

Approved: 12/21/09

SAU 41 BOARD

OCTOBER 15, 2009

MEETING MINUTES

A regular meeting of the SAU 41 Board was held on Thursday, October 15, 2009 at 6:09 p.m. at the Hollis Upper Elementary School.

Chairman Forrest Milkowski presided:

Members of the Board Present: William Beauregard, Vice Chair (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)
Rich Manley, Secretary
Susan Benz, Hollis School Board
Marcia Farwell, Secretary, Brookline School Board
Wanda Meagher, Brookline School Board
James O'Shea, MD, Hollis/Brookline Coop
Dave Partridge, Chair, Brookline School Board
Steve Simons, Hollis/Brookline Coop.
Tom Solon, Hollis/Brookline Coop.
Janice Tremblay, Chair, Hollis/Brookline Coop.

Members of the Board Absent: Tom Enright, Hollis/Brookline Coop.
Alison Haytayan, Hollis School Board
Fred Hubert, Hollis/Brookline Coop.
Beth Lukovits, Vice-Chair Brookline School Board
James McCann, Chair, Hollis School Board
Dan Peterson, Hollis/Brookline Coop.

Also in Attendance: Susan Hodgdon, Superintendent of Schools
Bob Kelly, Director of Special Education
Jeanne Saunders, Assistant Director of Special Education

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION BY MEMBER FARWELL THAT THE BOARD GO INTO NON-PUBLIC SESSION BY ROLL CALL PURSUANT TO RSA 91-A:3 II (b) THE HIRING OF ANY PERSON AS A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE

MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MEAGHER

A Viva Voce Roll Call was conducted, which resulted as follows:

Yea: Forrest Milkowski, Rich Manley, Susan Benz, Marcia Farwell, Wanda Meagher, James O'Shea,
Dave Partridge, Steve Simons, Tom Solon, Janice Tremblay

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Nay:

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MOTION CARRIED

The Board went into non-public session at 6:11 p.m.

The Board came out of non-public session at 6:52 p.m.

1 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2
3 SAU 41 Board. August 24, 2009

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5 **MOTION BY MEMBER FARWELL TO APPROVE AS WRITTEN**
6 **MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SOLON**
7 **MOTION CARRIED**
8 **8/0**

9 *Members Meagher and Tremblay Abstained*

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11 BUDGET GUIDANCE

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13 Chairman Milkowski informed the board the purpose for the budget discussion was to provide guidance to the
14 superintendent.

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16 Ms. Meagher stated her belief guidance should be flat. Mr. Partridge commented, although he generally agrees with the
17 idea of flat budgeting, the board and the budget need to address the issue of current SAU staff being over burdened.
18 Chairman Milkowski stated his interpretation of flat budgeting to mean no salary increases. Mr. Partridge stated his belief
19 additional personnel would mean more to existing staff than a salary increase given the workload currently placed on
20 them. He stated the loss of the previous business administrator was due to the workload placed on her. He is concerned
21 additional staff will be lost if the issue is not addressed.

22
23 Chairman Milkowski commented the June 2009 audit report showed an unallocated balance of \$45,000. A flat budget
24 would mean \$45,000 would be additional funding for the coming year. There were also unexpended funds in the budget,
25 which were intended to cover expected situations surrounding the hiring of the superintendent, etc.

26
27 Chairman Milkowski stated his opinion the board needs to budget for salary increases. He posed the question of whether
28 it was the board's desire to provide for salary increases in the FY11 budget. The general consensus of the board was that
29 the FY11 budget should include funding for performance based salary increases.

30
31 Chairman Milkowski questioned whether there are non-recurring expenses that may need to be included in the budget.
32 Ms. Benz informed the board there are four major maintenance items for the SAU administrative building. Director
33 Siegfried has been charged with acquiring three quotes for each of the items; roof repair, chimney repair, foundation
34 repair, and boiler replacement. All three districts will share in those expenses. Chairman Milkowski suggested the
35 Superintendent be given direction to come back with a plan that addresses the usability of the building so the board can
36 assess the situation.

37
38 Superintendent Hodgdon stated the maintenance issues were discussed at the Hollis School Board meeting, and the plan
39 is to take that to the November meeting. By then they will have the quotes available to discuss what work has to be done
40 right away, what could be approached in stages, etc.

41
42 Ms. Tremblay commented maintenance issues at the administration building have been discussed since last year's
43 budget discussions. It is time to move forward and make a determination on how to address those issues.

44
45 It was stated that comments arose last year concerning the SAU budget being finalized prior to some of the later stage
46 cost savings being identified, i.e, oil pricing. Superintendent Hodgdon informed the board the discussion of the budget
47 was placed on the agenda so the board could provide guidance, and that she had forewarned the Chair she would not be
48 prepared to talk in depth about the budget. Chairman Milkowski stated the November meeting would provide opportunity
49 to discuss a preliminary budget and conduct line item comparisons.

50
51 Mr. Simons commented, relative to the question of staffing, his understanding is the Superintendent will come to the
52 November meeting with a plan of where she believes the staffing level should be. Hopefully at that time the board can
53 decide how to proceed.

54
55 Ms. Farwell reiterated her desire for the proposed budget to be as flat as possible or negative if possible.

1 Chairman Milkowski informed the board of the need to complete the Superintendent's review. As he was not involved
2 with the board last year, he requested a member who was involved take ownership of the project. Mr. Beauregard
3 questioned which template would be used and was told that could be up to the individual who takes on the task. Mr.
4 Beauregard questioned whether board chairs had been asked to prepare drafts comprised from input from their respective
5 boards as has been done in the past. Chairman Milkowski stated the process had not begun. Mr. Beauregard
6 volunteered to take on the task and requested input be provided from each of the board chairs.
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8 The next meeting of the SAU41 has been scheduled for November 12, 2009.
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10 ADJOURNMENT

11 **MOTION BY MEMBER MEAGHER TO ADJOURN**

12 **MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER SOLON**

13 **MOTION CARRIED**
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16 The SAU 41 Board meeting of October 15, 2009 was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.
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19 **SAU Board Chair** _____ **Date:** _____