

1 **Shaker Regional School Board**
2 **Meeting Minutes**
3 **January 27, 2011**
4

5 IN ATTENDANCE

6 **School Board:** Chairman: Diane O’Hara, Sean Embree, Gretta Olson-Wilder, Tom
7 Goulette, Sumner Dole, Pret Tuthill, Heidi Hutchinson(6:10pm); BMS Student
8 Representative: Andrew Bragg

9 **Administration:** Superintendent: Mark Blount; Business Administrator: Debbie Gay;
10 Director of Student Services: Tonyel Mitchell-Berry; Director of Buildings and Grounds:
11 Doug Ellis; Curriculum Coordinator: Shannon Bartlett; Director of Technology: Jon
12 White; Principals: Russ Holden, Aaron Pope, Emily Spear, Mary Morrison

13 **Guests:** Virginia Barry, Nick Coates
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15 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

16 Chairman, Diane O’Hara called the meeting to order at 6:02pm
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18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

19 *Expendable Trust Fund Minutes:* January 13, 2011 Public Hearing Meeting Minutes were
20 accepted as presented.

21 *January 13, 2011 Meeting Minutes:* The minutes were accepted with some changes
22 suggested by the Board.
23

24 OLD BUSINESS

25 *Policy EBBB – Indoor Air Quality – 2nd reading:* The first reading of this policy was on
26 January 13, 2011. Mark Blount presented the revised policy to the Board for approval.
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28 ***A motion was made by Sumner Dole, and seconded by Pret Tuthill, to accept policy***
29 ***EBBD “Indoor Air Quality”, as presented to the Board on January 27, 2011. The***
30 ***motion passed unanimously.***
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32 *Curriculum Mapping Update:* Shannon Bartlett gave a power point presentation on the
33 status of Curriculum Mapping in our District. This process clearly articulates the core
34 curriculum benchmark assessments. The staff was trained last year and they have worked
35 with core maps. They have been looking at common core standards. The Board is still
36 trying to understand how the curriculum mapping will benefit the advanced students,
37 average students and the students in the Special Education programs. Shannon explained
38 that it will be very helpful for the teachers to see what all other class rooms are doing.
39 This will enable teachers to tie their curriculums together at all levels. Jim White talked
40 about the progress of the social studies curriculum mapping. Wanda White was very
41 excited about a recent workshop that she had attended on curriculum mapping and shared
42 with the Board where the language arts department is with this program. Amanda
43 DeGange talked about the progress of her curriculum mapping in the science department.
44 She gave their expectations for the end of this year. Mark Blount thanked both Shannon
45 Bartlett and the teachers for their time and effort with this program. Mr. Blount
46 explained that curriculum mapping is important to ensure curriculum consistency both

1 vertically K-12 and horizontally across grade levels. Coupled with strong publisher
2 programs and resources, professional development, and common assessments have
3 proven to show student growth among all students.

4
5 *Budget Development/Public Hearing Book:* Sumner Dole went through the proposed
6 Warrant Articles. Article V is to ask the public to discontinue the Land Purchase Capital
7 Reserve Fund and place \$25,000 in the unreserved fund balance. Article VI is to create a
8 new Capital Reserve Fund with \$25,000 to be placed in this fund from the unreserved
9 fund balance. What the Board is doing is eliminating the land purchase reserve fund and
10 creating 2 in its place. Sumner stated that if Articles VI and VII fail, the Board will go to
11 Article VIII, which means the money will come from tax dollars and it will put the
12 budget at a 2 ½% increase. Article IX and Article X were discussed and explained as
13 well.

14
15 Article XI is to establish an unreserved, revolving fund used from donations to
16 athletic/co-curricular programs. The \$1,000.00 in the article is used to establish the
17 account. Mr. Blount explained that this article is being recommended to allow
18 individuals or organizations to donate money to athletic/co-curricular programs. The
19 district will keep track of each donation and what the money is specifically donated for,
20 such as supporting the high school varsity girl's basketball team. There will be a Board
21 committee established to manage the funds in this account, consisting of Board members,
22 Athletic Directors and Administration. A district letter would be sent to the donor, for tax
23 purposes. Pret stated that a policy should be written for guidelines of that fund. There
24 should be a draft of a policy ready for the public hearings in February. This policy is also
25 written to have guidelines for the "pay to play" fees.

