

NO: IX
Minutes of the
Board of School Directors
DERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
Hershey, PA 17033

February 7, 2011

OPENING ITEMS

1.01 Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of School Directors, Derry Township School District was held on Monday, February 7, 2011, in the District Office Board Room. Mr. Christopher Morelli, Board Vice President, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

1.02 Roll Call

Directors Present: Mrs. Beulah Chabal
Dr. Donna Cronin
Mr. John Gräb
Mr. Christopher Morelli
Dr. William Parrish
Mrs. Ellen Sheffey
Mr. Charles Stover

Excused: Dr. Henry Donahue
Dr. Mary Beth Hagan

Acting Superintendent: Dr. Bernie Kepler

Secretary: Mr. Stephen Rineer

Solicitor: Mr. Brian Jackson

Student Representative: Not Present

Press: Mr. Drew J. Weidman THE SUN
Ms. Elizabeth Kotz THE PATRIOT NEWS

Representatives of the Administrative Staff: Mr. Dan Tredinnick, Mr. Joseph McFarland, Mr. Ed Consalo, and Ms. Lisa M. Sviben Miller.

Representatives of the Staff and Community: Maryellen Sheehan, Bruce Hancock, Bunny Hottenstein, Heidi Eby, Brian Shiflett, David E. Fisher, Anne Newman, Joanna Swartz, Daisy Williams, Corinne Gibilterra, Kathy Cerullo-Frick, Sarah Frick, AnnMarie Schupper, Elizabeth Kotz.

Mr. Morelli: Dr. Donahue and Dr. Hagan both have excused absences.

1.03 Flag Salute

Mr. Stover led those gathered in the Salute to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.01 Approval of the January 24, 2011 School Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Chabal and seconded by Mr. Gräb to approve the minutes of January 24, 2011 School Board meeting.

Mr. Morelli: I have a couple of corrections. On page 12, the third place where I speak it says, "The Tech students do get Derry Township diplomas." That should be they do not. Page 37, the Male Voice is actually Dr. Donahue, and Page 38 my comments – the comments, again, they say ". . . they do impact PSERS and that's how they can help with your PSERS issue." It was misspelled; I'm not sure what was there.

All Board members present signified by a Yes vote.

MOTION CARRIED

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

3.01 Announcement of Executive Session

Mr. Morelli: I'd like to announce that the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss employment issues, legal issues, and labor relations. We will also meet have a post-Executive Session this evening after our working session.

3.02 Announcement of Working Session

Mr. Morelli: Since this is the first public Board meeting of the month, there are some items the Board will take action on tonight, most will be voted on February 22. When

the meeting adjourns this evening, we'll take a five minute break, and then we'll have a public working session to discuss Capital Area Online Learning Association.

3.03 Recognition of Citizens (Agenda Items)

Brian Shiflett: I wanted to speak to you regarding the proposed budget. As I was doing some homework trying to prepare myself for the committee this afternoon and tonight, I was doing some homework on the PSERS and the rake spike and trying to understand what the requirements were to fund – the District's obligation in the coming years. One thing that struck me and that is, I know the District is responsible for half of the employer contribution each year and I look at that as an operating expense. So, for example, if I go to the grocery store and spend \$150 a week in groceries and that's my bill, but then the General Assembly says – oh, this year, you only have to pay \$70 of that bill. I know that \$80 of that grocery bill is being deferred to the future, because they're telling me this year you're going to have to pay \$70, but really you still owe that \$80, they're just telling you you don't have to pay it this year, so it's like a deferred liability. I mean, I don't think we can be like ostriches and just stick our head in the sand in this issue. That is a liability that is on this District to pay, maybe not this year, but down the road. As I was looking at the budget and the last couple of year's figures, I don't really understand what the difference is between what the actuaries and the PSERS are saying is the really the required amount of employer contribution for that year versus what the legislature is telling you all to pay for that year.

What I think would be helpful to communicate to the public when you're pitching the budget is that this is what we should be paying in PSERS to be adequately funding for this year, not to mention what you owe for past years since you were down around 69% funding of that entire obligation. Then let, so that we know how much money are we actually kicking down the road to the next year, to the next school Board, and the next school Board, and the next taxpayer that comes to this town. I think it's important, because that is an operating expense that's just being deferred to another years. So, having that information and making the public, I think will help sell the idea of let's, maybe, keep the money in the stabilization fund now, because it's going to get really ugly further down the road. Until you can see where that hump is and it might be a couple decades till you actually see the crest of that hill, that's probably where you want to really spend some of those dollars once you can see the top and then know how to level that top off. Right now you don't want to spend those dollars, but if I'm looking at this and saying you've got a couple million dollars in that stabilization fund – absolutely spend it. Absolutely spend it, but I don't know what the future looks like, so you sort of have to, I think make the case that you have this big liability that's been deferred and it's much much bigger than what's in your stabilization fund. So, help yourselves sell that to the community by, I think, kind of showing what that deferred liability looks like, so you can have a case to resist spending those funds this year.

Thank you very much.

Mr. Morelli: Thank you, Brian.

3.04 Student Representatives' Report

Miss Royer/Miss Witwer: We don't have a lot to report tonight with all the snow days, not a lot has happened, but we do have some things. There is a senior, Brian McGaw who has qualified for nationals in power lifting, so that's exciting that's going on in sports right now.

Miss Royer/Miss Witwer: Also the seniors have just been thrown a lot of due dates for the graduation project and the senior activities too – senior prom and the senior dinner. We've been given a timeline for all the due dates, so the end is near for us.

Miss Royer/Miss Witwer: The grad project is a little different this year, so half of it is actually due tomorrow and all of it will be due by March, just so we don't have that due date at the end of the year. Also, not so much for seniors, but underclassmen are choosing their schedule right now, so that's exciting. Everyone's kind of trying to figure out what they want to take fitting in all their classes.

Miss Royer/Miss Witwer: Our last thing on the list is Key Club is busy preparing for dance marathon. Every year, they put on a 12 hour mini-thon to benefit the 4 Diamonds Fund which helps cancer patients at the Med Center. They have an assembly on Friday where they show the line dance to the entire student body and get them pumped up for the dance marathon.

Miss Royer/Miss Witwer: That's pretty much it just the third marking period – a lot of projects, a lot of tests, so everyone's pretty busy, but we are still having time to do these other activities.

Mr. Morelli: You guys get your senior projects started yet?

