

1 **Shaker Regional School Board**  
2 **Meeting Minutes**  
3 **September 25, 2008**  
4

5 IN ATTENDANCE:

6 **School Board:** Diane O’Hara, Roy Roberts, Tom Goulette, Preston Tuthill, Carolyn  
7 French Witham, Bill Hart, Sumner Dole, Student Representative Katlyn Van Horne

8 **Administration:** Superintendent Michael Cozort; Business Administrator Debbie Gay;

9 **Guests:** Belmont Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin; Belmont Board of Selectmen:  
10 Ronald Cormier

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12 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

13 Chairman Bill Hart called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.  
14

15 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

16 *The Board discussed the September 11, 2008 meeting minutes. The minutes were*  
17 *accepted as presented.*  
18

19 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

20 **Belmont Town Officials:** The Board welcomed the Belmont Town Administrator, Jeanne  
21 Beaudin, and the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen, Ronald Cormier. Discussion  
22 ensued regarding several topics.  
23

24 Mike Cozort gave a brief overview of District projects and enrollments, stating that the  
25 use of portables was being considered to cover the effects of the “bubble” which will  
26 impact the high school next year. The Board expressed concern over the influx of  
27 students that could result due to proposed building projects within the Town. Jeanne  
28 Beaudin responded that the current large building project, the Maple Hill Development  
29 has 32 units which should not result in more than 50 new students to the District. Mr.  
30 Cozort stated that we will have to see if this increase would cause a burden to the District.  
31 The Board explained that there are no large scale projects on the horizon, but that this is  
32 expected to change after the bond for the High School is retired within the next four  
33 years. At that time, the District will probably move forward with some projects. Ms.  
34 Beaudin stated that the 2009 budget for the Town was almost complete, with no large  
35 projects to be proposed.  
36

37 The Town Officials and the Board discussed the types of financial assistance being  
38 requested by residents. It is anticipated that aid will be requested by residents for winter  
39 fuel costs, but at this time the requests are mostly for aid with mortgage payments. The  
40 Town agreed to work with the District to identify families that may be in need throughout  
41 the winter, with work through students at the school and residents within the community.  
42 Ron Cormier stated that the Fire Department is working to increase awareness for fire  
43 safety, with residents seeking alternative methods for home heating.  
44

45 Pret Tuthill stated that the school facilities are used throughout the day and evening for a  
46 variety of school and community activities, including increasingly for town recreation.

1 Ron Cormier stated that the Town is researching sites and looking at the possibility of  
2 adding a rec center, but the feedback maintains that residents feel the school facilities are  
3 available and can be used for resident activities. Both the School Board and the Town  
4 agreed that if the facilities existed, there would not be a lack of activities to fill the site.

5  
6 Jeanne Beaudin stated that all meetings held at the Corner Meeting House now have the  
7 ability to be tape recorded and played on public access channels. She stated that the  
8 Town is looking for qualified students to aid in the use of this equipment, and that they  
9 would be willing to work with the District to provide high school credits for this work.  
10 The School Board stated that this idea matches the State initiative of Extended Learning  
11 Opportunities, and would be interested in pursuing this idea further.

12  
13 Tom Goulette discussed the previous meeting which included a presentation and  
14 discussion with Belknap County Youth Services. Mr. Goulette questioned the role of  
15 Belmont in the larger picture of Belknap County, and inquired to the use of these  
16 available programs. Mr. Cormier stated that the Police Chief would be better equipped to  
17 respond to these questions, but that he felt that Belmont utilizes services other than those  
18 offered by BCYS. Funding for these programs was discussed, along with the reasoning  
19 for not increasing the use of these programs. Mr. Cormier explained that Belmont funds  
20 these services based on the percentage of residents using the service. The School Board  
21 expressed their support for early intervention and preventative services to lower future  
22 possibilities of more intense interventions.

23  
24 The issue of partial funding between the Town and School District for services provided  
25 by a School Resource Officer was discussed. Mr. Cormier stated that the Town would  
26 like to have an SRO available on a full time basis, without adding an additional position  
27 to the payroll. The School Board acknowledged the feeling of some community  
28 members that the School District should contribute to funding for this position. The  
29 District is currently working to understand the duties and responsibilities provided by the  
30 SROs. The School District and Town officials will continue to communicate on this  
31 issue.

32  
33 Ms. Beaudin described the State DOT grant for Safe Roads to School, an initiative to add  
34 sidewalks to roads leading to school buildings. The Town would like to build a sidewalk  
35 along Church Hill leading to the High School, and along Route 140 leading to the  
36 Elementary School. Ms. Beaudin stated that there are two phases to the project, the  
37 Planning Phase and the Implementation Phase, and that the Town officials would need to  
38 work hand-in-hand with School District officials to pursue this grant. If awarded, the  
39 grant must cover mostly grades K-8, but can also include the high school levels.

