

NORTH ANDOVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2007
Place: North Andover High School Auditorium
Present: Chairman Al Perry, Assistant Chairman, William Kelly, Dr. Charles Ormsby, Tim Pybus, and Barbara Whidden

Also Present: Dr. Daniel O'Connor, Superintendent, Richard Bergeron, Assistant Superintendent, Paul Szymanski Director of Management Support Services and members of the school department and the community.

Chairman Al Perry called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

1. Recommended Action

- a. Warrants of Bills Payable- None
- b. Public Participation- None

2. Superintendent's Report

Dr. O'Connor presented some materials to the committee for informational purposes.

3. Old Business

- a. Presentation by the Elementary Principals re: Full day Kindergarten
- b. Public Hearing on the Proposed FY08 Budget

Paul Szymanski gave a revised budget presentation to the committee.

Members of the community questioned school committee members on how they are going to advocate for our schools.

Mr. Perry stated that he will do as he has for the last six years and let the town know that the schools need to be more adequately funded.

Mrs. Whidden stated that we are reaching out to the Board of Selectman and the Finance Committee with a budget that has no questions regarding credibility.

Mr. Kelly reiterated Mrs. Whidden's comments regarding working with other groups from town. They need to know that our mission is to educate our students and it will cost money we don't have.

Dr. Ormsby stated he will not support an override. He will look at where the money is going, looking at health care cost savings. Making sure the pain is balanced between the town and schools properly.

Members of the public stated various points of needs including a principal at the Atkinson school and securing accreditation at High School. Several members wanted to make sure that the committee presented the budget as is without any back up plan.

Bill Kelly made a motion to put an offset of \$50,000 from the Merrimack College gift for funding teacher to be used to fund a related art teaching position at the Middle School. Barbara Whidden seconded the motion.

Dr. Ormsby amended the motion to fund related arts subject to a 3 million dollar budget increase. No one seconded.

Roll call vote. Chairman Al Perry, Yes, Vice Chair, Bill Kelly, Dr. Ormsby, abstained, Tim Pybus, Yes, Barbara Whidden, Yes. Motion passed 4-0-1

Dr. Bergeron stated he had place a place holder on the quote for text based approach in science instruction. He stated he felt comfortable to reduce the proposal by \$100,000 and still reach goal needed for March. \$100,000. was taken of the science proposal.

Bill Kelly made a motion to accept the superintendent's recommended budget of \$36,502,381. with the \$150,000 in offsets applied. Barbara Whidden seconded the motion and thanked all that worked on creating the budget proposal.

Dr. O'Connor restated that this is a forecast and is subject to change.

Roll call vote. Chairman Al Perry, Yes, Vice Chair, Bill Kelly, Dr. Ormsby, Yes, Tim Pybus, Yes, Barbara Whidden, Yes. Motion passed 5-0

4. New Business

a. Merrimack Education Center Report-

Dr. O'Connor asked the committee to acknowledge receipt of the MEC report.

Barbara Whidden stated she is willing to acknowledge receipt of the report but is very disappointed and felt it didn't meet the scope of services. She stated that MEC said they would save us \$10,000. No members of the School Committee were interviewed. This was to help our Business Manager move forward.

Ms. Whidden requested that MEC come back before the School Committee and discuss the report.

Dr. Ormsby requested Mrs. Whidden comments be summarized and presented back to MEC and then they can give a presentation to us at a future meeting.

5. Other Business

Dr. O'Connor stated the High School Student Council is willing to meet with the School Committee on a monthly basis. Questioned whether a meeting could be scheduled for late in February before a regularly scheduled meeting. Could the committee compose some questions for the students?

Bill Kelly made a motion to move to executive session to discuss negotiations with non-union personnel. Barbara Whidden seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Chairman Al Perry, Yes, Vice Chair, Bill Kelly, Dr. Ormsby, Yes, Tim Pybus, Yes, Barbara Whidden, Yes. Motion passed 5-0

No Recording Secretary requested.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.