Mr. Gräb: Has a date and time been set for the dance marathon?

Miss Royer/Miss Witwer: I think it's March 26 through the 27th.

Miss Royer/Miss Witwer: I think they're still debating though whether it will be all night or just half.

Mr. Gräb: The last conversations I heard, it was going to be from 12 noon to 12 midnight and then the conversation was 8 p.m. to 8 a.m., and one was the weekend that you alluded to and then the other was the weekend prior to that. As a Kiwanis member, I'm just trying to get a set time and date.

Miss Royer/Miss Witwer: With the assembly on Friday, hopefully they will have all that information, so we'll make sure at the next Board meeting, we have all that information.

Mr. Gräb: Thank you.

3.05 Standing Committee Report

Mr. Morelli: The joint Finance and General Services Committee met this afternoon. Mrs. Sheffey or John, did you want to give your reports?

Mr. Gräb: I will defer to my esteemed colleague.

Mrs. Sheffey: I thought you were grabbing the microphone to give your report.

Mr. Gräb: It's basically all Finance more so than General Services.

Mrs. Sheffey: Well, I'll start with the General Services issue. We went a little out of order if anybody has the agenda, so I'm going to report out of order.

We started with student parking at the high school update. Mr. Murphy was in and he explained that the estimated number of parking spots that he thought he had for students was over calculated by 35 and that's because middle school staff have taken some spots. He is now - all permits have been handed out. He has six students on the waiting list, but as Mr. Stover pointed out, kids know then so there are more than six kids who would like to have parking, they just haven't bothered to go in and request parking. Mr. Stover also read a letter to the committee that he had received from a student just explaining the hardship that not having a parking spot was creating for him and all the different areas he had tried to park and the lack of support he had been receiving. Mr. Gräb then asked for a comprehensive parking plan, because we know that we have more parking spots than before reconfiguration, so how can this be, so Mr. Gräb asked for that. Then the administration basically said, hey, give us a chance. We'll take a look at this and see what we can do. Is that accurate, Bernie? You're taking responsibility for this?

Dr. Kepler: I need to clarify my comment is there's no parking at the middle school than there was prior to construction. At the high school, we are down parking . . .

Mrs. Sheffey: But, overall, campus-wide.

Dr. Kepler: Campus-wide, no. I should have clarified at that time. We still are down parking overall because of the bus corral.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay. So, what you're going to do is work with Mr. Murphy and come up with . . .

Dr. Kepler: I think it's a K to 12 issue.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay, thank you. Then next, we looked at the revenue side. We got an update on our Hershey Trust and just, there are some new faces in the audience, I know that most people know that Milton Hershey left the bulk of his estate to the Milton Hershey School, but he did in his will create two smaller trusts. One of those trusts is dedicated solely to the public schools in Derry Township. This is the trust we're talking about right now. It's approximately 40 – well, historically, it's been about \$40 million dollars, but then with the downturn in the stock market, it dipped to almost \$28 million, about \$28 million and it's slowing on its way up. So, that basically was the report with that. It is showing some improvement and that starting fall of next year, we should start to see some increases in the revenues that are generated from the trust. Right now, we're looking at about \$1.75 is the revenue included in our budget. We also asked Mr. Rineer to find out the fee that we're paying to have that trust managed for us.

We had an update on the reassessment of the 19 East Chocolate Avenue. I had mentioned that last week, we had a favorable result, but Mr. Gräb brought up what about West Chocolate. The West Chocolate plant, when is that coming online and Steve had had some conversations with the Township. We don't have a date on that and so there is nothing built into our budget for it. Steve is going to keep in touch with the Township and as more information becomes available, we can update those revenues.

We had an update on our EIT, earned income tax, and LST, the local services tax. For EIT, it's trending a little lower than anticipated and so Steve has recommended a revised revenue figure for next year's budget. Local services tax is also about \$50,000 less than historical and that is due to a change in the municipal code that happened about three years ago.

We talked about Clear Choice Energy. It's an energy supplier and we talked about entering into an agreement with them. This is something that the Board will have to vote on, so if you have any questions, please ask. We can enter into an agreement with them where we would cut back energy usage during peak times, which are June through September: 12 to 8 p.m. So, this is something that is very doable for a school district and, in fact, many of the surrounding school districts have entered into this type of agreement, and in only one instance where they asked to actually cut back on their energy usage and then it was only for one hour. It looks like something positive for us to enter into, and it would save us approximately \$40,000. Our attorney is reviewing it. We have to enter into this contract by March 15, so if you have any questions about it, you should shoot them to either Bernie . . .

Dr. Kepler: That's fine. If I can just jump in and, Ellen if you don't mind, and clarify one point. When Ellen mentioned savings us \$41,000, it's revenue. They'll cut us a check quarterly and the estimates are \$41,000 just to join the program whether they ask us to cut back during a peak time or not that we'll get that revenue for the calendar year, plus we would also benefit by any reduced utilities when we back off as well as our potential look at the three day summer closure/four day work week.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay. Then, we looked at, I think we had discussed previously some of the revenue generating ideas. They were not included in the preliminary budget. We got an estimate that's the athletic tickets, making summer school cost neutral, making driver's ed cost neutral, and parking. That was about \$48,000 in revenues that we can anticipate from those four items.

We took a quick look at expenditures. This actually is positive. Just since our preliminary budget about a month ago, the administration has continued to work on expenditures. They have been able to reduce expenditures another \$345,000. The preliminary budget that we'll be voting on tonight, we have to vote on the one that was on public review for 30 days that includes an expenditure increase of 2.85%, but already the administration has brought that expenditure increase down to 2.18% and that's mainly due to removal of a technician position and we'll contract those services for \$35,000, two retirements and we don't have the paperwork on, but we're quite certain they're coming in and the reduction in debt service that we have already learned of from Mr. Verdelli.

He talked to us about the change in accounting for the athletic fund. In the past it's always been a lump sum transfer and you only see it in the expense code 900. Now, because of PDE rules, Department of Education rules, we have to budget that to the correct line item, so it looks like when you look our budget, we've had this increase in personnel expenditures. It's not, it's just simply reordering how we account for it, and he showed us the details of that.

The last thing in expenditures was also good news. The three day summer closure we are finalizing with HESPA. It sounds like this is doable and we also had a meeting with the Township supervisors and it sounds like the kids program that the Township runs, they are going to be flexible. They are going to be able to work with us on having three day closure.

