

**School Board from page 31**

tee has suggested moving the date from January 7 to January 28 to give both the Budget Committee and School Board time to finalize their proposed budgets. Robin Boynton proposed opening the hearing on the 7th and then recessing it to the 28th. The Board agreed. Robin Heins will contact Ed Hiller with our suggestion.

**Snow Removal**

After examination of the quotes and discussion, the Board concluded that Robin Heins would contact the bidders and ask for a new format and updated pricing. She was also asked to let the bidders know that some of our employees may be assisting them from the ground on snow removal. Caution on the flat roofs was also reiterated.

**January 14 Work Session**

*Condensed from draft minutes*

Board members present: Doug Boisvert, David Hewitt, Robin Boynton, David Powers, Kent Armstrong.

Administrators present: Robin Heins, Kathleen Boucher, Jane Slayton, Julie Gaudette

Based on feedback from the Budget Committee, considerable time was spent discussing possible options for reducing the budget.

Discussion ensued as to the reduction-in-force language in the collective bargaining agreement.

Further discussion occurred regarding class sizes, possible program chang-

es, etc.

Consensus was reached by the Board on what information they felt could be brought back to the Budget Committee the next evening.

**February 3**

*Condensed from draft minutes*

Board members present: Chairman Doug Boisvert, David Hewitt, David Powers, Robin Boynton. Kent Armstrong – not present

Administration present: Michael Martin, Chris Barry, Robin Heins, Kathleen Boucher, Jane Slayton, Julie Gaudette

Public: Audrey Pellegrino, Don Gould, Tina Cotton, Brian Reynolds, Ethney McMahon, Bonny Morris, Sean Cox, Daryl Furtkamp, Erik Anderson

David Hewitt would like to hear more about options for mail boxes. Bill Preble will attend the April 7 Board meeting. Jane will update the board on NECAP scores at the March 3 meeting.

**Public Participation**

Brian Reynolds asked about not renewing the Hamp House lease. Brian is asking for clarification behind the rationale for the vote. Doug Boisvert addressed the question.

Ethney McMahon and Bonny Morris both spoke in favor of renewing the lease for the Afterschool Program. Daryl Furtkamp and Sean Cox both asked questions regarding the leasing of the other buildings on school property.

Erik Anderson spoke in favor of re-

newing the lease as well. Sean asked if there were bids received on tearing the building down etc.

Bonny Morris stated that she followed the Board's request to look into other locations and submitted letters of decline from other locations.

Tina Cotton asked about candidates for school board. Those present introduced themselves.

**Good News**

There is a letter approving the grant for the author visit.

**Old Business**

**Review Public Hearing** – David Hewitt reviewed the Budget Committee meeting. David Hewitt motioned to approve Article IV for the amount of \$4,236,578. Robin Boynton seconded and all were in favor.

**Warrant** – Robin Heins addressed that Articles V, VI, and VII, because they are petitioned, are the only articles that require indication of whether the Board recommends or does not recommend them. David Hewitt spoke to Article VI. He recommends that the Board not recommend this article. Doug seconded. Discussion followed about the financial aspect of this.

Dr. Martin shared information on the asbestos removal, and he had a project estimate. Mr. Gould, the petitioner, was given a copy of the information from Dr. Martin. Mr. Gould addressed the spirit of the maintenance plan. Vote was taken to not recommend this article. All were in favor.

**IDEA Grant** – Dr. Martin reviewed the grant allocations over the past few years. He provided a breakdown of the allocated funds.

**Fire Safety** – The status of fire safety projects was discussed. Dr. Martin's draft of tasks to be completed will be added to the March packet. David Hewitt would like to have the Chief back in April to talk about some of the recommendations. Robin will get in touch with the Chief to set this up.

**Web Site – Altering of Minutes** – Dr. Martin addressed this issue, and Robin Boynton shared information as to what other districts do in this regard.

**Propane Tank Replacement** – Tanks have been replaced. This will be kept on the agenda.

**Kindergarten Full Day** – Audrey Pellegrino shared information regarding full day kindergarten. The AE/MS committee that pursued this study recommends that we consider full day kindergarten as a district. The committee is in favor of full day kindergarten for AE/MS, however the decision of when to implement needs to wait until after annual School District Meeting. This was not an action item and no vote was taken.

**Transportation Contract Draft** – A draft of a new contract, which would be a six-year agreement (including the final year of the current agreement) is in packet for review. This item will be put on March agenda for action.

Sean Cox asked about additional bids for this contract. Daryl Furtkamp addressed the Board's responsibility to get bids. Dr. Martin addressed this topic.

Dr. Martin reported to the Board that the cost per student in Merrimack Valley School District was \$1,000 less than the state average.

**Snow Removal** – Robin Heins shared that at this point there is no need for action. If a storm moves in, the Board will have to move quickly. David Hewitt would like to consider going with Dignified Cemetery Services. David Hewitt motioned for Andover School District to authorize the SAU to contract with Dignified Cemetery Services for snow removal under Proposal 2, if the need arises. Doug Boisvert seconded.

Robin Boynton feels that the decision for snow removal should be made when SAU and custodial staff thinks it is necessary. Robin Heins will call Mark Hubbard in the morning to see if he is still interested. Vote was taken and all were in favor.

**Other** – School Board picture on Web site will be taken after the March election.

**Superintendent's Report**

Economic stimulus was discussed. These monies would address Title 1, IDEA, and construction. Robin Boynton shared information regarding warrant article wording to include this. Robin Heins will investigate further by contacting Barbara Robinson at DRA.

**Assistant Superintendent's Report**

Jane and Chris are looking at NECAP results and Chris and Robin Boynton are working on policies.



**VNA**

**10th ANNUAL  
"Women Who Make A Difference"  
LUNCHEON**

**SAVE THE DATE...**  
Wednesday, May 20, 2009  
Colby Sawyer College

**SUBMIT YOUR NOMINATION...**  
for the 2009 award winner...  
A Woman Who Makes A Difference through  
extraordinary service to our community

**For information and to send nominations:**  
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