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**MILFORD SCHOOL BOARD Minutes  
(SCHOOL ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT No. 40)  
December 21, 2009**

- 1. Call to Order** Chairman Bragdon called this meeting of the Milford School Board to order at 7:03 p.m. on Monday, December 21, 2008, in Lecture Hall #182 at the Milford High School. Those present, together with interested citizens, were:

**School Board Present** Bert Becker, Peter Bragdon, Paul Dargie, Len Mannino, and Bob Willette.

**Staff Present** Robert Suprenant, Superintendent of Schools; Katie Chambers, Business Administrator; and Laurel Johnson, Assistant Superintendent of Schools.

**Recorder** J. Bradford Seabury.

- 2. Board Member Comments** Chairman Bragdon asked if there were any comments from Board members. None being brought forward, he continued to the next agenda item.

Mr. Willette referenced an article in the Wilton-Lyndeborough paper noting that the Wilton-Lyndeborough School District had had a 14.53% reduction in the budget.

Chairman Bragdon announced that the School board had reached an agreement with the Administrators, calling for minimal increases, which he listed, as follows:

- Elimination of guaranteed increases, with all increases to be merit-based, with the maximum increase for 2010 to be 1.5%, with 2.5% in 2011, 3.0% in 2012, and 3.5% in 2013.
- Some increases to reflect increased responsibilities or market conditions.
- Elimination of an automatic \$1,000 increase after ten years.
- He noted that another element of the new contract was a change in vacation days, currently unlimited with unused days paid out upon retirement, with the new contract limiting unused accrued vacation days to a maximum of 20, with any administrators currently having more than 20 unused vacation days to exchange a quarter of them each year over the next four years into a retirement plan.
- Increased eligibility toward health insurance and eliminated linkage to the New Hampshire Retirement System, with the school District contributing 70% toward health insurance (reduced from 85% in the prior contract) and paying 20% of the salary for five years.

He then summarized other minor changes in the contract.

- 3. Public Comments** Chairman Bragdon asked if there were any introductory comments from members of the audience. None being brought forward, he continued to the next agenda item.

Mr. John Parker, Falcon Avenue, asked what the vote was on the Administrators contract; Chairman Bragdon said it had been 5-0. Mr. Parker then asked about the history of the merit increases. Chairman Bragdon said there had been none up until a few years ago, saying they had been introduced with the last contract.

**4. Reports and Presentations**

- a. Superintendent's Report** Superintendent Suprenant noted that the members of the Board had received several handout documents tonight, mainly relating to the budget.

He then reported that the New Hampshire Chronicle would be doing a story on heart-safe schools, featuring Milford High School.

Superintendent Suprenant said he had distributed to the members of the School Board two letters pertaining to the proposed budget reductions, one from Ms. Judy Gross in support of maintaining the woodworking position as a fulltime position, the other from members of the non-affiliated classified group.

Superintendent Suprenant introduced Mr. Brad Smith, the Music and Band Director, who in turn introduced four students belonging to the High School saxophone quartet, including Adam Drescher (also a member of the New Hampshire All-State Band), Jay Millhouse, Laurel Sargent, and Kat Feraco. Members of that student group then played a series of musical pieces, taking turns introducing the pieces they were playing for tonight's holiday presentation.

- b. Budget Committee Presentation – Kevin Federico** Mr. Kevin Federico expressed appreciation with respect to the three options presented by the Superintendent at the previous meeting. He said the Budget Committee had voted 6-0-1 to make a recommendation, and had voted 5-2 to amend Option B (noting that this referred to the original Option B) to \$674,431, with the reasons being (1) to let the science curriculum to be fully implemented and (2) to maintain full-time staff levels, with reduction through attrition, and (3) because the Committee felt the \$674,341 decrease was reasonable and responsible. He then read the minority opinion, as well, noting that it felt the budget had reached a limit, based on the flat increases over the past year. He said a few members of the Budget Committee would be in attendance at the School Board's budget workshop.

Chairman Bragdon asked for identity of the voting members. Mr. Federico said the minority voters were Joe Stella and Robert Halstead. Chairman Bragdon asked why the Budget Committee felt the reduction was not in the best interest of the School District. Mr. Federico said he could not speak

for the Budget Committee, but he would have the Committee list the reasons and then provide them by E-mail.