Then we looked at our capital improvement budget. It's currently at \$966,000 which is down from our original estimate of about \$1.1, but there are many items in there that are only expend if necessary, like a boiler . . .

Dr. Kepler: Refrigeration compressors.

Mrs. Sheffey: So, there are things in there that we're hoping we won't have to replace and if, in fact, we don't have to replace, then the actual expenditures would be about \$840,000.

Then the radio proposal, I know we've heard a lot about that, there are two components of it, a portion of it is required by the FCC and that portion that's mandated by the FCC would cost about \$80,000. But, we would like to go, or the administration would like to go the next step, which is to convert from a UHF to a VHF and you'll have to ask him for the details – oh, the other way around, VHF to UHF, and you'll have to ask him for the details, but basically it allows us to communicate better on campus – clearer

communication and direct communication with the police in case of an emergency. That little component will cost an additional \$40,000. We didn't really finalize in the meeting, but my impression from comments was that folks are comfortable with expending that extra \$40,000 because of the increased safety. Okay?

The last thing, I'll also talk about this, as I mentioned earlier, we met with the Township. They would like to update their comprehensive plan and in a much smaller scale than what they did previously and they have found a grant that will fund it, but they need a cosigner. They would like the School District to co-sign that grant. There will be no cost to the School District, but it will allow us a seat at the table. That's something we really need, because the comprehensive plan will talk about housing developments and clearly that has a negative impact on the School District, so they are asking for our support and our signature on their grant. I guess that, we do have to give them an answer.

Dr. Kepler: Correct. They need, it did not have to be a formal motion, just a kind of a 'do we support that' and would we sign on as they have to meet a grant deadline, I think, of mid March if I recall.

Mrs. Sheffey: I think even earlier – the earlier the better, because that funding source is drying up, so if we can have an informal after – it sounds like I've missed something – if we can have an informal vote from everybody. I am in support of it. I think it's a wonderful opportunity to work with the Township, but everybody else can give their thoughts.

Mr. Morelli: We just show a raise of hands or . . . ?

Mrs. Sheffey: Support. Okay. I will give them a call.

Mr. Morelli: Does anybody have any other questions for Ellen?

Mrs. Sheffey: Did I miss anything though? Okay.

Mrs. Chabal: It's just that the Curriculum Council also met today. So . . .

Mrs. Sheffey: Yeah, that's a standing committee.

Mr. Morelli: They did. Okay, do we have a Curriculum Council report?

Mrs. Chabal: Pardon?

Mr. Morelli: Do we have a Curriculum Council report?

Mrs. Chabal: Right. Yes, we did have a Curriculum Council meeting today. It was actually a rather robust meeting. One of the things that you may be aware of and especially if you often visit our website, the Race to Nowhere free screening that you'll

see highlighted on our website is at the auditorium February 10 starting at 7 p.m. There are only 400 seats left. We have over 800 people who have registered to attend this event. You do need to register on the website. When you do that, you will get a confirmation back that says yes you have registered and, I believe you'll be able to print a ticket, is that correct, Joe?

Mr. McFarland: Yes, you need to print the ticket and bring that with you.

Mrs. Chabal: That seems to be an event that has been well received. I know that I have read something about it even outside of our own discussions about this Race to Nowhere, so I certainly encourage you if you have an opportunity and the time in your schedule to look at that.

Secondly, there is another program that you would find on the website that's not at the forefront just yet, it's called Drugs 101 and What Parents Need To Know. This program will be on March 15, 2011.

Mr. McFarland: March 30.

Mrs. Chabal: I'm sorry, what did I say?

Mr. McFarland: The deadline for registration is March 15.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay, thank you. That's why I have March 15 written down here. Alright, so I apologize. The event itself, the evening itself is March 30 and the registration deadline is March 15. If I understand the directions, if you wanted to look at that today on the website, if you were to look at the calendar, the District calendar tab at the top of the website and look at that and look at March 30, then you will be able to click on that and then be taken to the registration. My understanding is that it will be brought forward to the front of the website as we get closer to it, but we just want to make you aware of it and, as I understand it, what they will be doing is providing a mock up of a teenage bedroom that the participants or the people who attend will be able to walk through that and just look at this bedroom. Then they will talk about what's actually in that bedroom that a parent may not be aware of that can be used for drug paraphernalia, maybe drug paraphernalia itself or for use of drugs. It's going to be something that will be enlightening for folks with upcoming or growing children for that matter. We certainly encourage all of our residents to take a look at that. If it looks as though the response is a little bit larger than might be appropriate for the LGI room, they'll do one of two things as I understand. They will either split it and have it another evening or they may consider moving it into the auditorium, but that in itself might cause some logistical issues if you really want to have a participatory audience. So, anyway, look for the Drugs 101 and What Parents Need to Know and that is coming on March 30.

The other thing that we had an opportunity to talk about is the digital [not audible] grant. The Capital Area Intermediate Unit pursued and received a grant to look at digital textbooks. Derry Township will be participating at the level of being able to look at the

opportunity of having digital textbooks and what does that mean and how that would affect what we're doing in our classrooms. We will have two representatives, Joe, is that right, that we have two . . .

Mr. McFarland: Two teachers, yes.

Mrs. Chabal: Two staff members who will. . .

Mr. McFarland: One math and one science.

Mrs. Chabal: One math and one science who will be going through this IU program at no cost to the District, because it's a grant that the IU got, they will be learning about digital textbooks and making sure that digital textbooks are not just fancy textbooks, but actually interactive – that they are responding to the needs of our students as we move into the 21st century teaching. They are looking at [not audible] versus textbooks and the ability for these digital textbooks to be updated. You know, if you purchase a biology book it may have the shelf life of 10 years, but in 10 years a lot of them change. If you're looking at a digital textbook, if there are changes made into that system that it will automatically move throughout the entire textbook, so it's something that we are looking at as we strive to really provide our students with the education that they need moving into the 21st century. The only expense that we would be looking at in this and, Joe is it already started as far as this, so it's a two year starting . . .

Mr. McFarland: The professional development starts in April.

Mrs. Chabal: Right.

Mr. McFarland: Of this year.

Mrs. Chabal: Of this year. Okay, so I knew that there was a timeline. Then, they will look at it and be working and going into the IU with a number of other districts and, in fact, there's quite a few of our local districts that are also participating in this so this is a tremendous professional development component as well, because our teachers that will now be working with this program will be going in and learning about that with other teachers and looking at the concept of digital textbooks and whether or not that is truly something that has some real teeth to it or not over time. So, I know our teachers are looking – the two teachers that will be participating are looking forward to that as well.

