

Board of Education, Fairfield Public Schools
501 Kings Highway East, 2nd Floor Board Conference Room, Fairfield CT 06825

Tuesday, May 21, 2013

MINUTES

Voting Summary:

Convene to Executive Session

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mr. Kery seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education convene to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy concerning collective bargaining and the performance of a Board member". Motion passed 7-0 (*Mrs. Kennelly and Ms. Iacono were not present for the vote*).

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:52PM.

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2013.

Mrs. Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2013." Motion passed 7-0-1 (*Mrs. Brand abstained; Ms. Iacono was not in the room for the vote.*)

Old Business

Approval of the Secondary Math Curriculum, Grades 6-10

Ms. Iacono moved/Mrs. Brand seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Secondary Math Curriculum, Grades 6-10." Motion passed 9-0.

Approval of Secondary Math Resources, Grades 6-10.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Secondary Math Textbooks, Grades 6-10, per the memorandum dated April 26, 2013." Motion passed, 9-0

Approval of Superintendent's Recommended Budget Adjustments for 2013-2014.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Recommended Budget Adjustments for 2013-2014"

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to amend the Superintendent's Recommended Budget dated 5/7/13 so as to supplement the items with those listed on Mr. Fattibene's list dated 5/21/13.

Following discussion, Mr. Fattibene offered to withdraw his amendment. Mrs. Kennelly agreed.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to restore Gifted MS in the amount of \$83,000 and to reduce the technical capital line by \$83,000. Motion passed 8-1 (Mr. Kery against)

Mrs. Brand moved/Mr. Liu seconded to amend the main motion by dividing the first five items from the balance of the items, through pension. Motion passed 5-4 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion passed 9-0.

Motion to approve the first five items on the list (through pension) passed 9-0.

Mr. Liu moved/Mrs. Brand seconded to remove Grade 5 general music class from the list of adjustments and replace with (1) the reduction of Business Services by \$27,000 and (2) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops. Motion failed 3-6 (Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery against).

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to reinstate SPED swimming for \$26,000 and replace with (1) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops, and (2) the reduction of \$17,000 from the tech budget, and (3) the reduction of \$6000 from the Jennings ceiling.

Mr. Dwyer stated the Board accepts the change in the motion as follows:

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to reinstate SPED swimming for \$26,000 and replace with (1) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops, and (2) the reduction of \$23,000 from the tech budget. Motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion failed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand against.)

Mrs. Kennelly moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded to eliminate the HS Athletic rental charge to be made up by (1) a \$45,000 reduction in electric usage and (2) a reduction of \$5000 in postage. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery against.)

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against)

Motion to Extend

At 10:50PM, Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to extend the meeting to 11:45PM. Motion passed 5-4 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene in favor; Mr. Liu, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery, Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded to remove the HS Athletic fee and replace with a \$25/student/sport with a cap to be set by the administration. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Kery in favor; Mr. Liu, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to call the question. Motion failed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against.)

Mrs. Brand moved/Mr. Liu seconded to eliminate the stipend for the MS Liaison positions for \$132,000.

Mr. Fattibene moved/ Mrs. Kennelly seconded to amend the amendment to cut the stipends by \$69,500 so as to (1) eliminate the athletic rental charge, (2) reinstate the Music Assured Experience and (3) reinstate FAY.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to call the question. Motion passed, 8-1 (Mr. Liu against).

Motion (the amended amendment to the main motion) failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery against)

Mr. Kery moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to call the question. Motion passed 6-3 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mrs. Brand against.)

The original motion, as amended (with the reinstatement of MS Gifted and SPED Swimming, and the reduction of technology capital by \$106,000, and the reduction of BoE Workshops by \$3000), passed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against)

New Business

Mr. Kery moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded to table items A-F. Motion passed 8-1 (Mrs. Kennelly against.)

Adjournment

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Dwyer seconded the recommended motion, "that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Adjourn." Motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned 11:35PM.

Detailed Minutes:

Call to order and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the meeting to order at 6:50PM. Present were members Jennifer Kennelly, (arrived 6:56PM), John Convertito, Perry Liu, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Pamela Iacono (arrived 6:52PM), Paul Fattibene, Tim Kery, and Sue Brand. Others present were attorneys Don Houston and Joel Green.

Convene to Executive Session

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mr. Kery seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education convene to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing strategy concerning collective bargaining and the performance of a Board member" Motion passed 7-0 (*Mrs. Kennelly and Ms. Iacono were not present for the vote*).

The Board came out of Executive Session at 7:52PM.

