

# ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Library  
R.J. Grey Junior High

February 15, 2007  
8:03 pm

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*Members Present:* Michael Coppolino, Brigid Bieber, Jonathan Chinitz, Terry Lindgren, Sharon Smith McManus, Rebecca Neville, John Ryder, Bruce Sabot  
*Also Present:* William Ryan, George Frost, Susan Horn, Elizabeth Huber, citizens and press

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The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 8:03 pm.

## **STATEMENT OF WARRANT**

Warrant #2007- 017 in the amount of \$1,561,790.19 was signed by the chairperson and circulated to the rest of the Committee for signatures.

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** - None

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **1. Recommendation to Approve FY'08 Acton-Boxborough Regional School District Budget**

It was moved (Ryder), seconded (Bieber) and unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve the administration's recommendation that the total appropriation for the Acton-Boxborough Regional School District for the fiscal year July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 be set at \$34,755,320 and that member towns be assessed in accordance with the Education Reform Law and the terms of the Agreement and amendments thereto as follows: Acton \$22,516,727, Boxborough \$6,029,634, remainder to be accounted for by the Anticipated Chapter 70 Aid in the amount of \$4,917,550, Anticipated Charter School Aid in the amount of \$36,521, Medicaid Reimbursement Fund in the amount of \$30,000, Transportation Aid, Chapter 71, Section 16C in the amount of \$702,892, a transfer from E&D in the amount of \$520,000, a transfer from High School Project Premium on Loan in the amount of \$1,302, and a transfer from the Junior High School Project Premium on Loan in the amount of \$694.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **1. Recommendation to Approve ABRHS Field Trip**

It was moved (Ryder), seconded (Sabot) and unanimously

**VOTED:** To approve the ABRHS Field Trip to the All-State Music Festival, March 22-24, 2007.

## **FOR YOUR INFORMATION**

- The Superintendent referred to several items. There is a TB case at the High School, and letters have been sent out to all possible contacts. Bruce Sabot suggested that we let Blanchard Supt. know about it. Terry Lindgren noted that the DPH will be in charge of informing the community.
- Michael Coppolino mentioned an Act directing the DOE to investigate and study the 990 Hour Mandate. The Act was submitted by our state Rep. Jamie Eldridge.

**ISSUES OF THE COMMITTEE**

- **Blanchard School - School Choice**
- Brigid Bieber said that Boxborough is looking at possibly participating in the state's School Choice program, since they have had, and anticipate, declining enrollment. According to the law, Blanchard Choice students would be allowed to continue on to RJGrey and ABRHS. Brigid said Boxborough has not voted yet, but just wanted to inform the regional committee of the possibility. Some members expressed concern about adding more students at the already crowded Junior High. Becky Neville said they are only looking at 4 -5 students per grade level, maybe 10 -20 students total. Bill Ryan said there is some concern for the region, since we already have too large team sizes at the JH. Brigid said the current Blanchard 6th grade enrollment is high, and following year is high, then the numbers starts going down. So they would probably not take students in the upper grades at first.
- John Ryder asked whether the committee was interested in having a future discussion about the legal services line item in the budget. Who is representing us, what do they do, what are the costs? He said this is an area of controllable expense that should be evaluated. After some discussion, there was no consensus to go forward with this suggestion.

**NEXT MEETINGS:** March 1, 7:30 pm, RJ Grey Junior High Library  
March 29, 7:30 pm, RJ Grey Junior High Library

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah T. Lawton, Secretary