I think that is it unless I dropped something.

Mr. McFarland: The only thing I would mention is that the Drugs 101 session is for adults only, for parents only.

Mrs. Chabal: Oh, thank you, I'm sorry.

3.06 Presentation - 2011-2012 District Calendar

Dr. Kepler: Thank you, Mr. Morelli. At the last Board meeting on the 24th of January we presented Draft C of the District calendar and we had some discussion with the Board regarding snow days versus guaranteed days off. In fact, we had so much discussion I did go back to the draft minutes that time, now formally approved, to say where did we leave this. The best I could come up with on where we left it was having April 5, a Thursday, and, I believe, April 9, the Monday of that weekend as guaranteed days off over that spring recess maintaining only two snow days – January 2 and February 20th, February 20th being Presidents Day, and, therefore, the last student day would be June 5 given we don't need to use snow days at the end of the year and upon those two snow make up days, potentially one if January 2 is too early, February 20th being a snow make up day and then adding them on in June 6, 7 with commencement being on the 7th because of the potential for lost subsidy if we graduate and then have multiple student days after the commencement. That is what I bring to you as Draft D based on what we left on January 24.

Mrs. Sheffey: So just to clear the last day of school would be June 7 unless we don't utilize the snow make up days?

Dr. Kepler: No, the last day would be June 5.

Mrs. Sheffey: Unless we need . . .

Dr. Kepler: And our seniors, graduating seniors, current juniors would have to wait until the 7th to graduate.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay.

Dr. Kepler: You could have graduation on the 5th, the danger is if we have to add days because of snow we're losing state subsidy because good luck bringing our seniors in after they walked across the stage.

Dr. Parrish: And how much is that?

Dr. Kepler: It's not an amount of money that's going to make or break us, but it is money that we would certainly not be seeing. We could get that calculation for you.

Dr. Cronin: But that would happen if we would have more than four snow days even currently, right? Cause if we have more than four snow days, we tack them to the end of the year now anyway.

Dr. Kepler: That's correct.

Dr. Cronin: So we're banking on no more than four snow days every year with this calendar or last year's calendar. It's not a new concept.

Dr. Kepler: Correct. Absolutely. Yes, with having commencement on the 7th, that's true.

Dr. Cronin: Thank you. Bernie, also, I was expecting a D and an E. We had talked about two different versions of which two days were maintained as sacred holidays, so to speak. I had felt that one version would actually have January 2nd, I'm sorry, February 20 and April 9 as the ones that would stay so that we maintain two separate holiday weekends and not have them both around Easter weekend. I thought we would have that option also mainly because February 20 is a public holiday and parents are mostly off and then we make the kids go to school whereas for the April weekend, they're going to get a four day weekend no matter what – the 5th is just extra whereas if we get rid of the February holiday all together, the teachers have no break, because they're here Thursday and Friday. So unless we have the 20th as a holiday that isn't taken away, they don't get any vacation. It's just two different . . .

Dr. Kepler: Two different options and after our discussion I went back to look at minutes and the minutes clearly drove me to bring back what was talked about at that point should the Board decide to make a change and go with Presidents Day as a guaranteed day off, frankly, it's six in one and half dozen in another to me. I brought back what I felt we discussed publicly on the 24th.

Mr. Stover: Bernie, at the risk of mercy here I'm going to argue for yet another amendment to this. The whole reason that we're doing this is we're trying to preserve if parents make vacation plans that they can follow through with those vacation plans. I would argue that the week of June the 11th is more important for vacation plans than April, so what I would suggest is, because if we put what happened this year so far in this calendar, we would not have lost January 2. What did we have, three days?

Dr. Kepler: We've lost three days.

Mr. Stover: So, we would have lost the 20th and then we would have gone to the 5th and the 6th.

Dr. Kepler: 6th and 7th.

Mr. Stover: 6th and the 7th if we have one more, we're to the 8th, if we would have two more days, we'd have to come back to school on the 11th.

Dr. Kepler: That's correct.

Mr. Stover: And I would argue that if it gets to that point that we go to the 8th, but then we revert back and take away those April days if we have 6, 7 snow days so that we preserve not bringing our kids back June the 11th; we all know those days are worthless days to bring kids back. After graduation to think that anything academically is going to

happen on June the 11th, I would say we should revert back to April so that the people have made their vacation plans for that week.

Dr. Parrish: You're saying if we go more than four days and I think as a Board we can make that decision at any time if need be, correct?

Dr. Cronin: But have we ever used more than four days historically? I think we have to look at past data, it doesn't mean it's going to happen, but I think we have to make our decisions based on the data we've seen, and I don't recall ever going beyond.

Dr. Kepler: I don't what occurred here at Derry Township, but I can think of, I know, two storms in the 90s.

Mr. McFarland: 93 and 95 we had 12 snow make up days.

Dr. Cronin: 12? So that was 17 years ago.

Mr. McFarland: Mmm hmmm, but it has happened.

Dr. Cronin: Right. Exactly.

Mr. Gräb: Can I interrupt here? During one of those snow storms where we lost "x" number of days, wasn't the state judicious enough to give us a dispensation on some of those days so we did not have to make up?

Dr. Kepler: That's my understanding, yes. I was teaching then, John. It really wasn't as big of an impact to me then.

Dr. Parrish: If I can reiterate what Chuck was saying is this is an template as presented is reasonable, but keep in mind if we go beyond that, we may need to go back and look at those April dates, that's what you're trying to say.

Mr. Stover: That's what I'm saying.

Dr. Parrish: Which I think makes sense.

Mrs. Chabal: I have a question about graduation itself. I seems to remember we had a graduation date of June 5, is that correct or am I mistaken?

Dr. Kepler: That's correct.

Mrs. Chabal: And now you're looking at a graduation date of June 7.

Dr. Kepler: When we spoke on the 24th, our recommendation was that I would not be comfortable placing graduation on June 5th when, for all intents and purposes, there's only one snow make up day. Most of our days are after the New Year, so January 2 will

literally come into play. This year alone, if we were graduating on June 5 in this scenario, our seniors – we would lose two days of state subsidy for our seniors.

