

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORKSHOP MINUTES
CHENERY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM**

April 13, 2010

7:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

Present: Ms. Ann Rittenburg, Chair
Ms. Laurie Graham
Ms. Becky Vose
Ms. Karen Parmett
Ms. Laurie Slap
Mr. Dan Scharfman
Dr. George H. Entwistle 3rd, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Janice Darias, Acting Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Dr. Gerry Missal, Director of Finance, Administration and Capital Planning
Ms. Julie Silverman, Human Resources Manager

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Rittenburg at 7:40 p.m. in the Chenery Middle School Large Community Room.

Ms. Rittenburg explained the purpose of this meeting: presentation of the Available Revenue Budget FY11. This presentation will be made again on April 14 for the Warrant Committee, at which time the town departments will also present their available revenue budget.

Ms. Rittenburg made a presentation on The Role of the Belmont School Committee in the Budget Process.

Dr. Entwistle made a presentation about the available funds budget that:

- Reiterated the process of building the Student Needs Based Budget, and how that was based on input from the community and the 18-month strategy, clarifying budget priorities;
- Explained that the SNBB was approved at \$41,926,806, and the preliminary Warrant Committee allocation was \$39,403,904 – a difference of \$2,522,902 or 6% of the SNBB;
- Explained the process for developing the Available Revenue Budget, which minimized the impact to students, focused on the priorities of the long term goals and 18-month improvement strategy, avoided drama and maintained full transparency;
- Explained the Program Components of the BPS – student-centered (82% of the total SNBB) and organizationally-centered (18% of the SNBB), and noted that the reductions totaled 10% of the organizationally-centered components of the SNBB budget and 5% of the student-centered components of the SNBB;
- Listed the reductions in these program areas, in dollar amount and percentage of the total of the component;
- Described the impact of each of these reductions in all ten program components;
- Explained the itemized list of reductions.

Ms. Rittenburg invited the School Committee members to make comments or ask questions. There were questions and comments made by several members of the committee. Ms. Rittenburg noted that there

is a School Committee meeting planned for Friday, April 16, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., to discuss the reductions further and ask questions.

Ms. Rittenburg invited members of the audience to ask questions or make comments. Several people participated.

Ms. Rittenburg noted that the available revenue budget will probably be voted at the May 11 meeting.

Ms. Graham shared an update from the Communications and Community Outreach Subcommittee. They met on April 9 with Dr. Entwistle to formulate talking points. Ms. Graham noted that more discussion on the talking points will take place at the meeting on April 16.

At 9:35 p.m. on a motion offered by Mr. Scharfman and seconded by Ms. Vose, it was:

VOTED unanimously (6-0) to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by



Laurie Graham
Secretary