614 in Positions); use 982,000 of FY16 School Choice revenue in FY16. This would be a one year "fix". Next year the District would have to look at closing a school or try to develop a plan to reach out to a neighboring town for a partner.

Motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to approve an FY16 budget in the amount of \$32,150,360 to include cuts in Plant & Facilities of \$52,245, \$182,614 in positions, and use of \$982,000 of FY16 School Choice revenue.

Due to conflicts of interests of some members of the School Committee, the Committee will vote on the following appropriation category independently of the total budget appropriation:

Line 3510-3520 Athletics & Student Activities in the amount of \$539,782. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Miller – yes; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mrs. Siefert – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – abstain; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes.

The motion passed by a weighted vote of 10.39

The subcategories of the budget were approved by the remaining School Committee members; therefore, the conflict of interest statute allows all members to take action on the total FY16 budget of \$32,150,360. Mr. Miller – yes; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mrs. Siefert – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – yes; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes.

The motion passed by a weighted vote of 11.31

- e) Central Office
- No report was given
- f) Collective Bargaining
- No report was given
- g) Plant and facilities
- No report was given
- h) Policy & Review
- No report was given
- i) Special Education
- No report was given

j) Technology

- No report was given

**5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- FY15 Budget Update – Director Duval discussed the budget deficits the District has for 2015. The District has received word that we would not receive back any funds from the 9C cuts that were made. One area of deficit is in benefits with a 13% increase, however, several teachers have put retirement request in and that can cover benefits this year. Another area of deficit is in school choice/charter school going out with this year projected to be at \$200,000. Charter schools receive \$12,500 per student tuition cost. The District also has \$4,000 of outstanding debt in food service. This has to be covered by the budget and cannot be rolled over.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- No public comment

**7. SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONCERNS**

- None

**8. NEW BUSINESS**

- FY15 Budget Transfer Request :  
Motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to approve an FY15 budget transfer in the amount of \$662,268.

Due to conflicts of interests of some members of the School Committee, the Committee will vote on the following appropriation category independently of the total budget appropriation:

Line 3510-3520 Athletics & Student Activities in the amount of \$525,085. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Miller – yes; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mrs. Siefert – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – abstain; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes.

The motion passed by a weighted vote of 10.39

The subcategories of the budget were approved by the remaining School Committee members; therefore, the conflict of interest statute allows all members to take action on the total budget transfer of \$662,268. A roll call vote was taken: Mr. Miller – yes; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mrs. Siefert – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – yes; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes.

The motion passed by a weighted vote of 11.31

A motion was made by Mrs. Siefert and seconded by Mr. Kelly to allow Director Duval the authority to make necessary transfers to balance the budget for FY15 and report back with any changes. The motion passed unanimously.

- Contract for Special Education Transportation Services – Van Pool met with Dr. Marshall and Director Duval and clarified language in the contract and added language in regard to random drug testing, CORI/SORI, fingerprinting, and cameras for security. The contract has increased by approximately \$7,000 for in district services. Out of district remains the same.

Motion made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Mr. Wolanin to approve the Special Education Transportation Services Contract with Van Pool. A roll call vote was taken: : Mr. Miller – yes; Mr. Wolanin – yes; Mr. Kelly – yes; Mrs. Siefert – yes; Mrs. Chamberlain – yes; Mr. Hansen – yes; Mr. Wigler – yes; Mrs. Thompson – yes; Mr. Labarre – yes; Mrs. Pease – yes; Mr. Brophy – yes.

The motion passed by a weighted vote of 11.31

**9. REQUEST FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION - None**

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion was made by Mr. Wolanin and seconded by Mr. Kelly to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Bennett, Executive Secretary