Mrs. Chabal: My question really hinged on the availability of our graduation site. Is that available to us? Do we know whether or not the Milton Hershey School rotunda is available and also my understanding is that we also maybe going under some construction, so, are we certain that we have a spot on these days that we're voting on to have our graduation services?

Dr. Kepler: My understanding is we have June 7th as an available date.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay, thank you.

Dr. Parrish: I'd like to make a motion we accept this calendar as you've presented it tonight.

Dr. Kepler: For clarification, there is a Board motion later in the agenda. This was just a presentation, so there is an actual agenda item for it.

Dr. Cronin: How would we be able to vote either or to preserve Presidents instead of Holy Thursday? We decided we were going to preserve two and add two on as a compromise. Right here, we're saying we're preserving Holy Thursday and Easter Monday – no matter what happens, they will be off days, but we could potentially Presidents.

Dr. Kepler: You would have to vote no to the motion that's in front of the Board and then. . .

Dr. Cronin: We can't do an either or?

Dr. Kepler: And it doesn't pass and you'd have to bring forward another motion, correct. Some of the dialogue on the 24th, I believe, I even threw out do you want an either or and I recall dialogue about not bringing two options.

Mr. Morelli: Anything else?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.01 Unfinished Business

None.

NEW BUSINESS

5.01 Anticipated Agenda Items for February 22, 2011 Public School Board Meeting

1.	Approval of February 7, 2011 School Board Minutes
2.	Approval of January 2011 Finance Report
3.	Budget Transfers
4.	Requests for Payment
5.	Approval of 5th Grade Human Growth and Development Curriculum Revision
6.	Capital Area Online Learning Association (CAOLA) Contract (TBD)
7.	Requests for the Use of Facilities
8.	Personnel
9.	Students of the Month
10.	Announcement of Staff Development Conferences

5.02 Approval of Proposed Preliminary General Fund Budget

Be it resolved that the Derry Township School District Proposed Preliminary General Fund Budget, as presented for the school year 2011-2012, be adopted in the amount of \$52,923,103. The general operating expenses includes a \$300,000 budgetary reserve. It is further resolved that the Derry Township School District Capital Reserve Fund Budget for capital expenditures be adopted in the amount of \$966,964.

Be it further resolved and made known that the adoption of the Proposed Preliminary Budget is in accordance with Section 687 of the School Laws of Pennsylvania, and further, that the authorized said proposed preliminary budget document was made available for public inspection for 20 days beginning January 17, 2011 at the following locations: Hershey Public Library, Derry Township Tax Office, Derry Township Municipal Office, Hershey High School Library, and the District Office.

Dr. Parrish moved the Board approve the proposed preliminary general fund budget and was seconded by Mrs. Sheffey.

Mrs. Sheffey: I just want to stress to all my colleagues and to the public who is here that this really does present a worst case scenario. The Finance Committee has just begun working on this. We've got four months to work on it in just the 30 days since this was first presented to us, the administration has been able to close the budget gap. At this point, while I certainly support asking for the exceptions, I'm not convinced that we'll need to utilize them, and we are in no way obligated to utilize them just because we asked for them. But, I think it's important that we ask for those exceptions, and I think we need to be very clear in communicating with the public and on our website for our taxpayers to understand and for the state to understand that it cost the School District to fund unfunded mandates. We fund them. So, one of the exceptions were asking for is for special education, and it cost us \$130,000 last year to provide those

services which we absolutely must provide, but they were not funded by the state, so we are funding them out of general fund budget.

Also, everybody needs to be aware of PSERS as Mr. Shiflett said. The state has taken some first steps to address this problem, but it's by no means their last. PSERS rate increase – the cost of the PSERS rate increase as for our School District next year is approximately \$400,000 and that's the exception we're asking for, but the following year, it's one million dollars and the year after it's one million three. So, it's not sustainable. The state needs to take action and we have set up a reserve. We're actually in much better shape than most of our surrounding school districts because we have set up this reserve and the budget assumes that we will not utilize it, but that is a discussion I think we need to have. We did touch on it a little bit in our Finance/General Services meeting that we need to have that discussion. The budget also includes funding for new positions and new initiatives, but we need to take a closer look at them. It includes funding for technology which is part of our Strategic Plan, but at the time we put the Plan together, there was state funding – classrooms for the future, well that state funding no longer exists so we really need to be rethinking how we can fund that. Right now, the budget assumes we will fund that from the general fund. Maybe we need to be looking at other ways to implement the program or other funding sources or, I don't like saying this, but maybe we need to put it on hold. These are the kinds of discussions we need to have. I know you want to jump in Bernie, but you have to wait.

Dr. Kepler: No, I concur with what you're saying, in fact, administratively, we're looking at March 7 Board meeting for a public work session on the one-to-one initiative, so we can talk about the specifics of what you're saying – all the alternatives, what are the costs to the alternatives, what's the cost to doing and carrying out our vision and is that where we're at fiscally? So, a lot of tough decisions to be made.

Mrs. Sheffey: And we also have to look at our expenditures – continue to look at them. I know the preliminary budget we've seen has expenditure reductions for utilities, for fuel, for debt service, and then we have all those extras for retirements that you found for us, but we need to look for more. When 70% of your budget is made up of salaries and benefits, that scenario we have to look. We did talk very briefly in our Finance/General Services Committee about a hiring freeze; not for mandated positions, obviously, but for our non-mandated positions. We've got a lot of work to do. I think we need to ask for these exceptions, but the Finance Committee is going to make every effort to make sure we don't have to utilize them.

Dr. Cronin: I just want to clarify. The original budget was about, I think, a little over a million dollar deficit. You said we've saved over \$300,000 recently and found cuts, so we're still a little bit in the deficit, but we are still working to try to bring that to around zero.

Mrs. Sheffey: Right. We know there are more retirements that will happen. We have a budgetary reserve of \$300,000, so there are more areas.

Dr. Cronin: So approving this doesn't say that we're in – that we're closing the door on it.

Dr. Kepler: That's correct. I'll just add, just a reminder, we've said it that the typical budget adoption calendar has had two levels of approval. Typically, May, approval of the preliminary budget and final adoption in June. This year, because we chose to inquire about exceptions, there's a third level. This is that third step and just to further emphasize it clearly does not lock you in. You're approving a budget tonight that we already know has a \$400,000 differential in it and will get even closer as we proceed to May. We have March, also staffing presentation, we have capital project presentation, so there's clearly a lot of work to do that will hopefully, and I think can get us pretty close to a balanced budget, and then we'll try to even go beyond that if possible and look at do we need the exceptions.

