

Board of Selectmen
Nathan Hale-Ray High School Media Center
November 9, 2010
Special Meeting Minutes

Selectmen Present: Mark Walter, Emmett Lyman. Absent Pete Govert

Also Present: Board of Finance Members: Paul Maxwell Chairman, Bob Bennett, Matthew Budzik, Bruce Dutch, Susan Link, Ed Schwenzfeier; Board of Education Members: Nancy Haslam, Chair, Bryan Perry, Tracey Gionta, MaryBeth Mordecai, Deborah Fiala, Everet Herden, Brian Pear; School District Administrators: Dr. Ellen Solek, Bob Carroll, David Scata, Joanne Collins, Matthew Espinosa, Roy Parker, Mary Beth Havens; Cindy Varricchio, Finance Administrator, Several members of the public, student council representatives and Board of Education personnel.

1. First Selectman Walter called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm and the attendees said the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Joint Meeting of the Board of Selectmen, Board of Finance and Board of Education

A. 2011-2012 Budget Discussions: Superintendent of Schools Dr. Ellen Solek, Business Manager Bob Carroll, Director of Pupil Service David Scata and Board of Education Finance Committee Chair Deborah Fiala reviewed the following information with regard to the upcoming budget year and current financial trends and conditions:

- PowerPoint presentation entitled “East Haddam Board of Education 2011-2012 Operating Budget Development Information”, dated October 14, 2010;
- Special Education, Federal, ARRA, State and local grant funding projections;
- Letter to the State Board of Education from Mark K. McQuillan, Commissioner of Education regarding the current services budget request for the 2011-2013 Biennium;
- Education jobs funding program frequently asked questions, September 2010;
- Town of East Haddam Proposed Budget Schedule for 2011-2012;
- East Haddam Public Schools Budget Development Calendar 2011-2012 Operating Budget;
- Detailed reductions to the Superintendent’s budget comparisons from 2009-2010 and 2010-2011.

Ms. Link inquired why a breakfast program was not offered at the Elementary School as it is at the others schools. Mrs. Havens explained that there wasn’t enough time from when the buses drop off the students to the start of the school day.

Ms. Mordecai inquired if the school lunch program was based on the need or specific statistics. Mr. Carroll answered that parents submit an application for their child to receive this program. Mr. Carroll reported that the School Lunch Program figures were submitted monthly and were used for the determination of grants. Mr. Carroll stated that approximately 10% of East Haddam students receive free or reduced lunches—an increase of 20% since the 2008-2009 school year; there has not been an increase this year.

Mr. Perry inquired about the After School Tutoring program. Mr. Scata answered that the program was a per hour rate paid to teaching staff and that it was eliminated from the Middle School because of budget constraints. Mrs. Haslam asked if there was after school support by teachers. Mr. Parker responded that there was.

3. Public Comment: None

4. Adjournment: Motion made by Mr. Walter, seconded by Mr. Lyman, to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 pm. Unanimous aye.

Tape: None

Respectfully submitted,

Emmett Lyman, Secretary