

1 **Newfound Area School Board**
2 **and Budget Committee**

3
4 Joint Planning and Dialogue Meeting
5 Newfound Regional High School Library Media Center
6 October 25, 2010
7

8 **Budget Committee Approved Minutes**
9

10 School Board Present: Les Dion-Bristol (Chair), Mary Campbell-Hebron, Sue Cheney-Alexandria, Lou
11 Lieto-Groton, Bruce Davol-New Hampton and John Johnson-Danbury
12

13 Budget Committee: Archie Auger-Bristol (Chair), Harold (Skip) Reilly-Alexandria, Rich Kirby-Hebron,
14 Simon Barnett-Danbury, Sharon Nelson-Groton and John Voelbel-Bridgewater (arrived at 8:10)
15

16 School Board Excused: Laura Simula-Bridgewater

17 Staff Present: SAU Staff: Marie Ross, Dan Rossner
18

19 Public Present: Steve Favorite-Bristol, Ann Johnson-Danbury, and Sherman Ross-New Hampton
20

21 Chairs of both committees called meeting to order at 6:36 pm. Marie started off with introductions and
22 mentioned that the meeting would be audio recorded.
23

24 This is the first joint meeting for the FY12 budget. This is an opportunity for planning and informal
25 context for the evening.
26

27 Dan mentioned that the Honeywell project was approved last year. It will increase the bottom line of the
28 budget, but will be offset by energy savings. Dan started with an explanation on health insurance that
29 would increase 10.4% (GMR) for the Matthew Thornton Blue plan and 18.2% (GMR) for the BCBS
30 Comp 300 plan.
31

32 Dan explained an increase in retirement rates. Employer contributions for Teachers' rate will increase
33 from 8.02% to 9.07% and non-teachers are going from 9.16 to 11.09%.
34

35 To date the District has been notified of three retirements. New staff will be budgeted on step 1. However
36 longevity stipends, (27, 30 and 37 years respectively) will be equal to \$53,341, and will counteract the
37 savings for younger staff replacement in the first year.
38

39 Matrix for support staff has been completely reorganized. Support staff have had no increase for the past
40 two years, the direction from the Board has been to increase the overall matrix by 2%. Base salaries have
41 not been addressed in the budget as of this date for building administration, SAU staff and SAU
42 administrators. Program specialists have been budgeted at a 2% increase.
43

44 1100-112 series includes three positions that were cut in FY11. 1.5FTE positions were ARRA grant
45 funded and will now be budgeted in Fund 10.
46

47 1100-114 Increase in support staff salaries to reflect Matrix readjustment.

48 1100-211 Increase in health insurance

49 1100-231 Retirement increases 35%.

50 1100-232 Retirement increases 24%

51 Overall increase of 5% 1100 series Fund 10.

52 Archie-which positions are funded through stimulus funds? Marie responded ½ positions for BES
53 Kindergarten. One fulltime Math tutor for grade 7 & 8. Simon questioned Dan on differences between v2
54 & v3. Dan explained v3 is more complete with all grant funds. Lou – between proposed budget FY12 &
55 current FY11 what is the actual head count? Dan – one art teacher at the high school was reinstated after

1 the budget passed. Marie - We have not yet received all entitlement grants & when we do, we'll come to
2 the Board for a supplemental appropriation.

3 1200 Series

4 1200-560 Tuition to outside organizations: \$110,000 funded in FY10 & FY11 from ARRA. Marie
5 explained that we were allowed to use ARRA Funds to supplant funding from district. Sharon Nelson –
6 Asked Marie to explain tuition reimbursement. Marie explained that this is used to reimburse teachers
7 who take graduate courses per contract. Rich Kirby – Number of students counted in enrollment? Dan –
8 1376 – down 17 students. Some discussion ensued about the difference between student counts on
9 NHDOE website – does not include pre-K.

10 1200-570 Contingency (Special Education) restored to \$150,000. Les - Where are we this year? Marie -
11 We are out of contingency money already for this year and need to look to transfer a tutor to serve as a
12 1:1 Para for a new student. Lou - Could we consolidate all the contingency lines? Dan - Explained that he
13 prefers to budget in each area as he believes this practice is more clear and shows exactly where the fund
14 balance is. Archie - prefers them being separate. Lou - acknowledged that either could work. Marie gave a
15 historical perspective of the reasons why moving to line-by-line contingency explanations has increased
16 trust with the community.

