

1 **SHAKER REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**
2 **School Board Meeting Minutes**
3 **February 3, 2010**
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5

6 IN ATTENDANCE:

7 **School Board:** Chairman: Diane O’Hara; Roy Roberts, Sumner Dole, Pret Tuthill, Tom
8 Goulette, Sean Embree, Heidi Hutchinson

9 **Administration:** Superintendent: Mike Cozort; Business Administrator: Debbie Gay;
10 Director of Special Education: Tonyel Mitchell-Berry; Director of Buildings & Grounds:
11 Doug Ellis; Director of Technology: Jon White; Principals: Mary Morrison, Emily Spear,
12 Aaron Pope, Russ Holden

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14 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

15 Chairman Diane O’Hara called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
16

17 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

18 The January 14, 2010 minutes and the January 21, 2010 meeting minutes were accepted
19 as presented.
20

21 OLD BUSINESS

22 **Budget Development:** It was stated that the Board needs to be prepared to explain why
23 there are several trust funds. Roy asked if there were any expendable trust funds that
24 could be combined. Sumner stated that the nature of the trust funds is to be very specific.
25 There was some discussion about consolidating the Energy & Maintenance Articles into
26 one. Pret stated that if it is one large article of \$125,000.00 the public may say no and
27 both will not pass. These funds need to be very specific on how they are going to be
28 spent.
29

30 When the Articles are combined, the wording would have to be changed so that the
31 money would be distributed in the correct priority. Sumner suggested that the money
32 should go into a large sum and be spent how the Board feels appropriate. Tom and Heidi
33 felt there should be specific amts for each. Roy questioned if the Board is setting itself
34 up for failure by combining both the energy and facilities and grounds articles. Debbie
35 Gay added that there is a construction cost involved if the Board were to consider
36 switching to pellet heating and that can’t be done if the two Warrant Articles were
37 combined.
38

39 ***A motion was made by Sumner Dole, and seconded by Tom Goulette, to combine***
40 ***Article VIII Energy Conservation Upgrades and Article VII, Facilities & Grounds***
41 ***Maintenance. The motion failed with a 0-6 vote.***
42

43 Diane O’Hara stated that the warrant articles are to remain as previously discussed.
44

45 Roy explained that the budget includes a \$7,000.00 cut in coaches, which is to combine
46 Cross-country and Alpine skiing and to delete one assistant coach for outside track. Also,

1 it includes cutting \$8,250.00 at the middle school level. This is to cut one basketball
2 coach and one soccer coach. Pret stated that the Cross-country ski program spreads out
3 over quite a distance and their safety is covered due to parent volunteers. Roy is
4 concerned with the ratio of athletes to coaches. Tom Goulette stated that they are not
5 talking about eliminating these programs, they are looking for volunteers to help
6 maintain. The number one responsibility is the classroom academics. The Board has
7 made their decision and we shouldn't go back on that. Mike stated that we can cut back in
8 these programs and not lose these programs.

9
10 Tom Goulette would not recommend changing the budget's bottom line for sports. It was
11 suggested to look to see where more cuts can be made throughout the budget. Diane
12 asked to think back to the original rationale for adding the assistant track coach. Mike
13 stated that it was based on the number of participants, which had gone over 50 students
14 this year. Diane stated that the finance committee was presented with cutting coaches
15 from the small, under enrolled sports, not the large sports. She feels that 50 students on
16 the track team is a large sport.

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18 Sumner discussed options to keep the final budget number and have the Administration
19 go back and take money out of different areas in the budget. It is always possible to
20 adjust cuts from one area to another. It was asked if the Board was going to continue
21 with three coaches in track and cross-country and cut money from somewhere else in the
22 budget. Mike stated that Administration can go back into the budget and find money
23 somewhere else, if that is what the Board wants to do. Mike also stated that the need for
24 coaches can be assessed at the beginning of each season for safety reasons. Each year
25 there is a different number enrolled in the sports.

26
27 NEW BUSINESS

28 *Adopt budget for 2010-2011:*

29 ***A motion was made by Sumner Dole, and seconded by Pret Tuthill, to pass the 2010-***
30 ***2011 budget of \$19,468,935.00 which is a 2.31% increase over the 2009-2010 year. All***
31 ***in favor. The motion passed with a 6-0 vote.***

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33 ***A motion was made by Pret Tuthill, and seconded by Roy Roberts to bring the balance***
34 ***of the Warrant Articles as presented at the Public Hearing. The motion passed with a***
35 ***unanimous vote.***

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37 ***A motion was made by Pret Tuthill, and seconded by Roy Roberts, to expend up to***
38 ***\$250,000.00 from the schools Buildings & Grounds Expendable Trust. The motion***
39 ***passed with a unanimous vote.***

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41 *On the Horizon:* There will not be a Board meeting on Monday, February 8, 2010. The
42 next meeting will be held on February 18, 6:00pm at CES. On the upcoming agenda the
43 NECAP Results are scheduled and a report on the Virtual Learning Academy.

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45 ADJOURNMENT

46 ***At 7:50pm Diane O'Hara adjourned the Shaker Regional School Board meeting.***

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Respectfully Submitted,
Stacy S. Kruger
School Board Clerk