Mr. Morelli: Anybody else? It will be an interesting exercise. I believe where we're at now is we're still including the exceptions with a goal to get at or below the index, is that a true statement?

Dr. Kepler: As I said in Finance, we do maintain the goal of being able to get to that index of 1.4 rather than the 3.1 that is in the preliminary budget.

Mr. Morelli: One of the options we having, using our reserves or not, if you don't, we need to find where that money is going to come from whether it's reductions or increase taxes.

Dr. Kepler: That's correct.

Mr. Stover: I would just caution using reserves and deficit spending. That's something that we went through and that's what created part of the 24% tax increase, so I am not in favor of deficit spending.

Mr. Gräb: I'll back up what Mr. Stover said, Act 1 does not permit that 24% tax increase.

Mrs. Sheffey: Unless you're doing it because of PSERS, which in two years . . .

Mr. Gräb: That will be one heck of an exception.

Mrs. Sheffey: Well, in a couple of years, if they don't do anything about PSERS, pretty much every school district will be doing that.

Mr. Morelli: Anybody else? Mr. Rineer.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Absent

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Donahue – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Stover - Yes

7 Yes, 2 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.03 Approval of 2011-2012 School Calendar

Dr. Kepler: The Administration recommended the approval of the 2011-2012 school calendar. And, I will further specify Draft D.

Mr. Gräb moved the Board approve the calendar and was seconded by Mrs. Sheffey.

Dr. Cronin: Yes, I said at the last meeting there is no right calendar, there's a lot of variety, but I did pull up six different local calendars, including LD, CD, Middletown, DC Tech and Palmyra and of those, four out of the six of them kept President's Day as not a snow day whereas only one out of the six kept the Thursday before Easter as a holiday. It doesn't mean that it's right, but that's the going trend. One of the arguments that I had made to Bernie when I met with him about this was that if you maintain President's and Holy Easter Monday, you're actually giving the school both a February and a guaranteed April holiday, so families have a choice of when they want to go away plus teachers get both as long weekends. Those people who play spring sports, for example, rarely can they go away in April. February, the week of Presidents is after the winter season and before the spring season, so it does offer more flexibility to have two different breaks and that's certainly the way that our area schools do it. Rarely do they take Presidents away, but they, except for one school, they all take Holy Thursday as a snow day, so I'm hoping that we can consider that and vote no on this as I will be voting so that we can have that other option and be more flexible for our families.

Mr. Morelli: I thought this discussion started with the need for a break around Easter.

Dr. Cronin: The discussion started because parents were frustrated that they lost Presidents Day a second year and often people will take that February long weekend. The concept was can we not take away vacation days that we plan on, so the compromise was, let's take away two and preserve two as a middle ground, realizing, once again, there's no right or wrong way, let's try something different. We decided, yes, let's preserve two of the days and keep two as snow days, so I'm just offering that it would be more flexible to keep one at February and one at April than keeping both at April so that there is at least a four or five day break both times in the year offering more flexibility, plus the fact that Presidents is a public holiday for a lot of people already and, like I said, five out of the six schools use Holy Thursday as a snow day whereas four out of six keep Presidents as a holiday regardless of snow. I'm just asking to flip those two days out. So, if we vote no on this, I would love to make a motion to make the snow days January 2 and April, I'm sorry, keep April 5 and January 2 as the snow days and preserve Presidents Day and Easter Monday as holidays with no risk of being lost.

Mrs. Chabal: I don't really see any flaw in what she's saying and I would like know if there is an opportunity, if the Board majority decides to go that way, do you have time as far as the calendar itself, because that's two weeks from now and I know sometimes it matters. Does it matter from a timing – for next year? I know it's for next year, but . . .

Dr. Kepler: At this point, two weeks is not going to make a difference.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay, we can vote and see.

Dr. Kepler: Frankly, the calendar that I would envision us bringing forward to you each year is a calendar that makes the most sense academically and instructionally, not about vacations. It's a school calendar. We have 180 days, we have so many constraints that, if I'm in this chair I'm going to bring you a calendar each year that makes the most sense instructionally. If we go a different direction, that's fine. Instructionally is there a difference between February 20 and April 5? There is. If you look at those blue highlighted areas, that's PSSA. The more instruction we get in prior to assessment, the better off we are. Is a day going to make or break us? No, but every amount of time helps. So, instructionally, the calendar C was our best recommendation. Tonight, we're at Draft D. We can live with either, but our recommendation is going to err on the side of instruction.

Dr. Cronin: But we're saying the 20th is going to be off, we would only have school that day if there was no snow so, academically speaking, we're assuming the 20th is a day off. It's just a matter of do we want to risk losing it or not, so I don't see an academic difference, because we're saying it's going to be off.

Dr. Kepler: Certainly.

Mr. Gräb: I'm taking a look at the calendar, and I'm glad you brought up the PSSA testing. I notice the state asks us to have 180 instructional days and we have 20 days blocked off for testing, could you amplify that a little bit for me?

Dr. Kepler: It's a bit problematic when you look at those four weeks of testing, what you're not seeing on there in addition is make up time. So, if a student is absent one of those weeks of testing, not only are they missing a week of instruction, they are missing several days beyond that when they come back and are pulled out of class to do the makeup. A student in Grades 3 through 8 and 11 are tied up each of those testing days. It's probably 2 ½ hours a day of assessment with 8th grade being the heaviest hit with basically all assessments other than science.

Mr. McFarland: If I can just add to that too where it is extremely problematic is 11th grade, because of mixed grade level courses, you're really stopping instruction for all grade levels, not just 11th.

Dr. Kepler: I'll second at John's comment, consider basically, what it is Mr. McFarland? May, for this year, it's May 2, 3, 4, next year that very well could be those same points are the Keystone exams are going to be given, so there's three more days, an hour to an hour and a half each day of that assessment for any student for this year taking an Algebra 1 or . . .

Mr. McFarland: Biology or English Literature.

Dr. Kepler: And that list grows. So, the testing will grow.

Mr. Gräb: Does the Department of Education really understand how much impact this has on our ability to educate students?

Mr. McFarland: We've told them. I'm being serious; we have told them.

Mr. Gräb: Do charter, private, and parochial schools, those who will be getting the infamous vouchers, fall into these same PSSA assessments?

