

Approved & released
5/14/15 BH

SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2015
TOWN HALL AUDITORIUM

1. Call to order: 7:01 P M.

Present: Dawn Harris, Michael Barbaro, Susan Burdsall,
Salah Khelifaoui-Superintendent
Mark Chapulis-TMS/Business Manager, David Lockwood-CEO of TMS

2. Citizen Questions and Comments: none

3. Correspondence and Announcements:

a) DESE Waiver Denial/Memorial Acting Assistant Principal-The twice requested waiver regarding hours worked and compensation was denied because the district did not show proof of critical shortage in the market.

b) April 7, Finance Committee Budget Presentation-A joint School Committee meeting will be called if any vote is required.

4. Student Recognition: none Student Representative: Victoria Marshall reported that the annual CDMASC Student Council Conference is on April 8th at Oakmont High School. Mark Lawrence is running for the Regional Executive Board. The NHS members are attending the annual conference at Holy Cross on April 9th. On April 11th, the Boston Strong Benefit Race starts at 10:00 at Murdock High School. The Middle School will hold a Craft Fair that day from 9-2. Congratulations to the Sophomore Class of 2017 for winning Best Production at the Tournament of Plays.

5. Superintendent Report;

a) WTA Proposal Follow up-The scheduled meeting with the WTA was cancelled; instead they attended the group meeting where all submitted ideas and proposals were discussed. After several meetings with the membership, a letter dated 4/1/2015, from the WTA was submitted for public reading. It stated support for the superintendent and the administrative team regarding the efforts being made during the fiscal crisis. It asked the district to request a level services budget at the FY15 dollar amount, in order to limit or eliminate cuts to personal and programs. They do not support any loss of teachers, but do support the idea of a task force as outlined.

Business Office Report: M. Chapulis noted an FY15 update will be presented at the next meeting. At Chartwell's request, M. Barbaro moved to amend the contract to read 'renew yearly up to four (4) times instead of two (2)' and any investment/equipment amortization be 'renewable yearly up to five (5) years instead of two (2) years', so that it complies with the RFP. Second by S. Burdsall. Approved 3-0-0. The contract comes up for renewal at the end of FY15. David Lockwood, CEO of TMS, gave a summary of the work verifying data and updating records in order regulate the budget in FY15. Circuit Breaker payments have not been received from the state yet. S. Burdsall and M. Barbaro commended the TMS Management group for their work in the district.

6. Old Business:

a) FY16 Budget Vote-S. Khelifaoui gave a summary of the new draft budget, which reflects the consensus of the comments and ideas submitted. All union groups support the draft but agree it is only a solution for 1 year, not long term. He reviewed the FY16 Proposed Reductions. The FY16 budget from

Harpers Payroll gives a more detailed, individualized accounting of salaries He recommended a task force work for the next year to find more permanent solutions. The committee will need to submit a warrant article to transfer the Marvin School Build to the municipal government. They discussed the cost and other impacts of retaining ownership until the task force makes a recommendation. M. Barbaro moved to approve the FY16 budget of \$16,533,989. Second by S. Burdsall. M. Barbaro-Aye; S. Burdsall-Aye; Dawn Harris-Aye. Approved 3-0-0. The budget is passed by the quorum present. The budget will be reprinted with the approved figures; copies are available at Central Office. D. Harris thanked the WTA for their suggestions.

7. New Business:

a) Draft Warrant Articles for Town Meeting (Due 4/13)- ask the town to fund the additional expenses These are placeholders; the figures may need to be amended on town meeting floor.

#1 SPED Tuitions unexpected increases in FY15	\$	163,996.21
#2 Unanticipated unemployment costs		82,985.40
#3 FY16 Budget		16,533,989 minus Indirect Costs

M. Barbaro moved to approve. After discussion, M. Barbaro withdrew his motion.

#4 Exclude, per 603 CMR 10.4 - Interest and Principal charges resulting from the town's deficit payment. The district could restore some of the cuts as asked by the associations.

To see if the town would vote to amend the indirect costs of \$3,888,744 by reducing \$207,833 pursuant to 603CMR10.4 to address the Interest and Principal charges resulting from the towns deficit payment. The mechanics of asking for a certain vote was discussed. Town Manager James Kreidler will post a meeting for the school committee at 6:30 PM on April 7, 2015 in the Town Hall auditorium. The committee will present its budget to the FinCom at 7:00PM. M. Barbaro moved to table the vote of the Warrant Articles. Second by S. Burdsall. Approved 3-0-0.

b) Food Service Amendment Request: see Business Office Report above.

c) Invitation to MARS/NAWWG meeting, regarding shared services-S. Khelfaoui noted the ongoing discussion regarding possible regionalization has been expanded to include school committee members. The meeting date will be announced. J. Kreidler suggested the committee submit a report to be heard at town meeting to start the information process.

8. Consideration of Minutes of Previous Meetings Not Yet Approved or Released:

a) March 2, 2015-Joint Meeting Session-M. Barbaro moved to approve. Second by S. Burdsall. approved 3-0-0.

b) March 5, 2015- Regular Session- M. Barbaro moved to approve. Second by S. Burdsall. approved 3-0-0.

c) March 12, 2015-Regular Session- M. Barbaro moved to approve. Second by S. Burdsall. approved 3-0-0.

d) March 12, 2015-Public Hearing-Budget & Restructuring- M. Barbaro moved to approve. Second by S. Burdsall. approved 3-0-0.

9. Questions and Comments by Members: D. Harris read a statement submitted by A. Suchocki stating that she fully supports the budget FY16 and appreciates the efforts to find a workable solution to the financial crises. She hopes grants can be found to keep Murdock Academy at its present location. S. Burdsall read a statement from Mike Niles, dated April 2, 2015, in which he submitted his resignation from the school committee. She noted his dedication and integrity, and expertise and knowledge, during his service, especially recently. S. Burdsall moved, with regret, to accept the resignation of Michael Niles from his service to the Winchendon School Committee. Second by M. Barbaro, with regrets. Approved 3-0-0. D. Harris thanked M. Niles for his service. M. Barbaro noted the current budget figures are similar to those of FY01 and after. He commended the teachers who agreed to a 0% (zero) increase, saving the district over \$500,000 in FY16 alone. He thanked everyone for their hard work. He noted the

absence of M. Niles on the committee will be felt and acknowledged his years of service. The TOP was fantastic. He thanked the custodial staff, especially for the snow removal efforts this winter. D. Harris noted the district plan for FY16 'is only a bandage'; a future reconfiguration is still possible. The Special Town Meeting is on Monday, April 6th at the high school. The committee meets with the FinCom on April 7th. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the school committee is April 16th and a tentative Joint Board meeting for the 27th. Town Elections are May 4th and the Annual Town Meeting on May 18th.

10. Other:

11. Future Agenda Items:

- A) Guidance Department Review
- B) Negotiation Strategy Meeting
- C) Monty Tech Representative/Superintendent
- D) Superintendent Evaluation Timeline

12. Executive Session: none

13. Adjournment: 8:25 P.M. M. Barbaro moved to adjourn. Second by S. Burdsall. Approved 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted: _____
Barrie E. Martins, School Committee Recording Secretary