Call to order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Regular meeting to order at 7:59PM. Present were members Jennifer Kennelly, John Convertito, Perry Liu, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Pamela Iacono, Paul Fattibene, Tim Kery, and Sue Brand. Others present were Dr. Title, student representatives from FLHS and FWHS, members of Central Office and approximately 50 members of the public.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Philip Dwyer led the Board and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Dwyer stated that Board by-laws allow the Chair some discretion with public comment, and that in order to facilitate a smooth meeting with regards to the budget adjustment motion for this meeting, the public will be given the option to speak after a motion is made but not after each proposed amendment.

Presentation

Dr. Title presented the Superintendent and CAFE awards to the 8th grade Fairfield Woods Middle School Students who were unable to attend the May 7 award ceremony. Daniel Knorr received the Superintendent Recognition Award and Kendall Brown and Andrew Paik each received the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education (CAFE) Student Leadership Award.

Mrs. Kennelly recognized the Stratfield Elementary School "Odyssey of the Mind" team and their coaches for taking 2nd place in their division and moving forward to the World Championships at Michigan State University.

Approval of Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2013.

Mrs. Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 7, 2013." Motion passed 7-0-1 (*Mrs. Brand abstained; Ms. Iacono was not in the room for the vote.*)

Student Reports

Danielle Clarke, Fairfield Warde High School, reported that both lacrosse teams made States; various clubs are collecting gear; the drama club put on a successful mock crash with the police and fire departments; Junior Prom was a success; the senior Prom is next Saturday; auditions are beginning for choir, chamber singers, honors band, honors orchestra; and Battle of the Houses was a success.

Marco Congello, reporting for Fairfield Ludlowe High School, stated that AP tests ended on Friday with over 700 exams administered; senior internships begin on May 30th; Junior Prom was a great success, it was both fun and safe; Boys Volleyball is playing Ridgefield; the baseball team is playing at Harbor Yard tomorrow and Girls Tennis is advancing.

Board Committee/Liaison Reports

Mrs. Gerber reported that the Communications Committee will provide a comprehensive report to the Board at the June 11 Meeting to include their work to date, and ideas to improve communication. This would include arranging a Town Hall meeting regarding the budget season, including more Board member information on the website, recognizing student achievements, creating a yearly survey, and having a discussion on public comment.

Mr. Dwyer stated that the Riverfield project was approved by the Board of Selectman, and Ms. Iacono stated that it is now moving forward to the Board of Finance.

Mr. Dwyer stated that the Fairfield Ludlowe Project was postponed until this Wednesday. If approved it will move forward to the June 4 BOF agenda, and if approved there it will move forward to the RTM.

Mrs. Brand stated that the Advisory Committee is meeting diligently and she is pleased with the progress.

Mr. Fattibene stated that RTM Districts were re-drawn at last night's RTM Meeting, which may affect future budgets.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Title stated that he will report on the District Initiatives at the first meeting in June.

Old Business

Approval of the Secondary Math Curriculum, Grades 6-10

Ms. Iacono moved/Mrs. Brand seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Secondary Math Curriculum, Grades 6-10."

In response to Mr. Liu, Dr. Boice stated she would provide him with a copy of the Algebra Student Survey Results.

Mrs. Brand stated that she can see that the pacing is different. Dr. Boice stated that in the Common Core, there are more topics than ever before, and that the depth and level of instruction will be more intense. Dr. Rasmussen stated that much work has been done standardizing assessments and feedback is a key component.

Mrs. Kennelly asked how much latitude teachers are given to go beyond agreed upon common assessments. Dr. Rasmussen stated that teachers give feedback at any time during instruction. Dr. Rasmussen stated that assessments will be created after curriculum approval. Dr. Boice stated that the Pearson text offers rich online assessments that can be used to develop benchmark assessments; Blue Ribbon assessments are only available through middle school.

Mrs. Kennelly asked what the philosophy was behind only having 2 levels in math. Dr. Boice stated that while she was not here for the 3 level system, she understands it was not successful. Dr. Boice stated she believes student needs are being met and there is a built in support system, SRBI at the high school, IEP at the middle school; the schools have done an excellent job of providing Tier 2 interventions as well as helping teachers with Tier 1 interventions.

Mrs. Brand asked how the gap will be filled for the 9th grade math, with regards to CPM. Dr. Boice stated that CPM was a text, and students received everything that was needed with regards to instruction and curriculum; by all accounts of measuring with teacher reports, the students did well and are ready for 9th grade.

Public comment: None

Motion passed 9-0

Approval of Secondary Math Resources, Grades 6-10.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Secondary Math Textbooks, Grades 6-10, per the memorandum dated April 26, 2013."