Dr. Kepler: No.

Mr. Gräb: Okay.

Mr. Stover: I'm in favor of the calendar as it is and I'm not recommending that we make any changes. I just, for the public record, I am not recommending any changes, because as Bill noted, the Board would have plenty of time to changes, I just want to publicly say that if it does occur that we have too many snow days that we do revert back and take the April days out as opposed to going to June 11.

Mr. Morelli: Okay. Mr. Rineer.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – No

Donahue – Absent

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover - Yes

6 Yes, 1 No, 2 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.04 Requests for the Use of School Facilities

The Administration recommended the approval of the following Request for the Use of School Facilities:

<i>Group:</i>	Hershey Soccer Club
<i>Date/Time:</i>	Monday through Friday March 14, 2011 through June 17, 2011 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
	Saturday and Sundays March 19, 2011 through June 12, 2011 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
<i>Requested Facility:</i>	Middle School Soccer Field
<i>Event:</i>	Hershey Soccer Club Practices and Games
<i>Fee:</i>	As per Lease Agreement
<i>Group:</i>	Hershey Lacrosse Association
<i>Date/Time:</i>	July 23, 2011 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
	July 24, 2011 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
<i>Requested Facility:</i>	2 Turf Fields, 1 Middle School Field
<i>Event:</i>	Hershey Youth Lacrosse Tournament
<i>Fee:</i>	As per Lease Agreement

Mr. Gräb moved the Board approve the request and was seconded by Dr. Parrish.

Mr. Morelli: Can I ask one thing? Since this is the first time someone, I guess outside the community, is going to pay to use the fields, when this event happens or shortly after it happens, can we have Sam come and talk a little bit about how it went, any issues he had or didn't have? We want to, obviously, make sure we get it right for anyone else. As far as I know, this is the first time we're actually charging for the fields.

Dr. Kepler: There was another request and following policy, other organizations have decided not to follow through with a rental based on fees according to policy. How the process works, I believe is any organization, once approved by Board, they already have an idea of the costs, they'll get the formal document whether they want to accept that contract or not, but yes, we would be happy to report back.

Mr. Consalo: [Not on microphone]

Dr. Kepler: Correct. First on synthetic turf fields.

Dr. Cronin: Is this accurate? They want every weekend from March 19 through June 12 from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Are they using all three fields? Oh, no that's just the middle school. So, when do they want the turf field actually?

Mrs. Sheffey: That's the Lacrosse Association that wants the turf fields.

Dr. Cronin: Okay, I'm sorry. My lines are all confused. Okay, thank you. It seemed like a lot of time.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Absent

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover - Yes

7 Yes, 2 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.05 Personnel - Resignations

The Administration recommended the approval of the following resignations:

Classified:
Kimmel, Timothy Bus Driver District-wide Reason: Personal Effective: 02/08/2011
Umipig, Pamela General Food Service Worker High School Reason: Personal Effective: 02/16/2011
Limited Service Contracts:
Mackneer, Jeffrey Co-Producer - Musical High School Reason: Personal Effective: 02/04/2011 (retroactive)
Stage Manager - Musical High School

Reason: Personal Effective: 02/04/2011 (retroactive)
Potts, Beth Assistant Track and Field Coach Middle School Reason: Personal Effective: 01/27/2011 (retroactive)
Purdy, Marianne Choreographer - Musical High School Reason: Personal Effective: 12/10/2010 (retroactive)

Mrs. Chabal moved the Board approve the resignations and was seconded by Mrs. Sheffey.

Roll Call Vote:		
Chabal – Yes	Gräb – Yes	Parrish – Yes
Cronin – Yes	Hagan – Absent	Sheffey – Yes
Donahue – Absent	Morelli – Yes	Stover - Yes

7 Yes, 2 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.06 Personnel – General

1.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following appointments:
	Classified:
	Boger, Henry Substitute Bus Driver District-wide Salary: \$14.56 per hour Effective: 01/31/2011 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances) (retroactive)
	Michael, Pauline Substitute Bus Driver District-wide Salary: \$14.56 per hour

Effective: 01/31/2011 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances) (retroactive)
Hamilton, Ronald * (replacing Timothy Kimmel) Bus Driver District-wide Level A: 5.0 hours per day Salary: \$14.56 per hour Effective: 02/08/2011
Kimmel, Timothy * Substitute Bus Driver District-wide Salary: \$14.56 per hour Effective: 02/08/2011
Limited Service Contracts:
Kissinger, Donald (replacing Jeffrey Mackneer) Stage Manager - Musical High School Level I, Group I, Step 10 Salary: \$973 Effective: 02/08/2011 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances)
Marconi, Timothy Volunteer Assistant Varsity Track and Field Coach High School Effective: 02/28/2011
O'Brien, Michelle * (replacing Jeffrey Mackneer) Co-Producer - Musical High School Level I, Group F, Step 1 Salary: \$313.25 Effective: 02/08/2011
Warner, Kimberly (replacing Marianne Purdy) Choreographer - Musical High School Level I, Group I, Step 2 Salary: \$695 Effective: 02/08/2011 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances)
Wilfong, Cynthia

	Head Girls' Tennis Coach High School Level I, Group F, Step 16 Salary: \$2,067 (pending HEA Agreement) Effective: 08/16/2011 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances)
2.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following additions to the 2010-2011 Substitute Teacher List:
	Keefer, Jeremiah B.A. in History and Secondary Social Studies from York College of Pennsylvania
	Mansberger, Nicole B.S. in Elementary Education and Special Education from Millersville University of Pennsylvania
*	This individual is currently an employee and/or volunteer. Clearances are on file.

Dr. Parrish moved the Board approve the personnel recommendations and was seconded by Mr. Stover.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Absent

Sheffey – Yes

Donahue – Absent

Morelli – Yes

Stover - Yes

7 Yes, 2 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

DELEGATES REPORTS

6.01 Dauphin County Technical School Report

Mr. Gräb: The Dauphin County Tech School will be meeting this Wednesday evening, February 9th.

6.02 Harrisburg Area Community College Report

Dr. Cronin: Meeting Wednesday evening.

6.03 Capital Area Intermediate Unit Report

Mrs. Chabal: Meeting on the 24th.

