



BUDGET COMMITTEE
Town of Hollis
Seven Monument Square
Hollis, New Hampshire 03049
Tel. 465-2209 FAX 465-3701

Non-Public Session
Minutes of January 11, 2012

Meeting was held in the Community Room, Hollis Town Hall.

Members present: Chris Hyde, Chairman; Mike Harris, Susan Benz, Tom Gehan, Tom Jambard, Frank Whittemore, Rob Mann, Mark LeDoux

Members of the Hollis School Board present: Robert Mann, Chairman, Rich Manley, Deborah Pucci, William Beauregard, Frank Giudici

Also present: Susan Hodgdon, SAU41 Superintendent; Eric Horton, Business Administrator; Jeanne Saunders, Director of Student Services; Elizabeth Allen, Principal, HPS; Candice Fowler, Principal, HUES

Mike H. made a motion to enter non-public session per RSA 91-A: 3, II(c). Frank W. seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting entered nonpublic at 8:35 pm.

Discussion of Number of 2nd Grade Class Sections in FY13:

It was discussed earlier during the public session that based upon the projected 2nd grade enrollment (80) and proposed number of class sections (5) that the average calls size would be well below class size education specifications: 16 students/sections projected versus 20 students/section. Reducing the number of sections from 5 to 4 would align the forecasted number of students per class section to the specification and assist in meeting budget guidance.

Principle Allen and Director Saunders described the characteristics of the cohort entering 2nd grade. They stated that there are an unusually high number of students that require additional instructional support, e.g. special education students. They stated that given the characteristics of the student cohort it was strongly recommended that a fifth 2nd grade section be added to lower the student-teacher ratio, which would better meet the educational needs of the students. This position was supported by supported by the School Board and the other education professionals present.

Discussion ensued among the Budget Committee members. It was stated that an effective case was made to support an additional class section for the 2nd grade. There was no formal motion or vote on the matter, however there was unanimous agreement that the additional class section would be supported within the context of the larger budget process.

Mike H. made a motion to come out of non-public session. Tom J. seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting entered public session at 9:00 pm.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mike H. Frank W. seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Gehan, Secretary