



THE ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF TROY, NY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date of Meeting: Monday, April 2, 2012
Type of Meeting: **SPECIAL BUDGET WORKSHOP**
Location: School 1

MINUTES

Members Present: Mrs. Anne Wager-Rounds, President
Ms. Mary Marro-Giroux, Vice President
Mrs. Ilene Clinton
Mrs. Carol Harvin
Mr. Tom Mayo
Mr. Bill Strang
Mr. Schofield
Mr. Michael Tuttmann
Ms. Martha Walsh

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Dr. Brian Howard, Interim Superintendent
Mr. John Carmello, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction
Ms. Mary O'Neill, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Ms. Kathy Culligan, Human Resources Director

Citizens Advisory
Committee Present: Mary Ellen Adams
Richard Ellis
David Heyward
Ken Hughes
Tom Meyer
Jeannie Steigler

Citizens Advisory
Committee Absent: Laura Bevevino
Lynne Dubray

I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

At 6:00 pm Mrs. Wager-Rounds called the meeting to order.

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to move to Executive Session for the purpose discussing a personnel contractual matter. Dr. Howard, Mr. Carmello, Ms. Culligan, Ms. O'Neill also attended.

III. PUBLIC SESSION

At 6:35 pm Mrs. Rounds called the public session to order with the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. ACTION ITEMS

A. BOARD RESOLUTIONS

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Item 1.

Second: Ms. Marro-Giroux

Carried: 9-0

1. Appointment of Impartial Hearing Officer

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City School District of Troy hereby appoints Mary Anne DiMeo as Impartial Hearing Officer for parent requested hearing regarding special education services.

Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to approve Item 2.

Second: Ms. Marro-Giroux

Carried: 9-0

2. Designee to Appoint Impartial Hearing Officers

RESOLVED, that the Board of Education of the Enlarged City Scholl District of Troy hereby designates the Superintendent of Schools to appoint impartial hearing officers when necessary to comply with the due process requirements of the IDEA and 8 NYCRR section 200.5.

V. NON-ACTION ITEMS

A. BUDGET DEVELOPMENT

1. Budget Draft 4

Dr. Howard made a powerpoint presentation on the school budget. He discussed changes made since last meeting on March 21st. All items have been included such as retirements, fuel costs, salaries, etc. We are \$5 million above previous year with 11.5 percent tax increase. There is savings from removing a team at DMS and positions will not be filled from retirements. We must reduce substitute costs.

We have a large number of reading teachers. Dr. Howard recommended reducing 12 reading teachers but adding 3 elementary teachers and 1 literacy coach. Retirements will result in 5 teachers savings. Reading teachers will need professional development this summer.

The budget was presented in three stages:

Stage 1: Would be to reduce non-instructional positions including sharing services for savings with two neighboring districts; savings of \$981,000.

Stage 2: Staffing reductions proposed: 1 administrator; 12 instructional and 3 non-instructional.

Stage 3: Total savings of \$520,000.

Budget Draft 4 reflects a tax levy of 1.99%.

Possible changes include *Futures Education* study on special education which will be completed soon; retirements are included; state aid is included (we did not get relief from Assembly Bill 9037c regarding charter schools).

Restorations include *Futures Education* projected savings of \$307,000 and 17 teachers retiring save \$553,000.

Discussion: Ms. Marro-Giroux asked about special education cuts; Dr. Howard indicated our students will get the education they need. Troy's special education program is 15 percent of the general budget plus several million dollars in Title Funds. This is high; other districts average cost is 9 percent

Board would like to restore personnel where possible with tax levy less than 3 percent.

Mr. Strang had questions about revenue. Ms. O'Neill will send information to all BOE on Friday.

Mr. Tuttmann is concerned that non-mandated programs will suffer.

Dr. Howard explained that instructional cuts in Stage 2 is two positions; Stage 3 has eleven; total of thirteen teacher layoffs.

If budget is voted down twice, then 50 positions will be missing; this would be devastating for Troy students.

Tax Levy: Maximum percentage under new tax levy law is 3.61%. Board would like to keep a balance of quality education with relief to Troy taxpayers. Members of Citizens Advisory Committee recommended a percentage under 3% because the public has the perception that 2% is the limit. Dr. Howard stated 3.61% is best for the students but knows the economic climate and public so it would be difficult to pass with such a tax levy. We need BOE and Unions to work together. Board members were polled as to the tax levy percentage they would support.

There will be a special budget workshop held to show impact of tax levy with three scenarios.

VI. FUTURE MEETINGS

1. April 4, 2012 at 4:00 pm (PS 1) - Executive Session
2. April 18, 2012 at 7:00 pm (PS 18) - Business Meeting/Adopt Budget
3. April 24, 2012 at 6:00 pm (PS 1) - Workshop (TUESDAY)
4. May 2, 2012 at 7:00 pm (PS 1) - Business Meeting/Budget Hearing

VII. ADJOURN

At 8:20 pm, Mrs. Wager-Rounds made a motion to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Schofield and carried 9-0.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary Beth Bruno
Board Clerk