

Regional School District 12  
Board of Education Special Meeting Minutes  
Shepaug Valley Middle High School  
March 31, 2014

The Board of Education Special Meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m., on Monday, March 31, 2014, by Chairman James Hirschfield. Present were Board members: Valerie Andersen, Tony Bedini, Alan Brown, Michelle Gorra, Emily Hibbard, Kelly Lott, Jennifer Pote, Michael Sinatra, Susan Stumpf and Peter Tagley. Greg Cava arrived at 7:27 p.m. Patricia Cosentino, Ed.D., Superintendent and Robert Giesen, Director of Finance and Operations were also present.

**DISCUSSION OF BUDGET FOR 2014-2015**

Valerie Andersen reviewed with the Board members the proposed 2014-2015 budget. Mrs. Andersen explained how the budget process was started. This was followed by a review of each of the budget areas.

**MOTION:** made by Greg Cava and seconded by Michelle Gorra to approve the presented School Budget for the FY 2014-2015.

Discussion followed.

**MOTION:** made by Alan Brown and seconded by Michael Sinatra to move the Washington Primary School Heating Conversion in the amount of \$160,000 from the Capital Facility Fund to the Lease Fund.

**VOTE:** In favor: Valerie Andersen, Tony Bedini, Alan Brown, Michelle Gorra, Emily Hibbard, James Hirschfield, Kelly Lott, Jennifer Pote, Michael Sinatra, Susan Stumpf, and Peter Tagley.

Opposed: Greg Cava.

(11 – 1) Motion passed

**MOTION:** made by Alan Brown and seconded by Kelly Lott to remove under Budget Code 750 Program Change, the decrease of the Burnham Kindergarten Teacher and the Elementary Intervention and Remedial Tutors, and to add those positions back into the proposed budget.

Discussion followed. One of the concerns made was, if there was a need in the future, to reinstate these positions that are being removed, would the Superintendent do so. Dr. Cosentino assured the BOE that she would if necessary.

**MOTION:** made by Greg Cava and seconded by Emily Hibbard to move the question.

**VOTE:** In favor: Valerie Andersen, Tony Bedini, Greg Cava, Emily Hibbard, James Hirschfield, Jennifer Pote, and Peter Tagley.

Opposed: Alan Brown, Michelle Gorra, Kelly Lott, Michael Sinatra, and Susan Stumpf.

(7 – 5) Motion passed

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**VOTE:** In favor: Alan Brown, Kelly Lott, Michael Sinatra, and Susan Stumpf.  
Opposed: Valerie Andersen, Tony Bedini, Greg Cava, Michelle Gorra, Emily Hibbard, Jennifer Pote, and Peter Tagley.  
Abstained: James Hirschfield  
(4 – 7 – 1) Motion failed

The original motion to accept the FY 2014-2015 School Budget was reread to reflect \$160,000 removed from the Capital Budget bringing the proposed budget down to \$21,618,021.

**VOTE:** In favor: Valerie Andersen, Tony Bedini, Greg Cava, Michelle Gorra, James Hirschfield, Emily Hibbard, Jennifer Pote, and Peter Tagley.  
Opposed: Alan Brown, Kelly Lott, and Susan Stumpf.  
Abstained: Michael Sinatra  
(8 – 3 – 1) Motion passed

Mr. Hirschfield stated that the Public Hearing for the school budget will be next Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., followed by a Special Meeting and then the regularly scheduled Business meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** made by Valerie Andersen and seconded by Jennifer Pote to adjourn.

**VOTE:** Unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.