Mr. Liu stated that he is puzzled at the cost to pilot CPM. Dr. Boice stated the fee for CPM was for professional development, the textbooks will be sent back. Mr. Liu stated that it seems inconsistent that the new books will not cost us anything. Mrs. Kennelly stated that if CPM were purchased, then the professional development would have been free. Mr. Liu stated that he will support this math text and thanked the group of parents labeled 'math moms' for taking the time to get involved.

Mr. Fattibene stated that he had the opportunity to review the texts and found they were designed specifically for the Common Core, and there is a common theme with the layout and sections.

Public Comment:

Nancy Haberly, Duck Farm Road, thanked Mr. Liu for speaking up for the community.

Suzanne Miska, Rygate Road, thanked the parents for being involved in the textbook selection process.

Nadine Nizet, Mill Hill Terrace, stated that she would like to see and understand where CPM fell short, and that Central Office should offer, free of charge, remedial summer classes to those students who failed the math test.

Tricia Donovan, Taintor Drive, stated that she is a math mom and thanked the Board for her inclusion in the committee; she felt the teachers were open, and that the district should look at parents as a free resource.

Motion passed, 9-0

Mr. Dwyer thanked everyone for the math discussion and recognized and congratulated Dr. Cutaia-Leonard.

Approval of Superintendent's Recommended Budget Adjustments for 2013-2014.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded the recommended motion, "that the Board of Education approve the Superintendent's Recommended Budget Adjustments for 2013-2014"

Mrs. Brand stated that she would like to see line items next to each budget adjustment. Mr. Dwyer ruled that voting will occur in this format, as it has for the past two times this has been done, due to programs falling on several lines; the Board may challenge the chair and 5 votes will be needed to overrule the Chair.

Mr. Fattibene stated in an effort to maintain a good district and provide programs, he compiled an alternate list of cuts and passed out a spreadsheet with this information. Mr. Fattibene explained his list: Reduce by half: Middle School Gifted, Music Assured Experience and charging overtime to all users; reinstate High School Athletics Rental Charge, Grade 7 Gifted testing, and Fairfield Arts for Youth; and replace with cuts to Business Services, Mileage Reimbursement, Instructional Services, Hourly Webmaster, Wage/Benefit Reserve, Paraprofessional (to 146.6), Postage, Recruitment Expense, Capital Business and Technology, and Maintenance (Jennings ceiling).

Mr. Fattibene moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to amend the Superintendent's Recommended Budget dated 5/7/13 so as to supplement the items with those listed on Mr. Fattibene's list dated 5/21/13.

Mrs. Kennelly stated that she agrees with Mr. Fattibene but disagrees with restoring Grade 7 Gifted testing and disagrees with cutting the gifted program in half as this would render the program meaningless. Dr. Title stated the current Middle School Gifted program, if it should continue next year as is, will require \$83,000. Dr. Title stated that some of the cuts mentioned are what he calls "phantom cuts", or cuts that are made but the expense is still incurred and then the money has to be spent anyway. Dr. Title stated that the paraprofessional cut is unwise, legal fees will still be expended, mileage reimbursement is contractual, the webmaster is critical, postage has gone up, cutting the wage/benefit reserve is like rolling the dice, professional development is important due to the new teacher evaluation, and it is important to recruit top talent. Dr. Title stated that the overtime charge to some user groups is what is done currently, and that has proved problematic.

Ms. Iacono thanked Mr. Fattibene, and wished the list had been sent ahead of time; she implored the Board to not go backwards with 'phantom cuts' as the Board is finally getting respect from other Town Bodies; paras are needed, the webmaster is essential for communication efforts, and capital maintenance should not be delayed. Ms. Iacono asked Dr. Title if there is something that might be substituted for Middle School Gifted. Dr. Title stated that in lieu of cutting maintenance/capital budget to restore the Gifted Program to its current status, he suggested cutting the increase in technology capital.

Mr. Fattibene offered to withdraw his amendment. Mrs. Kennelly and the Board agreed.

In response to Mr. Convertito, Dr. Title stated that interns are students at a local university and they are paid to substitute teach, separate from student teaching; if interns are reduced, the substitute rate would have to be increased. Dr. Title stated that universities set the price paid for interns, and that enrollment determines where substitute teachers might be needed. In response to Mrs. Brand, Ann Leffert stated that the going rate is 90 per day, and 150 for a long-term sub.

In response to Mr. Liu, Dr. Title stated that Bridgeport is obligated to provide Magnet Discovery Transportation costs; this cost was included in the budget as Bridgeport had asked us to provide transportation.

