

**OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS
Peterborough, New Hampshire**

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

**Tuesday, February 6, 2007
SAU Office**

6:00 p.m.

Communications Sub-Committee

MINUTES

Attendees: Stewart Brock, Craig Hicks, Ray Cote, Bart Goodeve, Tom Welden,
Butch Estey, Keith Burke, Marian Alese, Bill McKinnon

Stewart Brock called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

1. Approval of Minutes from 10/17

Stewart said that the minutes from this meeting were approved at a previous meeting.

2. Budget Communication

Stewart added that Craig Hicks sent out a copy of Draft V5 (see attachment #1), which is a communication to the public about the budget, by email earlier today. A copy of Draft V4 was included for comparison purposes. Stewart wanted to work off of this document (Draft V5).

From a communication point, Stewart asked if we were comfortable with distributing Draft V5 to the newspapers and throughout the community. It would be made available in public areas.

Keith Burke asked where there was a shortfall of approximately \$400,000 as stated in the first bullet of the first attachment.

Marian Alese said that the shortfall came in adequacy money. We were told one thing but received another. Keith said that the formula was changed which resulted in the difference, therefore, it is not actually a shortfall.

Keith asked about the \$50 million to comply with unfunded mandates.

Marian said that it was for special education. Craig Hicks said that if you add up all of the twelve years of special education it totals \$50 million. Stewart said that we could better state it by saying that over the past ten years our district has spent millions of dollars complying with unfunded mandates.

Keith asked if the bullet stating that employee compensation increased over one million dollars was for a term of one year. One year was confirmed.

The last sentence stating "While a town's decision to foster or inhibit growth is an individual one, it can have a profound impact on their ability to meet their school funding obligations." was stricken from the document.

Stewart said that the sentence preceding that statement should also be stricken from the document.

Bart said that he did not feel that the School Board has any business telling town's how to manage their growth. We are trying to make a statement based on this year's budget. Keith said that in the first paragraph, the fifth sentence should read "local equalized" value as opposed to "local assessed" value.

Stewart asked if there were any other edits.

Stewart said that he had one other communication piece to discuss.

He said that he would like to find a way to further communicate what communication stream we want about the Superintendent search. Keith said that the survey about the Superintendent search is on-line now.

Stewart said that we will make it clear that it is available at District Meeting.

Tom Welden referred to a letter to our Legislators both State and Federal (see attachment # 2). Tom said that the intent was to have this letter written as well as have something available at voting for community members to sign.

Keith said that we have to be careful about commitments made. The people in positions have not been in long enough to make commitments. It was agreed that edits would be made and the letter would be re-distributed.

Keith provided Stewart with samples that have been sent out between District Meeting and the vote in prior years.

Stewart will email the copy Keith provided to Board members.

Meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda L. Marschok