Chairman Bragdon noted that this was roughly a \$350,000 add-back to what the School Board currently was looking at. He noted that a third of the original increase was revenue related.

Chairman Bragdon said he would go right to **Old Business** at this time, because of the people in attendance.

**6. Old Business**

**a. Budget  
Work  
Session**

Superintendent Suprenant noted that the Board had asked him to talk to the various organizations to see if anything could be done to reduce the impact, and also to take another look at co-curricular costs. He said he had done that, having good discussion with members of both groups; he said there was interest in doing something if there could be a permanent solution, but he had not been able to provide that. He said there was a general conclusion that this budget reflected the economy and to go forth and fill as many of these positions as possible through attrition and retirements. He said he had reviewed the co-curriculars with the athletic director and the principals, noting that this had led to Option B Revised, as presented this evening. He then discussed details amounting to a \$30,863 reduction of what had been previously proposed, with \$12,800 out of co-curricular, and with some of the savings transferred into the previously proposed staff reductions, saving a few of those positions.

Mr. Willette questioned some of the stipends, such as the Marching Band Director's Assistant stipend. Mr. Dargie outlined some of the responsibilities of the Band, saying a lot of man-hours were involved. Chairman Bragdon suggested asking Dr. Craven for a written clarification. Superintendent Suprenant said there was a formula for all the positions, based on similar positions elsewhere.

Mr. Mannino asked about supplies, Superintendent Suprenant said there had been some reductions.

Mr. Willette asked what the increase had been in the co-curricular budget from five years ago. Superintendent Suprenant referenced a handout that had been distributed at the beginning of the meeting, noting that it listed the object source for both High School and Middle School levels; he then reviewed details in that document, noting that the increases had been based on increased student participation, along with the budgeting of teacher chaperones for the Science Camp. He noted that no raises for coaches were proposed for next year, but there were some significant maintenance-cost increases.

Chairman Bragdon asked for comments or questions from the public.

Mr. John Parker asked how many students would be impacted by the proposed cuts to the co-curricular plan. Superintendent Suprenant said no students should be impacted, except possibly with respect to the musical drama that would not be held this coming year.

Mr. Parker said he was opposed to this level of cuts, but he hoped that the Board and Administration would hold true to the idea that nothing was sacred.

Mr. Kevin Federico asked whether any of the staff members Superintendent Suprenant had spoken to had indicated that they would not be able to continue their employment on a part-time basis. Superintendent Suprenant said the principals had been asked to sit with these people, noting that each had been made aware that there were annual turnovers and that they should be encouraged to apply for those full-time positions.

Ms. Janine Kumpu, the Guidance Secretary, said she would not be able to stay after losing benefits and hours, as it was too big a hit to absorb. She expressed a belief that her position warranted the full-time nature of that position, noting it was the only secretarial position that had been cut.

Mr. John Parker asked if the Board knew of any other school districts going to a part-time basis at this level. Superintendent Suprenant said there were other districts this year, saying he and other superintendents met with the DOE Commissioner on a monthly basis, and he had been in the minority last year with respect to having to reduce staff, but that many districts would be reducing this year, although in some cases it was because of reduced enrollment.

Mr. Parker said he would not be able to stay at his job if his hours were cut this way, saying no one would stay if they did not have benefits, which would affect the continuity of programs and curriculum. He said he found that everything seemed to be concentrated in special subject areas, which he found disturbing. He asked about increase in class sizes. Superintendent Suprenant said he did not believe there would be an increase in class sizes. Mr. Parker asked if he would be correct in saying the original \$500,000 cut would not have resulted in staff decreases. Mr. Dargie said his original proposal had been based on an estimate of \$350,000 in easy cuts, as shown at the top of the list. Mr. Parker asked about the reduced health insurance; Superintendent Suprenant discussed details of what the figures had been last year as opposed to this year, noting that it was based on claims history, averaging 25% increase. Mr. Parker asked about the reduction in instructional assistants at the Middle School; Superintendent Suprenant clarified that these were not SPED cuts.

Ms. Chase Wilson Roeper, a SPED Associate, said she would not be able to afford to work here on a part-time basis, saying she could command more money outside of the School District.