In response to Mr. Liu, Dr. Title stated that once the Board approves the budget, staff needs time for data entry and balancing prior to turning it over on July 1. Mr. Liu stated that the Board needs more time to propose cuts similar to Mr. Fattibene's list; he stated he is passionate about the middle school Gifted Program, Special Ed swimming, and 5th grade Music Class. Mr. Liu asked Dr. Title to reduce secretarial positions so as to preserve programs. Dr. Title responded that there is one central office secretary that has already been reduced; secretarial positions are essential and have specific job functions such as accounts payable, payroll and insurance; and that with no additional staff, the school district took on the accounts payable for the Town.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to restore Gifted MS in the amount of \$83,000 and to reduce the technical capital line by \$83,000.

In response to Mr. Convertito, Mr. Cullen stated that the HVAC at Sherman and Osborn Hill are important to complete as it is almost impossible to regulate cooling through classrooms and condensation has developed on the walls; these systems are not zoned.

Mr. Kery stated that roughly 21% of middle school students are identified as gifted; he is concerned that not enough is being done for the gifted students and that too many students are identified as gifted; it could be a meaningful program for students who are truly gifted. Ms. Iacono stated that she agrees that the gifted program should be re-evaluated.

Motion passed 8-1 (Mr. Kery against)

DRAFT

Mrs. Brand moved/Mr. Liu seconded to amend the main motion by dividing the first five items from the balance of the items, through pension. Motion passed 5-4 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion passed 9-0.

Motion to approve the first five items on the list (through pension) passed 9-0.

Mr. Liu moved/Mrs. Brand seconded to remove Grade 5 general music class from the list of adjustments and replace with (1) the reduction of Business Services by \$27,000 and (2) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops.

Ms. Iacono stated she opposes the amendment, and supports the increase in instructional time in core subjects such as math. In response to Mrs. Gerber, Dr. Title stated that the change in music curriculum will be similar to what was done with World Language. Dr. Title stated that if the Board chooses to take this off the list, he suggested going deeper into Tech Capital rather than Business Services.

Motion failed 3-6 (Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery against).

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to reinstate SPED swimming for \$26,000 and replace with (1) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops, and (2) the reduction of \$17,000 from the tech budget, and (3) the reduction of \$6000 from the Jennings ceiling.

Mr. Dwyer stated in the interest of full disclosure, he previously worked at the YMCA in which the pool is rented

In response to Ms. Iacono, Dr. Title stated that Board members could pay their own way to CABE conferences or other Board conferences; CABE services would remain.

In response to Ms. Iacono, Mr. Cullen stated that the Jennings ceiling tiles are crumbling and falling apart.

Mr. Dwyer stated the Board accepts the change in the motion as follows:

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to reinstate SPED swimming for \$26,000 and replace with (1) the elimination of the \$3000 for BoE conferences and workshops, and (2) the reduction of \$23,000 from the tech budget.

Mrs. Kennelly asked if the SPED program could be reduced to 1 day per week. Mrs. Leonardi responded that this would create unsafe conditions; the issue would be having 25 students in the pool with an almost 1:1 ratio of staff. Mrs. Leonardi stated that this program has been in place more than 25 years. Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, and Mrs. Brand all expressed support for the SPED swimming program.

Motion passed 9-0.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion failed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Fattibene offered a point of order and Mr. Dwyer stated that $\frac{2}{3}$ vote is required to call the question.

In response to Mrs. Kennelly, Dr. Title stated that the 'middle school liaison' is a stipend paid to teachers to act as team leaders, and is not a position. Dr. Title stated he would not recommend touching this. Mrs. Brand would support eliminating the middle school liaison stipend.

Mrs. Kennelly moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded to eliminate the HS Athletic rental charge to be made up by (1) a \$45,000 reduction in electric usage and (2) a reduction of \$5000 in postage.

Mrs. Kenelly stated that she understands the idea to go after sports rental fees but finds it discriminatory at some level. Mr. Fattibene stated that he agrees but would have taken the money from other areas.

Dr. Title stated that 'pay to play' is not a program cut, and he is not certain of the electricity savings.

Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono and Mr. Kery against.)

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Kery seconded to call the question. Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against)

At 10:50PM, Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Kennelly seconded to extend the meeting to 11:45PM. Motion passed 5-4 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene in favor; Mr. Liu, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery, Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded to remove the HS Athletic fee and replace with a \$25/student/sport with a cap to be set by the administration.

Ms. Iacono and Mr. Liu stated that they will not support pay to play.

