Regional School District #10
BUDGET WORKSHOP
The Learning Center
26 Lyon Road, Burlington, CT 06013
Monday, February 25, 2019
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

*Amended 3/11/19

Board Members Present:
Thomas Fausel, Chairman
Paul Omichinski
John Vecchitto
Dean Cowger
Wendy Darasz
Brooke Joiner
Assuntina (Susan) Baccaro
Eleanor Parente
John Goodno

Absent:
Bruce Guillemette, Vice Chairman

Also Present:
Alan Beitman, Superintendent of Schools
Cheri Burke, Director of Student Learning
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Call to Order</th>
<th>The meeting was called to order by Chairman Thomas Fausel at 6:58 p.m.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pledge of Allegiance</td>
<td>The Pledge of Allegiance was cited</td>
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<td>Communications</td>
<td><strong>Superintendent’s Report:</strong> Update of the 2019/2020 Estimate-of-Expenses</td>
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Prior to the budget presentation, Superintendent Beitman noted that on Friday, the state released information on the latest Accountability Index. Ms. Cheri Burke, the Director of Student Learning, elaborated further stating that both elementary schools have been named by the State Department of Education as “Schools of Distinction”. Lake Garda School is ranked in the top 25% in the state and Harwinton Consolidated School is the 14th highest scoring school in the state.
The budget presentation this evening noted two significant modifications; notices of intent to retire were received from two certified staff members and one of the two teaching positions that were originally scheduled to be eliminated, was added back to Lake Garda School due to an upsurge in enrollment numbers.

The present Estimate of Expenses signifies an increase of $1,448,466 or 3.636% increase, without new money. The amount is split between the two towns based on the October 1st enrollment. Burlington’s share, at a rate of 66.61%, equates to $964,823 or 2.42% and Harwinton's share, at a rate of 33.39%, equates to $483,643 or 1.21%.

Proposed new funds totaling $110,582 account for the addition of a Social Worker for PreK-4 grade level students and an Enrichment Teacher for students in grades 5-8. The new funds will not move to recommended until the board has an opportunity to hear justifications and follow up with any questions.

A new five-year capital plan is being developed and will be presented at a subsequent budget workshop.

The highest driver in the budget is the special education costs.

Prior to the individual school presentations, Ms. Laone, the Director of Finance and Operations, noted that the media centers for Lewis Mills and Har-Bur Middle School were historically counted as their own departments, but moving forward, have been broken out to their respective building. Overall, when combined, the dollars are flat.

**LSM/Athletics: Christopher Rau, Principal and David Francalangia, Athletic Director**

Rather than a verbal line-by-line review, Principal Rau offered a summary or “cheat sheet” to rationalize each of his budget line items.

It was noted by Ms. Laone, that the IT staff have been reclassified to central office for budgeting purposes, rather than building specific, explaining the change in that budget line item.

Slight increases were observed in the athletic budget line items with the most notable increase realized in the 810 account, Dues and Fees, at $3,155. A small decrease of $838 was recorded in the
610 account, Supplies. The overall increase for athletics totaled $8,489.

**Har-Bur Middle School**

Principal Joseph Masi presented for Har-Bur Middle School.

The largest uptick in the middle school budget lies with textbooks, particularly math, with an increase of $18,087. Since the adoption of the current curriculum three years ago, there has been a migration toward the standard-based approach. It was found that the current materials, resources, and methodologies are not providing a positive impact to student learning as hoped.

The new materials under consideration are better aligned with more standards and provide a similar learning mindset as the NextGen Science Standards, which is now being implemented.

Ms. Burke explained that the change is not a curriculum shift, but rather an update to an on-line resource and workbook.

*The proposal had yet to go before the Curriculum Committee.*

Also under consideration is the ALEKS program, which services the math intervention students in grades 6-8, as well as, service to all grade 5 students.

The elimination of two, grade five teachers has been a cause of concern to some, to which Superintendent Beitman offered several options. If enrollment numbers should increase for that grade level, un-pairing the fifth grade teachers, a concept implemented several years ago whereby two fifth grade teachers work together, or adding one teacher back as a self-contained classroom would be under consideration, neither of which, the Superintendent necessarily supports.

**Lake Garda School/Harwinton Consolidated Schools**
Scheduled for the March 4th Budget Workshop

**Student Support Services**
Scheduled for the March 4th Budget Workshop

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<th><strong>Public Participation</strong></th>
<th><strong>Jenn Cavallari</strong></th>
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<td>Advocated for keeping the two fifth grade teachers. Felt that the transition from grade 4 to grade 5 is emotional with academic</td>
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challenges coupled with increased rigor within the curriculum. The increased class sizes would be detrimental. Brought substantiating documents to support her position.

**Jenn Parsons**
Parent of a current grade six student. Felt it would be irresponsible to approve a budget that cuts two grade five teachers. Her fear is once eliminated, they will not be budgeted for in subsequent years.

**Nichola Dutcher**
 Echoed the sentiments of those who spoke prior to her. Stated that the district is lucky to not only have one, but two “Schools of Distinction”. Hoping to keep Region 10 in this great distinction. Advocated for keeping the two fifth grade teachers.

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<th><strong>Upcoming Budget Workshops</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>- Monday, March 4, 2019, 7:00 p.m., Har-Bur Middle School Media Center</td>
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<td>- Monday, March 11, 2019, 7:00 p.m., Har-Bur Middle School Media Center (Regular Meeting)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Monday, March 25, 2019, 7:00 p.m., Lewis S. Mills High School Auditorium (Public Hearing)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Monday, March 25, 2019, Special Meeting, Immediately following Public Hearing</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Monday, April 29, 2019, 7:00 p.m., Annual Meeting on District Budget</td>
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<td>A motion was made by Paul Omichinski and seconded by Brooke Joiner to adjourn the meeting at 8:56 p.m.; all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.</td>
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Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Parente, Secretary

[Signature]

Date

Board of Education Meeting Minutes are placed on our web page ([www.region10ct.org](http://www.region10ct.org)) within seven (7) work days following the Board of Education Meeting.

The minutes are marked as DRAFT, pending Board of Education approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

When participating in or attending a Board of Education meeting or reviewing minutes, please note that the Board of Education uses formats prescribed by Robert's Rules of Order for conducting meetings and publishing minutes.
Robert's Rules state, "Minutes are a record of what was done at a meeting, not a record of what was said." [RONR (11th ed.), p. 468, ll. 16-18] which is the standard for which board minutes strive. For this reason the minutes will typically not reflect the discussion surrounding a motion, only its outcome.

Additionally, Robert's Rules in brief advises "The name and subject of a guest speaker or other program may be given, but no summary of the talk." [RONRIB page 149]

Both books can be found at our local libraries for anyone interested in more information.

RSD10 Chair