26
27 "*On the Horizon*": Mr. Blount recapped the February 10th agenda, which is very lengthy.
28 He stated that the NECAP results will have a public release on Monday January 31, 2011
29 by the NHDOE. The Fee Based Community Computer Classes will be on the agenda for
30 consideration.

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32 NEW BUSINESS:

33 *Nick Coates – Central NH Regional Planning Commission:*

34 *Safe Routes to School:* Nick Coates introduced himself and Dave Jeffers from the Lakes
35 Region Planning Commission. The Safe Routes to Schools is not placing side walks, it is
36 to promote healthy life styles with physical activities, social aspects and to develop a
37 sense of community. They also help in receiving federal money through grants. Mr.
38 Coates stated that they work in bringing together a diverse group of people to address
39 issues in communities. The LR Planning commission is a resource to be used if a
40 community wants to move forward in the phases of a grant program. They will assist in
41 the planning, guide some discussions and recognize some of the road blocks and help
42 with moving things along. They will help to get children in Kindergarten through 8th
43 grade out on their bikes or walking. They will also assist in the grant writing. The grants
44 range from a start up of \$5,000 to an infrastructure grant of \$250,000.00. Safe Routes to
45 Schools is currently working with Canterbury. They would like to see an interest in

1 Belmont as well. They would like to have the support of the School Board and would
2 like to return to the Board to give updates of progress.

3
4 *Commissioner Virginia Barry, NHDOE*

5 *Legislative Update and State Education in NH:* Virginia Barry thanked the Board for
6 inviting her and stated that this is the first Board meeting she has been invited to. She
7 said that the School Boards are the most important groups for the education of the
8 students. She shared that it is a difficult time with the HB 39 in place, which is a
9 reflection of the new legislatures. The Department of Education is not the one that is
10 making these decisions. Her department puts curriculum first to support the students.
11 They feel that Art, Music and Technology are very important in education. She is glad to
12 see that our district has a Gifted and Talented program.

13
14 Mrs. Barry stated that Federal money and private money is very important, especially at
15 this time, to keep our schools open. The Gates Foundation is one avenue to receive
16 money for education. Last year, this foundation awarded 15 million to education in the
17 state of Massachusetts. New Hampshire does not have accountability in place to measure
18 students and teachers progress, so that we can apply for this money. Currently, the state
19 is working on this. Unfortunately, in the State of NH, education is very negative because
20 most of the funds are based on property tax. The School Boards need to work closely
21 with the teachers. Teachers and Administrative salaries have been lagging behind. It is
22 important that these positions are not just money driven. It shows that teachers are
23 committed to giving students a good education. There are different ways to get money
24 for our schools. The NH Department of Education is 76% federally funded. Mrs. Barry
25 said that education throughout New Hampshire needs to become unified, so that if a
26 student moves from town to town during their education, they are not missing important
27 topics in their education. Also, having a “move on when ready” procedure in place,
28 could save school districts quite a bit of money. This would allow students to graduate
29 when they are ready. Currently, our Legislators lack the knowledge of what the schools
30 and teachers face every day. Mrs. Barry said that her department has a lot of material
31 available to them, to help them understand the states’ education better. Unfortunately,
32 people only come to her department occasionally, when something is needed. The Board
33 and the Administration thanked Virginia Barry for taking the time to meet with them.

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35 *Other:* Belmont Middle School’s Gifted and Talented teacher, Laura Dwyer, introduced
36 her Future City Engineering Group. Last Saturday, they went to the Regional
37 Competition at North Eastern University in Boston, Massachusetts. The five students are
38 Eric Osgood, Karl Wieck, Paige Norkiewicz, Casey Akerman and Malia Lundahl. They
39 talked about their projects. They competed against 12 other schools and won the
40 competition. Now, they have been invited to Washington DC to compete at the next
41 level. It is an all expense paid trip for the team. They are very excited. The Board was
42 very impressed and said that this is also a great way to prepare them for the engineering
43 classes at the high school. The Board congratulated the students and Mrs. Dwyer on their
44 win. Mr. Blount recommended that the Board approve the trip to Washington DC.

1 *A motion was made by Tom Goulette, and seconded by Sumner Dole, to support, with*
2 *the recommendation of Administration, a trip to Washington DC for the Future City*
3 *Engineering Group, led by Mrs. Dwyer. The motion passed unanimously.*

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5 ADJOURNMENT:

6 *At 8:35pm, Diane O'Hara adjourned the meeting.*

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8 Respectfully Submitted,

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11 Stacy S. Kruger

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