Motion failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Kery in favor; Mr. Liu, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene and Mrs. Brand against.)

Mr. Convertito moved/Ms. Iacono seconded to call the question. Motion failed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against.)

Mrs. Brand moved/Mr. Liu seconded to eliminate the stipend for the MS Liaison positions for \$132,000.

Mr. Fattibene moved/ Mrs. Kennelly seconded to amend the amendment to cut the stipends by \$69,500 so as to (1) eliminate the athletic rental charge, (2) reinstate the Music Assured Experience and (3) reinstate FAY.

Dr. Rosato stated that the middle school liaisons are the leadership team and are the main communication vehicle across the grade levels and are depended upon to ensure consistency; these are teachers working full time in the classroom. Mr. Kery asked if this could be taken away, contractually. Dr. Title stated that it could be taken away if the work were taken away. Mr. Kery stated that he will not support this and is concerned that Dr. Title and staff have stated that it is important. Mr. Dwyer stated that he agrees with Mr. Kery. Mrs. Brand stated that she doesn't take this lightly and knows it is a tough choice. Mr. Kery stated that Team Leaders are important to students and the educational professionals are saying this is important for this age group and he is vehemently opposed to this. Dr. Title stated that the Team Leaders are critical to the middle school structure.

Mrs. Kennelly stated she is frustrated that there has been no give in administration. Mr. Convertito stated that he has no information on the effect of the stipend cut.

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to call the question. Motion passed, 8-1 (Mr. Liu against).

Motion (the amended amendment to the main motion) failed 4-5 (Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand in favor; Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery against)

Mr. Kery moved/Mr. Convertito seconded to call the question. Motion passed 6-3 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mrs. Brand against.)

Public Comment:

Neal Fink, Crest Terrace, stated that he feels the public was done a disservice with regards to public comment, and he is also disappointed that no one brought up custodial overtime fees.

Suzanne Miska , Rygate Road, stated that the rental fees create an inequitable situation.

Lisa Havey, PTAC President, stated that she is appalled at the process, and that it is inconceivable that people were not included in the process, and asked the Board to be stop taking away programs.

Tricia Donovan, Taintor Drive, stated that real financial reform was not made.

Marc Patten, RTM, stated that the the 4th and 5th World Language that was reduced previously is ineffective and either reduce it entirely or only give to 5th grade; he stated that he is thrilled that gifted program is OK, and thanked the Board for all the hard work.

Nancy Haberly , Duck Farm Road, stated that cutting one music class is doing a disservice to those students who shine in those areas.

John Llewellyn, Sturges Road, stated that the problem with the budget originates in the way it is prepared, which is budget to budget and not budget to actual, so the numbers that we are looking at are in some cases 18 months out of date; he thanked Mrs. Kennelly and agrees that it is amazing that we haven't looked at restructuring or going after anything in the overhead.

Jennifer Hoffman, Whitewood Drive, spoke in defense of the music program.

Julie Gottlieb, RTM, respectfully asked that the Board look at overhead and administration in the coming year

The original motion, as amended (with the reinstatement of MS Gifted and SPED Swimming, and the reduction of technology capital by \$106,000, and the reduction of BoE Workshops by \$3000), passed 5-4 (Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Ms. Iacono, Mr. Kery in favor; Mrs. Kennelly, Mr. Liu, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Brand against)

DRAFT

New Business

Mr. Kery moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded to table items A-F.

Mrs. Kennelly requested email comments from the Board on item E with regards to using pilots in the curriculum.

Motion passed 8-1 (Mrs. Kennelly against.)

Public Comments:

Jen Biondo, Romanock Road, thanked the Board for listening regarding the swim therapy.

Patty Donohue, Congress Street, thanked the Board regarding the SPED swimming.

Kelly Fedak, Eleven O'Clock Road, thanked the Board regarding the SPED swimming, as the program enhanced her son's life and those around him.

Kelly Dunn, Tuckahoe Lane, thanked the Board for restoring the swimming and appreciates the efforts.

Open Board Comments:

Ms. Iacono asked if student parking spots could be numbered and assigned. Mrs. Kennelly agreed, and thanked the staff and Dr. Title; she stated that she values all the work that was done.

Mr. Dwyer asked the Board to look at item E and email suggestions to Mrs. Kennelly in time for the next Policy Committee Meeting.

Adjournment

Ms. Iacono moved/Mr. Dwyer seconded the recommended motion, "that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education Adjourn."
Motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned 11:35PM.

Submitted by:

Jessica Gerber

Board of Education

Secretary