17 Simon - 1200-114, after raises the increases are only \$32,000? Yes - Marie explained that there was a
18 reduction to 183 days instead of the 187 days that were formally provided. Dan - 1220 Series, provides for
19 extended year programming for SPED and the 1270 series is used for Summer school for others.

20 1300 – Vocational Education, Tuition to other LEA'S included \$20, 409 from 1290–564 in FY10.

21 1400 Series

22 1410 Advisors for non-athletic Co-Curriculars Discussion was around retirement.

23 1420 – Athletic Programs the only increase in retirement salaries is for longevity, they get 1% over base
24 for each year of experience. 1420–610 Reduction in requests. 1420-112 – 2% increase on Athletic
25 Director's salary. Dan explained progress on the football field in response to Mary's question on
26 possibility of needing more money for officiating. Leslie asked should we add a longevity account for the
27 increase 1420-112 by the 1% longevity stipends for coaches. Dan - We probably should.

28 Archie- increase of about \$1.2 million in Fund 10 in the 1000 series.

29

30 2000 Series

31 2112- Truant officer is a legal requirement. 2120 - Guidance – one director who will receive a 2%
32 increase as a program specialist; no increase for guidance counselors who are covered under the CBA. A
33 question was asked how many counselors were included in 112 – the answer is 8, including Monica
34 makes 9. Skip – state regulations are 500 students per one counselor. Les – we have already discussed this
35 in prior years. Archie – recognized Board's authority to let the experts make the decision.

36 2134 – Nurses Archie- Questioned to large salary increases in FY11. Marie discussed that two nurses
37 went back to school to get a higher degree. With a Bachelor Degree the nurses did get an increase of 20%
38 from the nurses track due to NATA contract. No change for FY12 pending voter approval of a new
39 contract.

40 2140 – Psychological Services – contracted services. Dan explained, a grant funded service in response to
41 Sharon's question regarding the difference between 2140 -323 & 2149-330.

42 2150- Speech pathology, substantial changes increasing salary and decreasing in consulting services.
43 These positions are program specialists. Lou questions a \$20K savings in the speech model and Dan
44 clarified.

45 2150-114 Mary C. questioned a 2% raise for this line and Dan explained that these are Paraprofessionals
46 on the new matrix.

47 2100 Series - Fund 10 is up \$58,927 (3%) Fund 22 has decrease of \$48,517 (22%) Net gain of \$10,410
48 increase (5%) in Fund 10.

49

50 2200 Series- Support services to staff

51 Marie clarified by providing an example that autism training for staff - 2210, whereas Autism services
52 would be included in the 2100 series.

53 2213- Instructional improvement programs would be professional development activities, including peer
54 coaches for new staff.

