

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

CONTOOCOOK VALLEY SCHOOL BOARD

Tuesday, January 18, 2005

**Budget Hearing
ConVal High School - Lucy Hurlin Theater
7 p.m.**

**Board Meeting
Immediately Following Budget Hearing**

MINUTES

Board

Joe MacGregor, Chair
Tom Welden, Andy Paul
Dan Harper, Bill McKinnon
Hope Hunt, Nan Fornal
Craig Hicks, Christy Greene
Ken Young, Gail Cromwell
Butch Estey

Administration

Keith Burke, Supt
Paul Bartolomucci, Asst
Marian Alese, Bus Adm
Sue Copley, PES
Dick Dunning, SMS
Deb Lesure, AES
Linda Potter, SpEd
Deb Boudreau, GBS
Gib West, CVHS
Sue Dell, CVHS
Niki McGettigan, TES
Chet Bowles, CVHS
Rick Nannicelli, GBS
Jon Ingram, CVHS
MaryEllen Stanley, FES
Deb Coyne, CVHS

Public Hearing

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Budget & Property Chair, Tom Welden, called the meeting to order at 7:05 noting that there will be an additional Board meeting on January 25 to finalize the budget. The Pledge to the flag followed.

New CVEA Master Agreement

The new agreement that was ratified by both the teachers and the Board on January 11 is for 3 years. The total amount needed for next year is \$661,558, which represents both salaries and benefits. This amount includes a 3.5% increase for paraprofessionals and an average increase of 2% for teachers. In addition, the new agreement represents a change in the base health plan that the District will be funding. The change is from 80% of the Anthem Comp 100 plan to 100% of the Anthem HMO, which has a higher deductible and results in a savings in premiums to the District. Employees may also opt to refuse insurance and receive a payment equal to 25% of this premium, but this option requires minimum participation. Both parties will continue to review carrier options. Staff development funding will increase by \$5/person in each of the last 2 years.

Benefits for new staff members that work less than full time will be prorated. There is also an agreement to develop a process for teacher recognition awards not to exceed \$15,000 annually.

Administrators' Agreement

The Board has also reached a one-year agreement with the administrators. Total cost for this agreement is \$39,000, and includes a 5% increase on the total salaries and an increase of \$100,000 in life insurance. Discussion began regarding administrator evaluations (done by the Superintendent).

Proposed 2005 – 2006 Budget Summary

Tom Welden reviewed the budget summaries for the proposed 2005 – 2006 budget. Increases over 2004 – 2005 are primarily the result of increases in special education tuition costs and health insurance. Other increases are for the bus contract, maintenance items and equipment. Discussion. It was noted that the estimated revenues show an increase in adequacy grants, however, we do not have final numbers from the State yet. If the State does not fund adequacy grants as anticipated, the difference must be made up in the local rate. Tom Welden noted that this budget does not include the new agreement with the teachers.

Discussion began regarding the default budget summary – what is added and subtracted from the prior year's budget. This proposed budget is still being reviewed, and all are looking at possible reductions to reach the default amount. These are not recommendations, however. It was noted that as part of the article for the budget, wording exists (in accordance to RSA 40:13, X and XVI) to allow for one special meeting to be held to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Discussion began regarding concerns over possible cuts to the proposed budget (larger class sizes, loss of middle school co-curricular programs, etc.) Mr. Joseph Brennan (Peterborough) asked that charts be included in the deliberative session to make the information clearer. Further discussion.

Adjournment

Motion and second to adjourn Public Hearing on the proposed budget for 2005 – 2006 at 8:45.

School Board Meeting

1. Joe MacGregor called the meeting to order at 8:52, and asked for a brief recess for the Board to meet with counsel.

Reconvene

The meeting was reconvened at 9:30.

2. Minutes (Board Vote Required)

- a. **December 21, 2004**

- b. **January 11, 2005**

Motion to accept as amended (Page 2, item 14; Date is 2005) by Andy Paul and second by Tom Welden. Unanimous.

3. Superintendent's Report and Presentation of Business

a. Field Trip Proposal (Board Vote Required)

1. ConVal High School Senior Class will travel to Orland Florida as part of the Senior class trip – May 18 – 21, 2005 (See attached request to waive policy IICA)
Motion to approve by Craig Hicks. Second by Christy Greene. Discussion regarding safety issues and possible scholarships for students who may not be able to afford the entire cost. Approved unanimously.

4. Public Comment

Two residents from Antrim expressed concern with keeping the community involved with the process of establishing a policy against bullying and the procedures for implementing the policy. Andy Paul noted that the committee formed to revise the policy has done its job, and since it was an ad hoc committee was disbanded. Joe MacGregor stated that forming a committee each time a procedure needed to be developed might be cumbersome. Discussion. Bill McKinnon agreed that the ad hoc committee should be disbanded, but wanted to be clear that the training required by the policy not be overlooked.

5. Reports

a. Principal

No report.

b. Teacher

No report.

c. Student

No report.

d. Fields Committee

Has not met.

e. Education

Next meeting is February 7 to review moving the technology credit requirement to the middle school level instead of the high school level.

f. Budget and Property

Further detail later in the meeting.

g. Personnel

Dan Harper reported that the committee met on January 10 to review the open co-curricular positions and a draft of an orientation packet for new members. Next meeting is February 14 – review the inclement weather policy.

h. Staff Development

Ken Young reported that the committee met on January 10 to approve routine workshop and course reimbursement requests.

i. Steering

Has not met.

j. Communications

Andy Paul reported that the committee met on January 10 to discuss the next newsletter and upcoming budget communications.

6. Old Business

a. Policies for Adoption (Board Vote Required)

1. KBAA – Policy on Right-To-Know Law

Bill McKinnon submitted a proposal to the current policy that would make all public records available on the web. Motion to table this policy for another 30 days, in order to research the effects of this proposal by Andy Paul. Second by Christy Greene. Unanimous.

7. Approval of Manifests (Board Vote Required)

Marian Alese certified that manifests **70-80**; payroll **13,14,14A & Sub 117-119**, have been reviewed and found to be proper charges against the Contoocook Valley School District for goods or services received and have been properly processed prior to their submittal to the School Board. **Motion to approve as presented by Tom Welden and second by Butch Estey. Unanimous.**

Budget Discussion

Discussion began regarding the proposed budget for 2005 – 2006. Possible reductions to the proposed budget include reductions in co-curricular programs, foreign language at the middle school level, staff reductions resulting in larger class sizes and transportation for middle school athletics. The general feeling is that the Board could support 5% increase, including the new CVEA agreement, over 2004 – 2005. Work will continue, with the final presentation on Tuesday January 25.

8. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3,IIc

a. Personnel

Motion to enter Non-Public Session as per RSA 91-A:3,IIc to discuss personnel by Dan Harper, second by Tom Welden at 11:00 p.m. Board polled – Unanimous.

Return to Public Session

Motion to exit Non-Public Session and seal the minutes by Ken Young at 11:05 p.m. Second by Christy Greene. Unanimous.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 11:06 by Craig Hicks and seconded. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,