Mr. Bob Williams, the High School Woodworking teacher, noted that 12 students would not be able to take woodworking, and he questioned how this fit in with the No Child Left Behind Act, if the shop had to be closed for half the day. He said the community had invested in this cabinet shop, adding that other students would not be able to work on their engineering projects because of this reduction, explaining that much of this work was done in non-classtime. Superintendent Suprenant said he did not disagree, saying there was no question that there would be some impact on the students.

Ms. Sena Maziarz, the Physical Education teacher at Heron Pond, read aloud a prepared statement, saying cutting her position would affect the students she worked with, adding that she would have to seek employment elsewhere if this change went through.

Ms. Rachel Rouillard said she wanted to stay in the district but did not know if she could do it for more than a year with the proposed reduced hours, noting that it affected her planned pregnancy. She noted that the people being cut down could not go seek work in a different school system in the freed hours. She stated that she had made proposals concerning how the other hours could be used, but none of her proposals had been accepted.

Chairman Bragdon asked what Superintendent Suprenant had meant in saying that the groups would be interested if it were a permanent solution, asking if he had meant that the reduction in pay would be made up in a following year. Superintendent Suprenant concurred, saying this would present a bigger problem in the following year. He then discussed details, saying the amount could be balanced if the organizations accepted a 1% increase rather than what was scheduled, or would take a 5% reduction in health insurance. He said they then wanted to know if they would be asked to do the same thing next year, saying he could not guarantee that they might not be, as the situation might be even worse next year. He said the consensus was that the organization leaders wanted the contracts honored; he also pointed out that reopening contracts was a time-consuming process.

Mr. John Parker asked how many students at Heron Pond took music and art. Staff members in the audience identified the numbers, and Mr. Parker then commented that this meant every student at Heron Pond would be affected. Superintendent Suprenant said he did not think that was accurate, saying he understood that the course would still be offered, but the students who would be affected were those taking enrichment courses or newly-created classes.

Ms. Rachel Rouillard said she would disagree, as it was important to see the students on a regular basis and also to have an open door so that they could come in for extra help, but the latter could not be offered with the reduced hours. She said the kids who were in trouble would not be able to get help, saying this would impact every student

Mr. Bob Williams, 64 Dudigan Road, said building trades was one of the places kept open, but only students familiar with the shop operation could use the tools, saying the same was true of the other shops, as well. He commented that most of the chairs the School Board members were now sitting on had undergone repairs in the shop, stage scenery was created there, etc. He then cited some examples of how students worked there.

Mr. Willette, speaking as a citizen, noted that he was retired and on a fixed income, with the result that he was going to have to sell his home because of the increase in taxes. He expressed a belief that education was the best investment for the future, but teachers had to share the tax impact along with the rest of the citizens of the town.

Ms. Suzanne Schedin, a 4<sup>th</sup>-grade teacher, said the budget would limit the supplies that she no longer got, saying the average teacher spent \$1,000 of their own money to pay for supplies. She said teachers were asked about the contract, noting that the citizens had said just ten months ago that the teachers deserved the contract, but no one had said anything about opening it up. She said she had friends in the corporate world having half the education she had but making three times as much, saying she had chosen to be a teacher. She then expressed concern that there was no guarantee that the teachers would not be asked to accept other reductions next year or in following years, saying she felt they were doing their share.

Chairman Bragdon said he had never had a teacher say they bought their own supplies. Ms. Schedin said she did not buy all but bought a lot of them. Chairman Bragdon noted that no cuts in supplies were indicated.

Chairman Bragdon pointed out that the inflation rate had been almost 4% when negotiations started with the teachers for the previous contract and had been still over 3% when negotiations started for the current contract, had dropped to roughly 2.7% when the contract was ratified, but had dropped to 0.7, and was 0.7% by the time the voters voted on the contract, but had dropped to -0.7% when he last checked; he then acknowledged that the same question might be asked next year, depending on how the economy went. He urged that the teachers consider that in any given year they could say "No." He then stated that some decisions should be made. To start off, he moved initially that the Board approve Option B, Revised, as presented in Superintendent Suprenant's handout. Mr. Willette seconded the motion. Chairman Bragdon said he wanted to get a relatively firm set of budget things put together, noting that some things might change between now and the Deliberative Session at the end of January.