40  
41 Mr. Cozort mentioned that the Town might wish to consider a blinking light at the  
42 intersection of Church Hill and Seavey roads. This is a busy intersection, particularly at  
43 school arrival and departure times and traffic can be moving very quickly. The Town  
44 officials acknowledged that and indicated they would look into the Superintendent's  
45 concern.

1 OLD BUSINESS

2 *On the Horizon:* Mike Cozort reviewed the On the Horizon Calendar, stating that the  
3 October 9<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting would include discussion with the Canterbury Town Officials,  
4 Budget Development and NHSBA Resolutions. The meeting previously scheduled for  
5 October 23<sup>rd</sup> was changed to October 30<sup>th</sup>.

6  
7 NEW BUSINESS

8 *District Organizational Chart:* Debbie Gay presented the proposed organizational chart  
9 for the District. She stated that formal approval of the organizational chart was a  
10 necessary step in her application to the Association of School Business Officials  
11 International (ASBOI).

12  
13 *A motion was made by Sumner Dole, and seconded, to accept the*  
14 *organizational chart for Shaker Regional School District as presented. The*  
15 *motion passed unanimously.*

16  
17 Prior to vote on the motion, the Board discussed the layout of the organizational chart. It  
18 was suggested that the solid lines connecting the positions of Director of Curriculum,  
19 Instruction and Assessment and Director of Student Services be changed to a dotted line  
20 connecting them to Faculty & Staff Support. Ms. Gay discussed the duties of both of  
21 these positions, and the reasoning behind the solid line. After a discussion, it was  
22 determined to leave the document as originally presented.

23  
24 *Payment Schedule of Athletic Officials:* Roy Roberts stated that he had received several  
25 concerns in regards to the length of time necessary to issue payment for officials of  
26 athletic events. He theorized that if payments could be issued in a quicker time frame,  
27 the District may be able to obtain better officials. Debbie Gay explained that most of  
28 these delays are caused by new IRS rulings that need to be followed. She suggested that  
29 the Board had the ability to appoint two members who could sign manifests on behalf of  
30 the Board. The Board briefly discussed this possibility, adding it to the agenda for  
31 October 9<sup>th</sup> for further discussion.

32  
33 *Effects of Increased Energy Costs on Athletic Programs:* Mike Cozort distributed a  
34 handout from the NHSBA entitled “Inter-Scholastic Scheduling Resolution”. Mr. Cozort  
35 explained that due to increased fuel costs, the poor economy, and budgetary constraints,  
36 districts are requesting that controls be set to reduce the costs associated with the athletic  
37 programs. The current class method could potentially be changed in favor of more  
38 regional play, and Mr. Cozort explained the effects that this could have upon the athletics  
39 program. He stated that the Lakes Region Superintendents met, and plan to propose a list  
40 of cost savings ideas to the NHIAA. At the District level, Mr. Cozort is stressing the  
41 need to schedule regional games as well as regular class level games and not scheduling  
42 the maximum number of games.

43  
44 *Swim Team Request:* Mike Cozort stated that he had received a request for school  
45 recognition of a swim team, enabling the team to participate at the NHIAA level. The

1 Board discussed the request, stating that it should be handled consistent with the  
2 recognition of the gymnastics team in September of 2007.

3 *A motion was made by Pret Tuthill, and seconded, to approve the request for*  
4 *NHIAA swim team sponsorship for the 2008-2009 academic year, with the*  
5 *stipulations that the District would bear no costs for the program, the*  
6 *participants would reimburse the District for the cost of the NHIAA*  
7 *sponsorship, participants would be subject to District policies and be required to*  
8 *sign an indemnification and release prepared by the District attorney, and that*  
9 *the swim team coach meet the certification requirements of the NHIAA. The*  
10 *motion passed unanimously.*

11  
12 *Budget and Finance Committee Meeting Schedule:* The Board discussed and proposed a  
13 Budget and Finance Committee meeting schedule. Meetings were attentively scheduled  
14 for 4:30 p.m. on October 29<sup>th</sup>, November 12<sup>th</sup>, and December 10<sup>th</sup>.

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16 A motion was made by Pret Tuthill, which was seconded, to approve the non-public  
17 minutes of 9/11/08 as presented. The motion was approved.

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19 *At 8:02 p.m., Chairman Bill Hart adjourned the public session.*

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21  
22 Respectfully Submitted,

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25 Robin M. Schofield  
26 School District Clerk  
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