

1 **Shaker Regional School Board**
2 **Meeting Minutes**
3 **June 11, 2009**
4

5 IN ATTENDANCE:

6 **School Board:** Chairman: Bill Hart; Sumner Dole, Tom Goulette, Heidi Hutchinson,
7 Diane O'Hara, Roy Roberts, Preston Tuthill; Student Representative: Michael Farkas
8 **Administration:** Superintendent: Michael Cozort; Business Administrator: Debbie Gay;
9 Special Education Director: Tonyel Mitchell-Berry, Director of Buildings & Grounds:
10 Doug Ellis; Principals: Russ Holden, Mary Morrison, Aaron Pope, Emily Spear;
11 Assistant Principal & BMS Athletic Director: Tim Saunders; BHS Athletic Director:
12 Rick Acquilano
13

14 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

15 School Board Chairman, Bill Hart, called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. The new
16 Student Representative for the 2009-2010 school year, Michael Farkas, joined the Shaker
17 Regional School Board.
18

19 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

20 The Board discussed the Meeting Minutes from May 28, 2009. The minutes were
21 accepted as presented.
22

23 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

24 *"Transitions Untangled"*: Andrea Cameron & Rebecca Morse, with three 5th grade
25 students, Nick Belanger, Katie Donohue and Andrew Bragg, presented to the Board.
26 They received a \$7,000.00 grant to purchase technology equipment, which was used in
27 creating an interactive map using the Smart Board. This project involved critical thinking
28 and problem solving in math, science and language arts.
29

30 *Student Yearbooks:* Vicki Donovan and several 4th grade students, presented the 2008-
31 2009 BES Tiger Tracks yearbook to the Board. A 5th grade student, Nick Belanger, from
32 BMS, presented the School Board with their 2008-2009 yearbook. Students, Kathryn
33 Klem and Alysha Elliard, presented the Board with the BHS 2008-2009 yearbook.
34

35 *Unanticipated Surplus:* The Fiscal Year Projection of surplus for 2008-2009 was
36 presented to the public, as of today the figure is \$270,446.00. Chairman, Bill Hart, called
37 a ten minute recess for the public to review the handout describing the projected fiscal
38 year surplus. Pret Tuthill described a few of the items that the Buildings & Grounds
39 committee would like to spend a portion of the \$270,446.00 surplus on. 1) It is
40 recommended that the four schools in the district have energy audits before looking into
41 having alternative energy in each building. There was a motion from the floor at the
42 Annual School District Meeting to move forward on investigating the alternative energy
43 sources in each of the four schools. There were five bids received for doing the energy
44 audits. The costs ranged from \$9,000.00 to \$94,000.00. The energy audit that is
45 recommended by Administration, was a total of \$8,928.00. 2) The Board stated that the
46 walk in cooler at the middle school needs to be replaced. It is about 35 years old and the

1 floor is rotting. The cooler is going to cost \$12,000.00. The stimulus grant may
2 reimburse the district for 25% of the cost of the freezer due to the free and reduced lunch
3 ratio at the middle school. The School District is requesting to use \$20,928.00 on these
4 two items discussed. Donna Cilley and Roy Glines asked what the \$50,000 for the
5 Facilities & Grounds Exp. Trust and \$50,000 for the Energy Fund Exp. Trust is going to
6 be used for. Bill Hart stated that the \$50,000 in the Energy Fund Trust is for unexpected
7 fuel increases that the District may have and the \$50,000 in the Facilities & Grounds
8 Trust is to replace sprinkler systems in Belmont Elementary and some of the roofs in the
9 buildings need to be replaced. Donna Cilley also asked if the District has been
10 considering any of the "Go Green Grants" that are available for the schools to apply for.
11 The Board stated that part of the energy study that the District is doing is to identify the
12 different funding sources that will be available to the schools. Donna Cilley also
13 expressed that she is concerned that out of the school district's 17 million dollar budget
14 that there should be more than a 2% surplus. She feels that with the current economy and
15 the urge to reduce the taxes that there should be more of a surplus. It was pointed out that
16 the district's 2008-2009 surplus is close to the same as the past 4 year's figures. David
17 Morse asked the school district if the student enrollment has fluctuated since the October
18 2008 enrollment. Mr. Cozort explained that the enrollment is down a little bit. The
19 October 1, 2008 enrollment was 1,468 and the June 1, 2009 enrollment is at 1,453. Mr.
20 Cozort distributed a handout on the Federal Stimulus Bill that has been discussed at the
21 last several Board meetings. The first page of the handout was discussed for the public in
22 attendance. Mr. Cozort stated that in this Bill the Title I program will receive
23 \$214,095.62, the Special Education Program will receive \$359,495.00 and the preschool
24 program will receive 13,873.92.
25 It was suggested that there be a spreadsheet provided to the public that shows the dollar
26 amounts being spent by the district in different areas of the budget. Mr. Cozort explained
27 that he does have that available, but did not bring it to this meeting.

28 29 ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORTS

30 *Administrators:* Aaron Pope from Belmont Middle School shared that they are very busy
31 getting ready for the eighth grade promotion ceremony next week. Things are wrapping
32 up very nicely. Emily Spear from Belmont Elementary School stated that they are very
33 excited for the end of the year and that the students are getting very antsy. She shared a
34 newspaper article with the Board of Janet Hillis' retirement. Mrs. Spear thanked Tom
35 Goulette for attending Mrs. Hillis' retirement party. Mary Morrison from Canterbury
36 Elementary School shared that the NH Tribudore magazine is published once a quarter
37 and that there is a fourth grade poem published in it. Also, The Lakes Region Spirit
38 magazine has an article about the Natures Classroom. Russ Holden from Belmont High
39 School stated that they are ready for graduation tomorrow night. It will be an indoor
40 ceremony due to the weather forecast. Then there will be finals next week for the rest of
41 the students.