Mr. Dargie moved to amend the motion on the floor by adding \$200,000 back to the bottom line. Mr. Becker seconded that amendment motion. Mr. Dargie discussed the reasons for his motion, saying he would leave the decisions of where the money would be used to the Superintendent. Mr. Mannino expressed concern about the desire to restore funds without designating where they should be spent. Chairman Bragdon said some quick calculations suggested this would be a general increase of 2%. **Vote:** Mr. Dargie and Mr. Becker voted in favor; Mr. Mannino, Mr. Willette, and Mr. Bragdon voted in opposition. Chairman Bragdon declared the amendment motion to have failed (3-2).

Chairman Bragdon noted that the vote was now back to the main motion. **Vote:** Mr. Bragdon, Mr. Mannino, and Mr. Willette voted in favor; Mr. Becker and Mr. Dargie voted in opposition. Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried (3-2).

Business Administrator Chambers noted that there had been a handout taking into consideration the things requested at the last meeting. She noted that the three early-retirements that were approved at the previous meeting would provide a cost increase of \$24,809. Chairman Bragdon said this would have to come from elsewhere in the budget, as the Board had voted on a bottom line figure.

Chairman Bragdon said he would now go back to Agenda Item 5.

## **5. New Business**

- a. **Policy Proposals**
- Decision to approve Policy #2326 for its 1<sup>st</sup> Reading*
- (1) Policy # 2326, Requests For Federal Funds (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**  
Superintendent Suprenant discussed the reasons for proposing the policy changes. He noted that this was a one-sentence policy that reflected current practice. Mr. Becker moved to approve Policy #2326 for its first reading. Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion. Mr. Mannino said it seemed that the wording could be changed, since a majority vote was required to support the Superintendent's position. Chairman Bragdon suggested changing "shall be approved" to something else, saying this would not require another first reading. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).
- Decision to approve Policy #2419 for its 1<sup>st</sup> Reading*
- (2) Policy #2419 (Posted as #2420), Publishing Collective Bargaining Unit Contracts (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**  
Superintendent Suprenant corrected the new section number, saying it should be 2419, as there already was a Policy #2420, adding again that it reflected current practice and current status. Mr. Becker moved to approve Policy #2419 for its first reading. Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion. Mr. Dargie expressed concern about needing a wording change with respect to the required 10-day approval period; Chairman Bragdon concurred, saying that would be left up to the Superintendent but would not require a new first reading. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).
- (3) Policy # 5096, Freedom of Assembly/Freedom of Religion (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**  
Chairman Bragdon noted that NH RSA 189:1-b stated that a moment of silence was required, so the proposed policy would violate State law; he suggested that the Committee review this for possible change. Superintendent Suprenant concurred, saying he would take the proposed policy back to the committee. Mr. Mannino asked about the impact for sporting events or things of that nature; Superintendent Suprenant said the policy was drafted to address exactly that situation.
- Decision to approve Policy #6040 for its 1<sup>st</sup> Reading*
- (4) Policy # 6040 Flags (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**  
Superintendent Suprenant said that the proposed change was an intent to make the language more current. Mr. Becker asked about the federal requirement for illumination at night; Chairman Bragdon noted that this had been an issue in the past, expressing a belief that the flags in question had been taken down. Mr. Becker moved to approve Policy #6040 for its first reading. Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).



**(5) Default Budget (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)**

Chairman Bragdon said he had submitted this proposed draft to codify some proposed compromises, in order to keep the School Board out of the mechanics of putting the Default Budget together. Mr. Bragdon moved to approve the draft Default Budget policy for its first reading. Mr. Mannino seconded the motion. Mr. Bragdon noted that the equipment issue was one that the Board had compromised on; he then reviewed some of the other elements of the proposed policy.

Mr. Dargie expressed concern about the equipment issue, saying the School Board typically was trying to get to \$250,000 each year for curriculum cycle expenditures, including new equipment. Mr. Dargie also expressed a belief that the positions being eliminated from the proposed budget belonged in the default budget. He then questioned if various types of benefits should not be included, even if there were no long-term contract with a stated amount. Chairman Bragdon suggested dental insurance would, and perhaps extra health insurance, but there would be no change in Workmen's Compensation. Mr. Dargie expressed disagreement, saying it was the best deal that the Board could get. Chairman Bragdon said the Board was obligated to get it, but not to buy it from the same place each time.

