

1 **Shaker Regional School Board**  
2 **Meeting Minutes**  
3 **March 10, 2011**  
4

5 IN ATTENDANCE

6 **School Board:** Chairman: Diane O’Hara, Sean Embree, Gretta Olson-Wilder, Tom  
7 Goulette (*excused at 7:40pm*), Sumner Dole, Heidi Hutchinson; BHS Student  
8 Representative: Steven Farkas; BMS Student Representative: Andrew Bragg

9 **Excused:** Pret Tuthill

10 **Administration:** Superintendent: Mark Blount; Business Administrator: Debbie Gay;  
11 Director of Student Services: Tonyel Mitchell-Berry; Director of Buildings and Grounds:  
12 Doug Ellis; Curriculum Coordinator: Shannon Bartlett; Principals: Russ Holden, Aaron  
13 Pope, Emily Spear, Mary Morrison  
14

15 CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

16 Chairman, Diane O’Hara called the meeting to order at 6:04pm  
17

18 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

19 *February 15, 2011 Budget Hearing Minutes:* The minutes were accepted as presented.

20 *February 16, 2011 Budget Hearing Minutes:* The minutes were accepted, with a name  
21 correction on page 2 line 25.

22 *February 16, 2011 School Board Meeting Minutes:* The minutes were accepted as  
23 presented.

24 *February 24, 2011 School Board Meeting Minutes:* The minutes were accepted as  
25 presented.  
26

27 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

28 Nothing to report.  
29

30 FINANCIAL REPORT

31 *Monthly Financial Report:* This month’s report was included in the packet. There were  
32 no transfers this month.  
33

34 REPORTS

35 *Student Representative Reports: Andrew Bragg, BMS:* He stated that the Winter Carnival  
36 went well, before vacation. He also added that the NJHS Induction Ceremony went well  
37 on Tuesday night. Included on the back of his report is an explanation of the “We the  
38 People: Project Citizen Student Ambassadors Program”. This will be an upcoming field  
39 trip, the itinerary is included.  
40

41 *Student Representative Reports: Steven Farkas, BHS:* He said that the Band trip’s annual  
42 fund raiser has just been turned in. The musical tryouts have just ended, and the practices  
43 have started.  
44

45 *Administration:* Aaron Pope, from BMS, explained to the Board that he met with Sue  
46 Gilman and Barbara DiRoma from our Food Service Department. They met at “Food for

1 Thought” located at the Mill in Belmont. They are going to be working on serving a  
2 variety of different foods to our students.

3  
4 Mary Morrison, from CES, stated that they recently had the Young Inventors presentation  
5 and she has three students going to the finals at Merrimack Valley HS. Emily Spear,  
6 from BES, also has three students going to the finals. She also added that the Student  
7 Council raised \$1,200.00 with the Pennies for Patients program.

8  
9 Russ Holden, from BHS, shared that 90% of the students at BHS took the YRBS  
10 yesterday. These students have participated in the Challenge program in 6<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>  
11 grade, so they are anxious to see if the results have changed.

12  
13 *Superintendent of Schools:*

14 *Monthly Report:* This report was included in the packet.

15 Mark Blount extended an invitation to the School Board, to join him for a luncheon at the  
16 BMS library, hosted by the school district on March 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:45am.

17  
18 Mr. Blount met with both the fire chief and the police chief to review the Emergency  
19 Management Plans. They want the plans more standard throughout the schools. There  
20 will be a committee to work together on this.

21  
22 *School Board Members:* Diane O’Hara stated that she had spent the afternoon in Concord  
23 regarding the Governor’s proposed budget. She and a lot of other people were speaking  
24 against the budget. There are entire programs being eliminated for families with  
25 disabilities and mental health. The students that will be turning 21 will be put on a  
26 waiting list for assistance. There are about 400 students turning 21 that will be without  
27 support.

28  
29 OLD BUSINESS

30 *Final Preparation for District Meeting – Roy Roberts:* Mr. Roberts went over how he  
31 plans to run the district meeting as Moderator. There was some discussion regarding how  
32 the budget questions will be addressed and who will be answering them. Mr. Roberts also  
33 discussed the procedure for voting on the budget, if done by ballot vote. Mr. Dole and  
34 the Board went through who was going to handle each Warrant Article. There was  
35 discussion about which board member will recognize each retiree and the awards. There  
36 was also discussion as to when the recognitions and awards will be presented.

37  
38 *Internal Policy Committee:*

39 *JFABD – Admission of Homeless Students – Amended:* Mr. Blount thanked Tonyel &  
40 Mary for working with the committee to make the amendments to this policy. There  
41 were minor word changes throughout the policy. The changes are in bold.

42 The question was asked that if a homeless family is placed out of town, who is  
43 responsible for transporting the student to school. It is up to the district to reimburse the  
44 family for the gas or to provide the transportation.

