

To be voted by the Newington School Board at its next scheduled meeting.

**NEWINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT
NEWINGTON, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

The Newington School Board met in a special session on Tuesday, January 8, 2008, at 9:00 a.m. at the SAU 50 Office, 48 Post Road, Greenland, New Hampshire.

PRESENT:

School Board Members: Helen Maldini, Chairperson
Deirdre Link
Jack Anderson

Administrators: Dr. George A. Cushing, Superintendent
Mary Lyons, Director of Pupil Services
Jim Katkin, Business Administrator
Helen Rist, Principal of Newington Public School

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Maldini opened the meeting at 9:07 a.m. and asked Mr. Katkin to review the proposed 2008-2009 budget.

Mr. Katkin informed the Board that based on the projected enrollment three year weighted average, the population appears to have bottomed out and is now on the rise which will continue for the next five years. This is based on live births and a projection formula.

Mr. Katkin pointed out that the operating budget is up only 0.21% overall. The elementary budget is up 1.68%. Based on the proposed budget the estimated increase on the tax rate is \$0.13.

The Board reviewed the Newington support personnel salary line. Mrs. Maldini explained that the line for Mrs. Calcagni relative to the after school enrichment program is paid by fees. The same would be for Kenny whose hourly rate is paid through after school enrichment program fees.

A recommendation was made by Mrs. Lyons to increase Van Gsottschneider's position to \$35.00 an hour, which is on the lower end of the going rate for an ESOL position.

The 2008-2009 Portsmouth High School projected tuition rate is up \$1,439.00 over last year's rate.

Mrs. Maldini asked Mrs. Rist if optional extended day kindergarten will still be available next year using the same utilization of staff and therefore no charge to those parents of Newington kindergarten students who chose to access this option. Mrs. Rist assured the Board that she will be able to staff the optional program with existing staff.

Mr. Anderson asked a question about technology line 2225-532 which zero's out the technology hardware and software support.

Mr. Katkin answered that he and Mrs. Rist felt that they had sufficient money under line 2225-340 (technology contracted services) and saw no need to keep line 2224-532 active.

Mr. Anderson asked about the 1270-641 Enrichment Department account and asked where the stipend could be found in the budget for Mrs. Brown. Ms. Rist answered that the position has been funded through the REAP grant.

Mr. Katkin asked for Board votes expanding the physical education teacher from 10% to 20%. Mrs. Rist supported her request by explaining that recesses have been cut back. The physical education teacher needs to do body mass index charts on each student as a requirement of the wellness policy. Mrs. Maldini asked what would be lost in the day if the additional time was added. Mrs. Rist said the time currently is time that she would be with the kids doing enrichment activities. In effect they would not lose any core class time.

On the recommendation of Superintendent Cushing, the Board discussed increasing the Board salary account.

The following are the actions taken as a result of the Board's review of the budget:

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Link, the Board approved increasing the physical education teacher position from 10% to 20%. Vote: Unanimous.

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Link, the Board voted to approve an additional \$3,450 in the Board salary account. Vote: Unanimous.

On a motion by Mrs. Link, seconded by Mr. Anderson, Van Gsottshneider's hourly salary was increased to \$35.00. Vote: Unanimous.

On a motion by Mr. Anderson, seconded by Mrs. Link, a 3.25% salary increase for Newington Classified employees was presented. It was decided to table the motion until tonight's meeting.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business, and upon motion duly made and roll call of officers it was agreed to adjourn at 11:40 a.m.

Secretary