

**North Andover School Committee
Regular Session**

Date: January 14, 2009

Location: NAHS Lecture Hall

Present: Members Allen, Burzlaff, Limpert, Nobile and Rhoton. Also present Superintendent Hottel, Assistant Superintendent Hutchinson, and Business Manager Mealey.

Call to Order

At 7:00 p.m. Chair Limpert called the meeting to order.

Public Comment

There was no public comment

FY11 Budget

Technology – Director of Technology, Matt Killen, discussed the consolidated technology budget including the prioritized identified needs of:

- | | |
|--|----------|
| • Unifund Continuity Agreement (2/3 of total cost) | \$4,700 |
| • Transfer and reclassify position (NAMS) | \$17,842 |
| • Additional IT staff days | \$13,345 |
| • Web Master stipend | \$3,536 |
| • Technology Facilitator stipends | \$28,000 |

Chair Report

Chair Limpert thanked all involved in moving the Memorandum of Understanding for Race To The Top forward. Chair Limpert stated that we are trying to post to the website as quickly as possible all budget presentations made to the School Committee.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Hottel also thanked all involved on the MOU for the RTTT. Superintendent Hottel stated that all budget information could be found on the website under budget and finance and there is a new section on the web "In The News" which provides a link to the most recent web articles and information.

Mr. Mealey stated that he had met with elementary principals and Mr. Valentino and that all playground maintenance category 1 items noted by the inspector had been taken care of, categories 2 and 3 items have either been addressed or the equipment has been taken out of service. He stated that he would continue to follow up on this issue.

FY11 Budget

Special Education – Director of Special Education, Joyce Laundre, discussed the special education budget and the identified needs of:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| • Therapeutic Behavioral Program | \$94,000 |
|----------------------------------|----------|

Ms. Laundre stated that the therapeutic behavioral program is needed due to the increased number of elementary students with emotional issues. She stated that the program could be a cost saver for the district as the program would allow us to keep students in district and perhaps bring a few students back from out of district placements. She stated that the teacher and paras required for this program would provide in class support for students with emotional issues. This program would be located at one elementary school. In response to a request from the Committee Ms. Laundre stated that she would provide a narrative and impact statement for the program. The Committee discussed possibly expanding this program in the future and bringing in students from other districts.

Mr. Mealey and Ms. Laundre reviewed the special education grants including the consistent reduction in the state reimbursement rate for circuit breaker over the last few years. Ms. Laundre discussed the difference between private 766 schools and collaboratives. She reminded the Committee that the district is pursuing admission into the Northshore Consortium and is meeting with the Consortium Board in March. She noted that admission into the Consortium could result in savings of approximately \$100,000.

System Wide – Mr. Mealey stated that there are no identified needs for system wide budget. Dr. Hutchinson discussed the curriculum and adoptions line. He discussed the district wide curriculum support this line item provides for schools K-12. He discussed the need to improve the intervention component of Reading Street and to ensure that each elementary school has equitable guided reading libraries. Mr. Mealey reviewed the budget summaries including the 12 categories.

The Committee discussed how to prioritize the identified needs and whether the prioritization should be left to the administration or whether the school committee should prioritize. They also discussed the reality of funds may necessitate looking at reductions to the budget and how those would be prioritized. The Committee discussed adding notes to the identified needs items that could be considered savings or cost offsets. Chair Limpert requested that a presentation be made for the public hearing to start the public discussion on the budget.

Mr. Mealey gave a brief update on the status of grants.

Part-Time Temporary Librarian Position

The Committee discussed the part-time temporary librarian position. The Committee requested that the administration look into ensuring that each elementary school has the necessary hardware and software for cataloging books. In response to a question from the Committee, Mr. Mealey stated that funds being expended under the SFSF funds are being taken from other accounts until such time as the SFSF funds are received and then transfers will be made to cover the expenses. The state is estimating districts should receive SFSF funds in March.

Ms. Allen moved to suspend the rules for the purpose of voting to approve the part-time librarian position. Mr. Nobile seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Ms. Burzlaff, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile and Ms. Rhoton.

Ms. Rhoton moved to approve the part-time temporary librarian position as presented. Ms. Allen seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Ms. Burzlaff, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile and Ms. Rhoton.

Donation

The Committee discussed the donation from Schneider Electric. The Committee directed the administration to meet and determine how best to use the funds to support the district's math and science programs and report back to the Committee on how the funds were expended. They also directed the administration to send a thank you letter to Schneider Electric.

Ms. Allen moved to accept the donation of \$2,000 from Schneider Electric. Mr. Nobile seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Ms. Burzlaff, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile and Ms. Rhoton.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Other Comments

Ms. Allen updated the Committee on events occurring at the schools.

Chair Limpert stated that local cable would be running the Willard Daggett presentation. In response to a request by the Committee Superintendent Hottel stated that he would put on the website information on when cable would be running the program.

Executive Session

At 8:35 p.m. Ms. Allen moved to enter executive session for the purpose of discussing contraction negotiations, not to return to regular session. Mr. Nobile seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Ms. Burzlaff, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile and Ms. Rhoton.