1 ***A motion was made by Tom Goulette, and seconded by Sumner Dole to accept policy***  
2 ***JFABD – Admission of Homeless Students, as presented on March 10, 2011. The***  
3 ***motion passed unanimously.***  
4

5 *JKAA – Use of Restraints – Amended:* Mr. Blount stated that this policy had been adopted  
6 in December 2010, and it was recently reviewed by Attorneys Upton & Hatfield. It was  
7 suggested to be changed quite a bit. The items that are to be omitted have been crossed  
8 out. There was discussion about the employees that have been trained on restraining and  
9 those that have not, also how this policy affects the School Resource Officer. This policy  
10 has been tabled until Primex Insurance is consulted regarding the protection of employees  
11 when restraining students.  
12

13 *BDDA – Emergency Superintendent Succession – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:* Mr. Blount stated this  
14 policy is presented for a second reading. The committee liked that there are two  
15 administrators being named to assume responsibility of the superintendent if he was  
16 absent for more than three days. There was some discussion on the appointing of two  
17 administrators to fill in if the superintendent were absent. There are some items for the  
18 committee to work on with this policy. It will be presented to the board for a third  
19 reading at a later date.  
20

21 *On the Horizon:* Mr. Blount recapped the agenda items for the March 24<sup>th</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup>  
22 meetings. Mrs. Olson-Wilder asked what schools will be participating in the Summer  
23 Enrichment Programs. It was explained that there are a few from each school being  
24 presented to the Board. Mrs. O’Hara asked for an explanation of the Art from Heart  
25 Program. Mr. Blount stated that it is a “lend, lease” program, which means that a local  
26 business can pay a fee to have a piece of matted and framed artwork from the high  
27 school. They can hang it in their local business for a year and then return it to the school.  
28

29 *Other:* Mr. Blount said there was an Administrative Team meeting today and there was a  
30 discussion on the snow days and the graduation date. The original graduation date on the  
31 calendar is scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup>. We have had four snow days, so the high school  
32 students need to make up three of those days to graduate on that date. There are several  
33 options. If graduation is scheduled for the next week it falls into Bike Week. There was  
34 some discussion about not having a graduation date set on future calendars. The day  
35 would be announced as the end of the year approaches. The Board was asked to approve  
36 March 24 as an instructional day for students in place of the Teacher Workshop day that  
37 was previously scheduled. The seniors will need to have one or two days of community  
38 cleanup with the towns of Belmont or Canterbury. They also have the option of holding  
39 a Career Day on a Saturday.  
40

41 ***A motion was made by Sumner Dole, and seconded by Heidi Hutchinson, to have***  
42 ***Friday, March 25, 2011 as an instructional day for students and to hold BHS***  
43 ***Graduation on Friday, June 10, 2011. The motion passed unanimously.***  
44  
45

46 NEW BUSINESS

1 *Report on Laconia Alternative School (Jim Carmody/James Miller):* The Laconia  
2 Alternative School has recently moved to a new location off of Canal St. in downtown  
3 Laconia. They currently have 30 students enrolled. They have brought in students from  
4 three other districts. There are six from Belmont; they may be taking one more. In 2009-  
5 2010 seven students completed the program. The program is looking into having some  
6 after school activities offered and getting into partnerships with outside businesses to help  
7 with these programs. Their largest support is from Piches. They have a skiing and a  
8 mountain biking program in place. They would like to start a road biking program. They  
9 have increased their technology; they have added a few lap tops. The gender ratio  
10 fluctuates in the program. Currently, there are 6 girls enrolled in the program. A couple  
11 of years ago it was 15 girls and 13 boys. The students need and receive consistency in  
12 helping them become successful in this program. There are weekly reports given to  
13 parents. The teachers also make phone calls to parents and have some conferences. The  
14 students do have other options in their education. They can attend the evening Adult  
15 Education program at Laconia High School or they can take the GED program.

16  
17 *Shaker Regional Curriculum Council C2 – Shannon Bartlett:* Mrs. Bartlett presented the  
18 New Curriculum Structure to the Board. She explained that she meets with the  
19 Curriculum Chairman monthly and then the Chairman of each subject meets with the  
20 teachers in that area. This new structure will mean greater curricular alignment K-12,  
21 greater communication K-12, greater collaboration between grade-levels and schools,  
22 smoother transitions between buildings and greater consistency in content and delivery of  
23 instruction (district-wide). The curriculum chairs will be meeting more often in this new  
24 process. Mrs. Bartlett gave a full overview of this new structure and included a packet  
25 for the Board to review. Mr. Blount thanked Mrs. Bartlett for all of her hard work on this  
26 new structure.

27  
28 *Internal Policy Committee*

29 *KCD – Public Gifts/Donation – First Reading:* Mr. Blount explained to the Board that  
30 the committee met on two consecutive Mondays to work on this policy. The wording has  
31 been changed in several sections. The old wording is crossed out and the new wording is  
32 in bold. Page 2, line 15 it was suggested to have the Principals and Assistant Principals  
33 added to the wording. This policy is going back to the committee for more changes.

34  
35 *Student Activity Fee Discussion:* The committee is looking for direction from the Board  
36 as to how they would like the policy constructed. It was asked if they want it written as a  
37 general activity fee or a pay to play fee. There was some discussion as to having two  
38 policies, one for co-curricular activities and one for athletics. Mr. Dole suggested having  
39 some research done for the cost of each sport or for each activity. It was suggested to  
40 have a committee do some research on the different fees that other schools are paying out  
41 of these funds and to get back to the Board.

42  
43 *Enrollment Monthly Report:* This was included in the packet for information only. Mr.  
44 Blount went over the enrollment numbers.

45 *Other:* Mr. Blount informed the Board that the financial uncertainty at the State level can  
46 impact the school budget tremendously. If the state funding for the NH Retirement, of

1 25%, is cut to zero it will affect the budget by \$306,000.00 and if the Catastrophic Aid  
2 and Building Aid decreases it will affect the budget by \$201,000.000.

3  
4 ADJOURNMENT

5 *At 8:15pm, Diane O'Hara adjourned the meeting, accompanied by a motion from*  
6 *Sumner Dole, and seconded by Sean Embree, and by unanimous roll call vote to enter*  
7 *into non-public session, in accordance with RSA 91-3:II(b).*

8  
9 Respectfully Submitted,

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11  
12 Stacy S. Kruger  
13 School District Clerk  
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