6.04 Derry Township Tax Collection Association Report

Mr. Stover: The Tax Association met on January 27. The primary agenda item was to reorganize. It's the Township's turn to fill the position of President and the School District's responsibility to fill the position of Vice President. Therefore, we elected Sandy Ballard as President, Ellen Sheffey was elected Vice President. The Secretary position typically is handled by the manager of the Tax Association which is Wendy Melhorn so she maintained that position, and Ken Patrick, who is an at-large member of the Association is going to continue serving as Treasurer. We will next meet on February 24.

The Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee will meet on the 16th.

SPECIAL REPORTS

7.01 Announcement of Staff Development Conference

Mark Painter
Baltimore Glazier Clinic
Baltimore, MD
February 4 - 6, 2011 (retroactive)
Expenses: \$1,679.00

7.02 School Community Information Report

Mr. Tredinnick: Thank you, Mr. Vice President. In addition to the upcoming Race to Nowhere screening that's going on at the high school, I wanted to remind you of another special event that's going on at the high school. That will be this coming Sunday, the official unveiling of the Community Task Force civility mural. We've discussed this here with you in the past, but just wanted to remind you of that. This is a mural that involved an artist in residency component within our School District in addition to about 2/3rds of the mural actually being painted by other entities in the community representing service organizations, the business community, senior citizens. So, this will be an opportunity to see this mural in full completion that will be Sunday at the high school at 3 p.m.

Mr. Morelli: Thanks, Dan.

7.03 Board Members' Report

Mrs. Sheffey: We had our joint work group meeting last week. Mr. Morelli and myself were there for the School District and Sandy Ballard and Kelly Fidelly were there for the Board of Supervisors. I mentioned a couple of the things we discussed already. The first was the three day summer closure. It was wonderful; we partnered well together and we'll be able to do that without any negative impacts on their summer program. We also gave them an update on the Homestead Road middle school traffic issue we've been working on. The Police Department has been wonderful in working with the administration. It's been brought to our attention by several parents that we had a safety concern there. We've blockaded the cross walk on Homestead Road. It will be painted over. The police are there monitoring safety, and we have staff making sure that the students follow the path that goes to the side of the middle school rather than across the middle school entrance. Then, the Supervisors gave us an update on the Cocoa Avenue construction. They've been communicating directly with Mr. Yarian so that he knows the different routes the buses will have to take and there will be updates on their website for any of you who would like to know what roads to avoid come summer. The last thing we talked about was the grant which we already discussed for the comprehensive plan.

Mr. Morelli: Thank you, Ellen. Anybody else?

7.04 Acting Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kepler: Just one quick item, Mr. Vice President and that is, about March of last school year, Dr. Brewer, in this room, committed to a ceremonial puck drop for the Ice Hockey club. Now, the Acting Superintendent, guess who is dropping the puck? Not Dr. Brewer, but I'm actually pleased to do it on Friday night at Senior Night. It's my honor to join the Ice Hockey team and drop the ceremonial puck, and I'll anticipate they'll have carpet for me to walk on. That is my report.

I'll add, I do have a good friend who is from Long Island, New York, huge hockey fan and he said, "Drop the puck, don't throw it down." If you know anything about hockey, and that was a good tip, because I wouldn't have known that.

7.05 Board President's Report

Mr. Morelli: Just a quick update on the Superintendent search. Actually, I got an update today as a matter of fact. The job has been posted for over a month now. To date, they have had 133 contacts – that's folks who have been calling asking about the opening or the recruiters calling folks they know to see if they're interested. As of today, we just added one today; we have 21 complete applications. I believe the last time around we had 3. So far, so good. We're still on track with the initial timeline that we had laid out a couple of weeks ago, but real quickly, March 12 we have a meeting on a

Saturday for four hours, I believe, to review the applications. The gentlemen, John Ridnack is going to bring all the applications to us. They will do their screening, give us their top 10 or so for us to look at and decide if we want to interview. They will have the rest of them if we're interested in seeing them all. At that meeting, we will pick our semi-finalist to be interviewed. The week of March 21, the interviews will take place; the week of March 28, we will pick the finalists; the week of April 4, the District visitation and the community forum that we had talked about for the finalists where the finalists will be able to answer questions from the community; and sometime in the middle of April we will actually make an offer and hire a Superintendent to start sometime in June or July timeframe to begin the next year.

I think someone mentioned we have a tentative work session for March 7 on one-to-one. Is that confirmed?

Dr. Kepler: If the Board is willing to accept our offer.

Mr. Morelli: I'd be interested in listening to it. Just a couple of comments on the budget. I'd like to pursue the school advertising. I know we're going to try to schedule a Policy meeting. We had one scheduled. I hope we can get a discussion in the next meeting about that. I don't know what's on the agenda. I think we actually have three policies; I couldn't find an e-mail about the detail, but I don't want to lose track of that. I think that's important. I think the time has come to look at a policy about advertising. The savings initiative that I was thinking about. I used to work in a place where the employees would get "x" percentage, whether it was 1% or 10% of any amount that their idea saved the organization on some line item or whatever during a given budget year. So, if someone has a suggestion, like any staff – teachers or whatever, we should think about that. Everyone has a lot of good ideas. It doesn't take much to save a lot of money with a good idea. Again, Ellen mentioned earlier and we talked about, I believe, this afternoon in the General Service Committee meeting/Finance meeting about looking at freezing some jobs for different levels. I really seriously want to look at that. Again, we have limited resources and I'd like to look at that. I'd like to look at limited service contracts this year. We talked about that in the past. Do we need them all? Can we live with maybe a 1/3 less, something like that? New initiatives – one-to-one and CAOLA, which we're going to talk about later on tonight. They all cost money. If you want them, how are we going to get them. It's part of this exercise that's not going to be easy. Then, we have existing programs like Sandy Hill and Kenbrook last year that may or may not be on the table this year. Again, it's not going to be easy, we have a lot of smart people in this room and Steve does a great job with his conservative projections, but I'd really like to do what it takes to get this budget down.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS (Non-Agenda Items)

8.01 Recognition of Citizens (Non-Agenda Items)

None.

ADJOURNEMENT

9.01 Adjournment

Mr. Morelli: The next public meeting will be February 22, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in this room.

Dr. Cronin moved to adjourn, with a second by Mrs. Sheffey and, approved by unanimous voice vote by all members. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Mr. Morelli: Let's take a five minute break and we'll have our working session.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen E. Rineer
Secretary to the Board
Approved at the February 22, 2011 meeting

Dr. Henry Donahue
President of the Board

LDM