Mr. Willette said he appreciated the work that had been done, but he would like to see this go to the Policy committee and have them come back with a fully formatted policy document.

Superintendent Suprenant said the statement about insurance was contradictory to the next statement. Chairman Bragdon and Business Administrator Chambers discussed the issue, with Chairman Bragdon saying the wording might be changed.

Chairman Bragdon called a recess at 9:04 p.m., calling the meeting back to order at 9:15 p.m.

Chairman Bragdon suggested the Board pass this proposed policy for a first reading, as the Policy committee would not meet until January 21st. Business Administrator Chambers said she wanted to go on record that she felt it could be interpreted by the Board that utility increases and insurance type incidences should be included, so that the School District could operate at the same levels on which it had operated in the past. She then questioned the first bullet listed under collective bargaining. Chairman Bragdon said his intent was that any position reduced through any stage up until the time that the budget went before the voters should also come out of the Default Budget; he noted that Mr. Dargie did not agree. Ms. Chambers asked about benefits for the non-affiliated staff, noting that this benefit was stated to the applicants in the hiring packet but they were not members of a bargaining unit. Chairman Bragdon said the Department was not legally required to provide that service. **Vote:** Mr. Mannino, Mr. Willette, and Mr. Bragdon voted in favor; Mr. Becker and Mr. Dargie voted in opposition. Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried (3–2).

**b. Default Budget**

Business Administrator Chambers discussed the revised Default Budget she had provided to the Board, commenting on details. Superintendent Suprenant noted that the athletic officials were under a 3-year contract with NHIAA, so they should be included.

Chairman Bragdon noted that there would be a meeting on January 4<sup>th</sup>, saying the increase in the Default Budget at this point stood at \$369,781.

**c. Warrant Articles**

Chairman Bragdon addressed the draft warrant articles, noting that the first pertained to an addition at the Jacques School. Mr. Dargie moved to put that article on the budget; Mr. Bragdon seconded the motion for the purposes of discussion, saying he would support the article, as the State's putting in three fourths of the cost was the best deal the Town could get, but he was concerned about the State's economy situation. He noted there would be a final vote on the matter in late January.

Mr. Mannino asked how old the construction figures were. Business Administrator Chambers said they were obtained last year; Chairman Bragdon noted that the items would go out for bid if the article passed. Mr. Mannino asked where the protection was for the taxpayers if the State Aid did not come through. Mr. Dargie said the wording limited the monetary obligation of the Milford taxpayers, saying the project would have to be scaled back or not done if the State Aid did not come through. Chairman

Bragdon confirmed that this would be an up-front grant. Mr. Mannino asked about the portables; Superintendent Suprenant said the contractors were still getting their permitting, saying they were targeting February 15<sup>th</sup> as an occupancy date. Mr. Mannino expressed concern about not having been able to use something that was contracted. Mr. Dargie said pass-through expenses would go to the State. Business Administrator Chambers pointed out that the portables would be needed next year, as well, if this article passed.

Mr. Dargie asked about bonding issues; Ms. Chambers discussed details and possibilities. She identified a final figure of \$1,717,538 for the Town number, with \$11,500 interest cost for the first year, with this to be added to the text. Chairman Bragdon said this would be a friendly amendment, as both he and Mr. Dargie were in agreement, with the changes to be change the remainder figure from \$426,509 to \$438,009, together with adding the words "interest cost for the first year."

Mr. Mannino said he would be opposed, as the School Board had just moved forward with a \$1,000,000 reduction of the proposed budget, with portables lined up that the school was not into yet, and now the Board would be asking the voters for another \$500,000 for something they already had, and he could not justify that at this time.

**Vote:** Mr. Dargie, Mr. Willette, Mr. Becker, and Mr. Bragdon voted in favor; Mr. Mannino voted in opposition. Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried (4–1).

Chairman Bragdon moved to place the proposed warrant Article 2 on the warrant. Mr. Mannino seconded the motion. Chairman Bragdon noted that some numbers needed to be changed, saying he would go along with the \$35,364,204 but that the default budget figure should be changed from \$35,799,871. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5–0). Chairman Bragdon clarified that this did not mean the members were in support at this time but merely that they were voting to put the article on the warrant.

Mr. Bragdon moved that the Board put the proposed Article 3 on the ballot. Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5–0).

