

BAC MEETING MINUTES 12/2/08

The meeting began at 7:00 in the Samoset Boardroom Annex.

The following members attended: Gary Carruthers, Ed Hudson, Michael Isernia, Paul Killian, Linda King, Larry Levy, James Mayers, Liz Morrison, James Munoz, Larry Nostramo, Regine Remy and Alan Sacher. From the district office were Ron Sacks and Bruce Singer. From the BOE was Rob Scavo. There were no visitors.

The following topics were discussed:

- 1) Review and approval of the BAC meeting minutes from 11/18.
- 2) Ron Sacks reviewed how to read the budget. He explained about code functions, sections and accounts. He talked about what percentage of the budget that cuts can be made in and what cannot be touched.
- 3) Gary Carruthers and Ron Sacks addressed questions by the Committee on how “Steps” work in regards to teacher salaries.
- 4) There was a discussion about items the BOE would like the committee to look at this year. They are but not limited to transportation, security, building usage and community education. Ron Sacks also explained the XL bond and the increased cost for non-healthy food items in the cafeteria.
- 5) Ron Sacks and Bruce Singer explained about state aid and that there will be no mid year aid cuts by the state.
- 6) Rob Scavo discussed security, how they have increased security pay in an effort to get better qualified personnel and how that increase has impacted the budget.
- 7) The committee discussed the importance of analyzing the budget immediately so recommendations can be made before the budget is adopted.

- 8) Ron Sacks, Bruce Singer and Rob Scavo discussed the percentage that will need to be cut from the budget because of the economy. Rob Scavo also reviewed steps already being taken by the BOE to close the gap in cuts needed.
- 9) Ron Sacks discussed the use of combined purchasing power with other school districts and the use of BOCES.
- 10) It was determined that the BAC should focus on the 09/10 budget.
- 11) The committee nominated and approved the appointment of Alan Sacher as the Vice Chairperson for the committee.
- 12) The committee discussed preliminary ideas where cuts could possibly be made.
- 13) Rob Scavo talked about the Board of Education's position on term limits for the BAC. They gave a few ideas of how it could be done but also noted that it does not have to be a formal BOE action. The committee has decided to discuss this at the next meeting.

The meeting ended at 9:00 and the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday Dec 16th at 7:00pm in the Samoset Boardroom Annex.