

**Region 9 Board of Education**

**May 5, 2005**

**Special Meeting Minutes**

*Filed subject to approval*

Board of Education: Bonfanti, Coppinger, Eichhorn, Gombos, Harris, Shapiro

Administration: Haig, Mas

Others: FOC: Bonfanti, Gombos, Coppinger, Poltrack, Heller, Herrmann

Media: Redding Pilot, Easton Courier, and CT Post Public: 9 members

Dr. Shapiro called the BOE meeting to order at 7:39 pm in the JBHS Media Center

AGENDA RE-ORDER

**Motion:** To scramble the agenda to move Public Comment to #2 position. (Eichhorn, Coppinger) Approved. Unanimous

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Kubick, Redding: question regarding the KBA contract. Response from Poltrack (FOC) was that the Region #9 does have a contract with KBA.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE 2005-2006 BUDGET

Dr. Shapiro explained the time line for the next vote on the budget. The Town of Easton will meet on May 12, 2005 to discuss the Town's budget and move it forward to referendum. The Board of Education will need to finalize their budget at a meeting on May 11, 2005. She anticipates the next vote on the budgets will be scheduled on Tuesday, May 31, 2005.

Discussion of the budget followed. Board members and FOC members expressed their thoughts and ideas of where the budget increase number should be and what comment they received from the public regarding the budget referendum. A majority of board members suggested a 5.75% number.

Discussion of the two new positions followed. Mrs. Haig reiterated the need for the positions and reported the Department Heads maintain the positions are critical. Ms. Mas reiterated the need for the Special Education position citing the need to be compliant with federal NCLB regulations. Board members discussed the possibility of imposing a head count freeze with the possibility of lifting the freeze at a later date.

Discussion of imposing a student activity fee was discussed. Mr. Calabro will present four proposals for consideration. Information on that should be available on Friday.

**Motion:** That the BOE accept the recommendation of the FOC and direct the administration to move forward in development of a budget for the '05-'06 school year that represents a 5.75% increase over the '04-'05 school year and delineate the changes in a function summary (Gombos, Harris)

Discussion: Board members agreed that this is not a set in stone number, but a guideline for the administration to work with and the board may add back into the budget.

Vote: Approved, Unanimous

**BOE ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion:** To adjourn the Board of Education meeting. (Coppinger, Eichhorn) Approved. Unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Eichhorn  
Region 9 Board of Education Secretary

Recorded by Mary Maday