Business Administrator Chambers noted that the DRA had required that specific text be placed at the end of the warrant.

Chairman Bragdon moved to put the second #3 draft article on the ballot as Warrant Article 4. Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. Mr. Mannino said the previous discussion suggested this might have difficulty in passing. He

asked if the School District would be responsible for the costs of calling a second meeting. Chairman Bragdon said the District would be authorized to call one but might not do so. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).

Chairman Bragdon said the draft article listed as #4, which should be #5, would be discussed in nonpublic session.

Chairman Bragdon asked about the playground trust account, which had been discussed at the prior meeting. Business Administrator Chambers said there was no money in it. Mr. Bragdon moved to place the listed #5, to see if the School District would vote to discontinue the Elementary School Playground Expendables Trust Fund, on the ballot as Warrant Article 6. Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Bragdon addressed the second #5 draft article, to see if the School District would vote to authorize the School Treasurer, with the approval of the School Board, to appoint a Deputy Treasure in accordance with RSA 197-24a, moving to place it on the warrant as Warrant Article 7. Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).

Mr. Bragdon addressed the #6 draft article, to transact any other business that might legally come before the School District meeting, moving to place it on the warrant as Warrant Article 8. Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).

## **7. Housekeeping Items**

**a. Approval of Minutes** Chairman Bragdon addressed the 12-07-09 meeting minutes. Mr. Dargie noted the following change requests:

- On Page 1, the location of the meeting was listed incorrectly.
- On Page 2 the spelling of the McKinney-Vento Act was incorrect on the second line of text.
- On Page 5, Tricia Shea's name was misspelled.
- At the bottom of that same page, Ms. Sena Maziarz title should be written out, identifying her as the Physical Education teacher at Heron Pond.

Mr. Bragdon then moved that the Board approve the minutes as amended; Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5-0).

**b. Approval of Manifests** Chairman Bragdon addressed the manifests awaiting approval, listed as including Vouchers Nos. 14, 15, 1096, 1097, 1098, 1099, 1100, and 1101. Mr. Dargie moved that the Board approve the manifests as listed;

Mr. Becker seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5–0).

**c. Approval of Treasurer's Report** Chairman Bragdon addressed the September 2009 Treasurer's Report, awaiting approval. Mr. Dargie moved that the Board approve the Treasurer's Reports as listed; Mr. Becker seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, and Chairman Bragdon declared the motion to have carried unanimously (5–0).

**8. Public Comment** Chairman Bragdon asked if there were any closing comments from members of the audience. None being brought forward, he continued to the next agenda item.

Mr. John Parker suggested it would be in the best interest for the Superintendent to look into what had happened in other districts, to see how easy it would be to rehire, etc., suggested that the cuts maybe should go somewhere else if it were going to be difficult to get qualified teachers in the future. He said it was important for the Superintendent to follow through on the charge given by the School Board with nothing being sacred—adding that the \$12,000 of co-curricular reduction was less than 1% of the overall cuts, and he felt co-curricular positions needed to be looked at, given the number of students affected by those positions. Chairman Bragdon confirmed that reducing the co-curricular by 4% might be a larger prorated share, adding that there might be information in-house about the difficulty in filling those positions.

**9. Non-Public Session** Chairman Bragdon moved to go into non-public session under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3 II (c), *Matters which, if discussed in public, likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person*, and (d) *Consideration of the acquisition, sale or lease of real or personal property which, if discussed in public, would likely benefit a party or parties whose interests are adverse to those of the general community*. Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **VOTE:** Messrs. Becker, Bragdon, Dargie, Mannino, and Willette all voted in favor of the motion, which carried unanimously (5-0). Chairman Bragdon then declared the Board to be going into non-public session at 9:57 p.m.

Superintendent Suprenant noted that there in fact were no personnel issues to discuss this evening.

The Board discussed an issue related to real estate, with no decisions being made.

No further nonpublic business remaining before the Board, Mr. Bragdon moved to exit from the nonpublic session; Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, with the Board returning to public session at 10:30 p.m.

**10. Adjournment**

All scheduled items having been addressed, Mr. Bragdon moved to adjourn; Mr. Dargie seconded the motion. **Vote:** All members voted in favor, with this meeting adjourning at 10:31 p.m.

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Chairman of the School Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signing