

1 **Shaker Regional School Board**
2 **Meeting Minutes**
3 **January 21, 2010**
4

5 IN ATTENDANCE:

6 **School Board:** Chairperson Diane O'Hara; Pret Tuthill, Sean Embree, Sumner Dole,
7 Tom Goulette

8 **Regrets:** Heidi Hutchinson, Roy Roberts

9 **Administration:** Superintendent Mike Cozort; Business Administrator Debbie Gay
10

11 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

12 School Board Chairman, Diane O'Hara, called the meeting to order at 6:05pm.
13

14 MINUTES OF PERVIOUS MEETINGS:

15 The School Board Minutes from January 14, 2010 are in draft form, but not yet reviewed
16 by the Chair.
17

18 OLD BUSINESS:

19 **Budget Development:** Mike informed the Board that the 2010-2011 Budget needs to
20 include \$39,000.00 for an out-of-district, court ordered placement of a Special Education
21 student. The Administration met today to transfer \$39,000.00 from a few other places in
22 the budget to offset this placement. The handout was distributed to the Board reflecting
23 these transfers. Because the district is aware of the placement for this student before the
24 budget year is underway, money can't be used from the Expendable Trust Fund designed
25 for this purpose. Pret asked the size of the classes for next year and if there was a need to
26 move some teachers into different schools within the District. We do not have a larger
27 class moving to the high school this year. We will need to move the number of teachers
28 in each grade level at the middle school, but the present number of teachers will remain at
29 20.
30

31 Sumner Dole requested an action on the recent changes in the 2010-2011 proposed
32 budget.
33

34 ***A motion was made by Tom Goulette, and seconded by Pret Tuthill, to recommend the***
35 ***adoption of the 2010-2011 Budget to include a 1.36% increase, which is a \$239,871.00***
36 ***increase. This motion will incorporate changes made tonight.***
37

38 Tom Goulette stated that the 1.36% increase is not inappropriate, but that the
39 corresponding tax rate (combined local and state) of 8.12% in Belmont and 10.55% may
40 draw public concern at the district meeting, particularly in this current economy.
41

42 Debbie Gay distributed a draft of the Budget Hearing Power Point to the Board for
43 review. There was some discussion on each slide and some changes made. Tom thought
44 it would be a good idea for one of the slides to show the legislative unfunded mandates,
45 such as the change of the dropout age to 18 instead of 16 and the impact on the taxpayers.

1 Pret felt that the public may be tired of hearing the district complain about these
2 mandates.

3
4 Mike suggested that it is particularly important to include a slide explaining the cause for
5 the high Fund Balance. He pointed out that the School District cannot carry any fund
6 balance over to the next year, like a town can. Such monies must be returned to offset
7 taxes.

8
9 Sumner indicated that he would be in touch with the Board members to inform them of
10 the budget functions and warrant article they will be presenting. The Finance Committee
11 will be meeting on Monday at 4pm to finalize the Expendable Trust order and numbers.

12
13 Pret asked when the 2010-2011 Budget booklet will be available to the Board. Debbie
14 stated that Sumner will review the book at the beginning of the week and then the Board
15 can review it. The Budget Booklet will need to be available to the public by January 26,
16 2010, before the Public Hearing.

17
18 *A motion was made by Tom Goulette, and seconded by Pret Tuthill, to recommend the*
19 *adoption of the 2010-2011 operational budget of \$17,833,701.00, which represents an*
20 *increase of \$239,871.00 or a 1.36% increase. The motion passed unanimously (4-0*
21 *vote).*

22
23 The next School Board meeting will be Wednesday, February 3, 2010, following the
24 Public Hearing. A tentative Board meeting is set for February 8, 2010 at 6:00pm.,
25 depending on the feedback at the Public Hearings. There will be no Board meeting on
26 Thursday, February 11, 2010.

27
28 **NEW BUSINESS:**

29 *Prep for Public Hearings:*

30 Sumner stated that he will go through the booklet and appoint members to the functions.

31
32 **ADJOURNMENT:**

33 *At 7:20pm, Diane O'Hara adjourned the Shaker Regional School Board meeting,*
34 *accompanied by a motion from Pret Tuthill, seconded by Sumner Dole, and by*
35 *unanimous roll call vote (4yeah, 0-nay), entered into non-public session, in accordance*
36 *with RSA91-3:II(a)(b)(c).*

37
38 Respectfully Submitted,

39
40
41 Stacy S. Kruger
42 School District Clerk