42
43 *Superintendent of Schools:* Mike Cozort said that it is a lot of fun to go to Awards Night
44 and see the students reap the benefits of their hard work. The Belmont Middle School
45 Gr. 5&6 Parent Info Night was very well attended and it went very well.

1 *School Board Members:* Diane O’Hara thanked Mr. Holden and Mr. Acquilano for a nice
2 Sport Awards Ceremony this week. Roy Roberts stated that the Junior Class Prom was
3 well attended and he appreciated all the work that went into it. It was very successful.
4 Heidi Hutchinson attended the BMS State Finals Track meets this season and it went
5 well. Tom Goulette attended the high school awards night and shared that 28 students
6 received NH Scholars Awards. Bill Hart attended the State Meet of Champions and
7 stated that Erin Philips qualified for the New England Championships

8
9 OLD BUSINESS:

10 *Discussion of Unencumbered/Unexpended “Surplus”:*

11 ***A motion was made by Pret Tuthill, and seconded, to expend \$8,928.00 for the***
12 ***Energy Assessment by G.S. Associates Inc., pending satisfactory reference***
13 ***checks. The motion passed unanimously.***

14
15 ***A motion was made by Pret Tuthill, and seconded, to spend \$12,000.00 to***
16 ***replace the walk in cooler at Belmont Middle School, which will include a 25%***
17 ***reimbursement of the cost by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Grant. The***
18 ***motion passed unanimously.***

19
20 *Federal Stimulus Bill Ideas:* Discussion took place under Public Participation

21
22 *“On the Horizon”:* The June 25th Board Meeting will be a work session. There will be
23 reports given on Wellness, Food Services and Buildings and Grounds.

24
25 NEW BUSINESS:

26 *A) Bids*

27 *1) Energy Audit:* A motion was made under Old Business.

28 *2) Copiers:* Debbie Gay stated that there were 5 proposals received for new contracts for
29 copy machines in the schools. There was some discussion regarding these proposals.
30 Administration recommends the MacDurgin proposal.

31 ***A motion was made by Pret Tuthill, and seconded, to accept the copier contract***
32 ***with MacDurgin, Alternative 1 bid, recommended by Administration. The***
33 ***motion passed with a 4 to 1 vote.***

34 *3) Computers:* Debbie Gay stated that there were seven responses received to the request
35 for proposal that was sent out. The ZT Group International is recommended by
36 Administration.

37 ***A motion was made by Tom Goulette, and seconded, to accept the bid from ZT***
38 ***Group International, for the purchase of computers, recommended by***
39 ***Administration. The motion passed unanimously.***

40
41 *4) Smart Interactive Board and Audio Systems:* Debbie Gay stated that there were three
42 responses to the proposal sent out. Administration recommends Headlight Audio Visuals
43 located in Maine. This quote is good until November. There was some discussion about
44 the need for more White Boards at this time.

1 ***A motion was made by Pret Tuthill, and seconded, to accept the bid from***
2 ***Headlight Audio Visual recommended by Administration. The motion passed***
3 ***unanimously.***
4

5 5) Lenovo Notepads: Debbie Gay shared that this was the last proposal to go out and
6 Administration received seven bids back. Administration recommends EarthWalk for the
7 Lenovo notepads.

8 ***A motion was made by Sumner Dole, and seconded, to accept the bid of Lenovo***
9 ***Notepads from Earth Walk at \$10,368.00, recommended by Administration. The***
10 ***motion passed unanimously.***
11

12 *Other:* Bill Hart stated that it was requested for the Athletic Directors to present an
13 overview of their programs. The Belmont Middle School Athletic Director, Tim
14 Saunders gave a summary of the middle school athletic program. Mr. Saunders went
15 through the different sports that are offered at the middle school level. They are a
16 member of the Lakes Region athletic cluster for scheduling athletic events. There is a
17 very high turn out of athletes in most sports. The golf program has grown the most at this
18 level and it was very successful. Mr. Saunders stated that it is always a challenge to fill
19 coaching positions when there is an opening. He listed the coaches for each sport and
20 stated that they are losing a few coaches for the 2009-2010 year. Heidi Hutchinson
21 thanked Mr. Saunders for taking on the position of track coach. BHS Athletic Director,
22 Rick Acquilano, gave a handout summarizing his athletic program. He stated that the
23 program had an increase in participation this year. There are currently 43 students that
24 compete in three sports in the year. There are challenges in the program which is the lack
25 of a weight room facility at the school. He stated that he hopes there will be some
26 donations from local exercise clubs that may update their own facilities. A weight room
27 would help athletes to be able to get in top form. Another challenge is the lack of
28 parental support for disciplining student athletes. Also, finding quality coaches is
29 becoming more and more difficult. Roy Roberts observed that the percentage of students
30 involved in sports at BHS is low. It could be due to the students choosing to work and
31 have cars rather than play sports. Other towns may not have this same problem.
32

33 *At 8:20pm, Bill Hart adjourned the meeting, accompanied by a motion by Pret Tuthill,*
34 *and by unanimous roll call vote (5-yeah, 0-nay), entered into non-public session, in*
35 *accordance with RSA 91-3:II(a)(b)(c).*
36

37 Respectfully Submitted,
38

39
40 Stacy Kruger
41 School District Clerk
42
43
44
45