

Tentative minutes of the **Bethel Board of Education Special Meeting** held on **Saturday, June 14, 2008**, in Board of Education Conference Room E.

Attendance: None

Administrative Attendance: G. Chesley, J. Jordan, T. Yonsky

B. Kingston, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order

A. *Roll Call for Quorum*

Board Members Present: S. Carlsen, L. Craybas, J. DeRosa, M. Duff, K. Harrison, B. Kingston (left 9:30 a.m.), M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk (8:30 a.m.), R. Renner

Board Members Absent: None

B. *Pledge Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America*

2. Budget Discussions

Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to accept the proposed budget cuts as outlined in the Explanatory Text.

Seconded by J. DeRosa

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to eliminate all non-union Administrators raises.

Seconded by M. Duff

Yea: M. Duff, L. Craybas, S. Carlsen, B. Kingston

No: M. Knickerbocker, R. Renner, B. Foulk, K. Harrison, J. DeRosa

Motion Failed

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to eliminate all non-union employees pay raises.

Seconded by M. Duff

Yea: M. Duff, L. Craybas, S. Carlsen, B. Kingston

No: M. Knickerbocker, R. Renner, B. Foulk, K. Harrison, J. DeRosa

Motion Failed

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to charge \$100 per college application in excess of five (5).

Seconded by M. Duff

Yea: S. Carlsen

No: M. Duff, M. Knickerbocker, J. DeRosa, B. Foulk, K. Harrison, R. Renner,

L. Craybas

Motion Failed

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TOWN OF BETHEL
TOWN CLERK

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to amend original motion to reduce Pay-to-Play to \$50.
Seconded by J. DeRosa
Yea: S. Carlsen
No: M. Duff, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner, J. DeRosa, K. Harrison,
L. Craybas
Motion Failed

Motion by R. Renner: Move to amend original motion to increase Pay-to-Play from \$100 to \$150.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Yea: M. Duff, J. DeRosa, R. Renner, B. Foulk, K. Harrison
No: S. Carlsen, M. Knickerbocker, L. Craybas
Motion carried

3. **Audience Participation**

Mr. Glahn disappointed that the Board did not take a vote on the last budget cuts proposed rather reached a consensus. Felt there was no accountability and stated that all items should require a vote.

Stated that the supply account should be capped.

Ms. Pellington stated we should not reallocated monies toward the gifted program. Stated that we should entertain Pay-to-Play at the Middle School level.

Mr. Trippi asked Ms. Yonksy to clarify her calculations on total savings of administrator pay increases.

Ms. Diblader stated we should entertain Pay-to-Play at the Middle School level.

Mr. Dolan stated he understood the need for Pay-to-Play. Commended the Board for deliberating budget cuts for more than two hours while it only took the Board of Finance 20 minutes to decide. Commended the Board for allocating money back for one teacher.

Mrs. Anderson stated she was in favor of Pay-to-Play. Stated the raise in Summer School tuition rate has effected enrollment. Also stated that college application fee was excessive.

Ms. Gorey stated she was in favor of Pay-to-Play. Desired that the Board find a way to reinstate one cut teacher. Also encourage the Board to work on getting people out to vote.

Mr. Michaels requested information on salary adjustments to teacher account and administrative account. Requested that the budget amounts be placed on the explanatory

memo to be distributed to public. Advised Board that they should form a Political Action Committee in order to get people out to the polls.

Mr. Hillman agreed that core education is more important than the gifted program. Stated that the remedial reading teacher should be restored. Requested that the Board give consideration in eliminating or reducing ROTC program. Endorsed Pay-to-Play and suggested that we discuss instituting at the Middle School level. Suggested that the Board use the call system to get people to the polls. Also suggested that we reach out to the PTO's for support in getting people out to vote.

