

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE WORK SESSION
SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION BUILDING CONFERENCE ROOM
MARCH 20, 2013**

Present: Ms. Laurie Graham, Chair
Mr. Kevin Cunningham
Ms. Pascha Griffiths
Ms. Anne Lougée
Ms. Laurie Slap
Mr. Thomas Kingston, Interim Superintendent
Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Business, Finance and Operations

1. **OPENING BUSINESS**

1.1 Call to order

Ms. Graham called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

2. **BUDGET**

Dr. Kingston discussed with the School Committee ways to handle the FY14 budget. One suggestion was to remove the professional aide positions at Wellington and add an additional grade 2 class as well as a half time assistant principal and a half time counselor. When asked about unfreezing Wellington enrollment, Dr. Kingston stated that it would depend on what the individual class sizes were. He said it will be handled on a case by case basis.

Ms. Darias stated that there are plans for significant changes in the structure of teams at Chenery. The grade 6 team has 2 teacher teams who would go to 4 teacher teams teaching 5 periods per day. The grade 7 teams are currently teaching 4 periods per day and they will begin teaching 5 periods per day. Ms. Darias explained that the changes are budget neutral. These changes require a shifting of resources to make it work, for example the 5th Foreign Language resources will be taken from 5th grade and moved to serve the 6th grade Foreign Language program.

Dr. Kingston explained that it will be a challenge to come up with a high school schedule that reduces class size. He stated that some electives may need to be dropped. Dr. Kingston added that he would like to add certified ELL teachers at the elementary schools this coming school year. There are 3 part-time ELL Tutors in the district and with increased demands of the new curriculum and assessment program for ELL students, having tutors who are not certified is not a good service delivery model.

LAND TRANSFER

The School Committee members discussed the recent presentation by Mr. Tom Scarlata, of Bargmann Hendrie + Archetype, Inc. Mr. Scarlata is the architect for the Underwood Pool and Park. Ms. Graham stated that the School Committee must vote on April 9 whether or not they will approve the land transfer for the library building project.

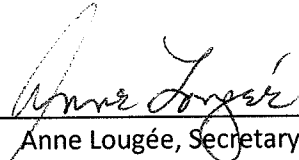
School Committee members discussed under what conditions they would transfer the land. One concern is that access to the rink by emergency vehicles would be hindered.

Ms. Graham suggested scheduling another meeting to discuss the conditions and the language of the vote. The School Committee agreed to meet again on March 27 at 9:00 a.m. to continue their discussion.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:10 a.m. on a motion offered by Ms. Lougée and seconded by Ms. Slap, it was

VOTED unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by 
Anne Lougée, Secretary