1 2222- School Media Center 2222-114 support staff needs a 2% increase for one employee. Conversation
2 about the toner purchases leading to increase in school lines as opposed to coming out of technology lines
3 – Dan explained that we bulk purchase from the Gov Connection. A new product called “paper cut” that
4 can monitor printing with a “gate keeper” to control & reduce expenses.
5 2223- AV services, batteries, memory chips, cameras, DVD players, etc.
6 2225- Technology- Dan shared state approval of the three-year plan, of which this budget is reflective.
7 Included one large increase in salary for one Tech Staff and two small increases for two others. Decrease
8 in software. Skip questioned the department re-organization to include a part-time computer technician,
9 and Marie corrected that it was a low paying position and not part-time. Dan explain the difficulty in
10 attracting and retaining a person to fill this position at such a low salary as we have had two people resign
11 and do not want to loose the quality person we currently have. He gave examples of the type of work that
12 is necessary to keep the academic operations running.
13 2225-731 New Equipment – new projector mounts in every classroom. 2225-735 – scaling back
14 replacement equipment to offset new equipment. Marie explained the necessity of providing technology
15 in every classroom to prepare students for proficiency on the National Assessment in 2014-15.
16 2225-111 Computer personnel \$53,000 and \$46,000 (2% increase), Computer Technician currently
17 receiving \$22,000 to \$30,000, to re-adjust lowest salary to reduce turnover. Marie explained history of
18 cutting more & more \$ from technology, from \$1.1M to \$500K. Les supported that we’ve asked these
19 fewer people to do more and more. Archie stated that we need to be very careful & vigilant. Lou – People
20 are doing a good job and are all overburdened, but if you can’t keep a person in a job there’s something
21 wrong. Archie – offered to do more research before commenting. Lou – implored Archie to compare
22 apples to apples. Sharon asked what the computer technician does. Dan gave an example of Mike taking
23 donated computers to install operating systems and installed in each building for the WIAT-3 (Special
24 Education testing). This department is all about building maintaining and supporting the education. Jon-
25 questioned Dan about the installation of the new projectors and he explained. Total for the 2225 series is
26 \$537,604.
27
28 2300 Series
29 2310 School Board and Budget committee. Mary questioned the FICA for the moderator. Dan said he
30 hasn’t been attentive to this section. There was a suggestion to discuss this at another time.
31 2316-310 Negotiations may not need next year if contract passes.
32 2312-111 Clerk for both Budget Committee and School Board.
33 2320 - SAU Board needs to discuss that section of the budget.
34 2400 Series
35 School administration has not yet put in raises. Decrease in tuition reimbursement requests. Marie
36 explained the difference between tuition reimbursements, (for college, workshops, and legal updates) in
37 response to a question from Sharon.
38
39 2600 Series Operations and Maintenance of Plant Services
40 Dan explained costs related to increase in Health insurance, state retirement and other changes include
41 technical agreements. We anticipate a substantial reduction in heating repairs with new equipment, also
42 reductions in electricity and heating oil due to Honeywell project. Currently budgeting at \$3.00 a gallon
43 for oil.
44 2660- School Surveillance Systems, \$15,000 goal to bring access, remote entry control to NRHS. Would
45 include fob readers, access controls and video surveillance. Marie questioned Archie and Les regarding
46 the user fees for Kelley Park. Archie will check to see if there may be a charge.
47
48 2700 Series Transportation
49 No increases in the overall department as a result of negotiations with First Student. Dan did a historical
50 review of diesel fuel and reduced the number of gallons. Question from Sharon re: homeless
51 transportation. Marie explained our obligation to provide transportation for students living in a situation
52 defined by the McKinney-Vento Act as “Homeless”.
53
54 2900- Dan explained; he needs to wait and see if there are layoffs before determining unemployment
55 budget.

1
2 3100- Food Services
3 Dan reported a tremendous improvement in the changes made by the food service department. Increases
4 are due to 2% raises, retirement, and health insurance.

5
6 5100-\$100,000 fund transfer for food service. Sharon questioned whether an increase in lunch price could
7 happen.

8
9 Dan stated that he has not yet included the debt service from the Honeywell Project, but he did pass out a
10 handout for future review. These monies will raise the bottom line of the gross appropriated budget, but
11 will not raise amount to be raised by taxes.

12
13 Fund 10 increase for v3 equals 7%. Simon asked what comprised the unexpended fund balance
14 (\$960,000). Dan explained that a supplemental appropriation for grants was approved by the Board, some
15 of which supplanted the district obligation; lower fuel costs also contributed to the Fund balance.

16
17 Budget report:
18 Archie distributed a sort of all salaries as of tonight. Archie would like to thank Dan and Marie for their
19 presentation tonight. The Budget Committee will meet probably next week. Archie asked the
20 Superintendent to present a personnel budget that contained only requirements for minimum state
21 approval for high schools. When Marie clarified if he meant those positions that would minimally
22 maintain accreditation, he repeated, "What would it cost us if we met only state approval? Only, not
23 above and beyond." Les asked if Marie could also present the requirements for accreditation by the New
24 England Association of Schools & Colleges (NEAS&C).

25
26 Public comments: Ann Johnson, Danbury - We should be looking at using our technology more and
27 effectively to reduce staffing – were not reaching far enough. The curriculum committee should be
28 looking at this. We can consolidate AP courses.

29
30 A motion was made to close the joint meeting by Archie and seconded by Lou at 9:26pm.

31
32 The Board continued a short business meeting at the request of the Superintendent to vote on two time-
33 sensitive issues:

34
35 A motion was made to accept a resignation from Holly Jamison, NRHS Nurse. Mary made a motion to
36 accept and Bruce seconded it. 6-0-0-1

37
38 A motion was made to accept a request from a student to attend a Waterville Valley Academy program
39 for 5 months and NRHS would accept his credits. Mary made the motion and Bruce seconded. The vote
40 passed 6-0-0-1.

41
42 The meeting was adjourned at 9:30, motioned by Lou and seconded by Bruce with all in favor.

43
44 The Budget Committee then continued its meeting to set the next meeting date for Monday, November 1
45 at 6:30 p.m. at BES. Motion was made by _____ and seconded by _____ to adjourn at
46 9:33 p.m.

47
48 Respectfully Submitted,

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50 Mary Beshta

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