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move restore remedial reading teacher.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Yea: S. Carlsen
No: M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner, J. DeRosa, K. Harrison, L. Craybas, S. Carlsen
Abstain: M. Duff
Motion carried

Motion by L. Craybas: Move to institute \$50 Pay-to-Play at the Middle School level when student makes team.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Yea: S. Carlsen, M. Duff, R. Renner, L. Craybas
No: M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, J. DeRosa, K. Harrison
Motion Failed

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move the question.
Seconded: M. Knickerbocker
Yea: S. Carlsen, M. Duff, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner, J. DeRosa, K. Harrison, L. Craybas
Motion carried

Motion by S. Carlsen: Move to accept recommended budget cuts as amended and outlined on the Explanatory Text.
Seconded by J. DeRosa
Yea: S. Carlsen, M. Duff, M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner, J. DeRosa, K. Harrison, L. Craybas
Motion carried

Motion by M. Knickerbocker: Move to allow the Superintendent to use call system to remind parents of the date and time of the upcoming budget referendum.
Seconded by S. Carlsen
Yea: M. Knickerbocker, B. Foulk, R. Renner, J. DeRosa,
No: S. Carlsen M. Duff, L. Craybas
Abstained: K. Harrison
Motion carried

8. Adjourn

**Motion by R. Renner: Move to adjourn at 10:35 a.m.
Seconded by M. Knickerbocker
Motion carried unanimously**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristine Harrison
Board Secretary

Explanatory Text to Bethel Voters:

At the June 11th meeting of the Board of Finance, an additional budget cut of \$415,000 was imposed upon the Board of Education. The total cut from the proposed education budget is now \$933,000.

At the June 14th meeting, the Board of Education voted that the following employees and/or programs will be cut from the 2008-2009 school budget proposal:

Bethel High	1 Technology Education Teacher cut	\$ - 71,818
Bethel High	1 custodian cut (2 proposed due to the addition of 38,000 sq. ft.)	- 47,995
Bethel High	2 part-time lunch monitors cut	- 7,466
Bethel High	Replacement of old athletic uniforms cut	- 7,000
Bethel High	New/Replacement textbooks orders cut (Geometry)	- 7,177
Bethel High	Pay-To-Participate in all sports instituted	- 54,000
Bethel High	Indoor Track cut	- 7,765
Bethel Middle	1 Technology Teacher cut	- 71,818
Bethel Middle	1 Science Teacher cut	- 71,818
Bethel Middle	1 Mathematics Teacher cut	- 71,818
Bethel Middle	1 Remedial Reading Specialist cut	- 71,818
Bethel Middle	New/Replacement textbooks orders cut (Grammar/Spelling)	- 14,700
Johnson School	Partial subsidy of After-School Enrichment/Remedial Program cut	- 3,239
Berry School	1 lunch monitor cut	- 2,983
Berry School	New/Replacement textbooks orders cut (K and 3d grade textbooks)	- 2,555
Rockwell School	Replacement of music teacher during sabbatical done in-house	- 50,193
Rockwell School	New/Replacement textbooks orders cut (K and 3d grade textbooks)	- 2,555
All Schools	1 Teacher of the Gifted & Talented grades 3-5 cut	- 71,818
All Schools	1 Teacher of the Gifted and Talented grades 6-8 cut	- 71,818
All Schools	1 part-time Technology Specialist cut	- 12,053
All Schools	4 Special Education paraprofessionals cut (programs to be determined)	- 98,356
All Schools	Professional Testing/Evaluation Services - Special Education cut	- 58,000
All Schools	Including Central Office supplies - instructional and general cut	- 30,000
All Schools	Including Central Office travel/conference allocations cut	- 15,000
All Schools	Including Central Office printing allocations cut	- 8,000
All Schools	Administrative Secretarial Staff	- 32,757
All Schools	Professional Contracted Services	- 15,013
Central Office	All non-union administrator salary increases to be at the 2008 Social Security COLA	- 7,612
Central Office	Expenditure freeze/adjustment to cover increased fuel costs	+ 50,000
2008 Summer School Program (Cut #1 eliminated some teachers and paraprofessionals)		- 19,692
2008 Summer School Program (Cut #2 eliminated kindergarten program, teachers, paraprofessionals)		- 14,214
		\$ - 971,051
	Without Pay to play still need	\$ - 15,949
Total Education Cuts Mandated		\$933,000
Total Education Employees Cut		13 Employees
Total Summer School Employees cut (Includes teachers and student aides)		27 Employees
% Increase Proposed for Schools		2.10%

This explanatory text was approved for distribution by the Bethel Board of Education and the State Elections Enforcement Commission.