

**December 13, 2011**  
**Budget Work Session**  
**Chesterfield School Board**  
**Chesterfield School, 6:00 p.m.**

In attendance: Ege Cordell, School Board Chair  
Genienne Hockensmith, School Board Member  
Marty Mahoney, School Board Member  
Judy Idelkope, School Board Member  
Tim Ruehr, Business Administrator for Towns  
Sharyn D'Eon, Principal  
Darlene Dunn, Assistant Principal  
Kathleen Brady, Recording Secretary

In attendance for all or a portion of the meeting: Gail Grainger, John Lee, Cindy Walsh

1. Call to order: Ege Cordell called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

The budget was reviewed section by section:

**Section 1100:**

Mr. Mahoney had a question on calculating enrollment trends.

Mrs. D'Eon reviewed a report that Ms. Benjamin did for her; data was pulled from town records.

Team leader stipends should read \$3,200; this figure is actually in the budget (500112).

Mr. Mahoney questioned whether we would be expecting more from team leaders with the upcoming change in administration? Mrs. D'Eon says she will be looking to team leaders more to assist with student behaviors.

Mrs. D'Eon reviewed a few changes in this section: decrease in supplies, print media, cut trade books, and math workbooks (due to declining enrollment).

Discussion on having document cameras and media projector under general account and not the technology account, *decision was made to move document camera and media projector to technology account 11000045 500734.*

Ege Cordell asked for specificity as to what the PE replaced equipment would be? Mrs. D'Eon reviewed this list.

Mrs. Hockensmith asked if the reduction in teachers was due to declining enrollment or is it actually loss of a position? Mrs. Idelkope explained it was actually one position. Mrs. Idelkope asked Mr. Ruehr what the total impact of the retirement increase would be. Would like Mr. Mahoney to have this information for the Budget Committee.

*When looking at salaries Mr. Ruehr noted that \$839 needs to be added to L. Robertson's line, this is to reflect a lane change to Masters +.*

**Section 1200:**

Mrs. Hockensmith questioned the \$86,495 increase. Mr. Ruehr explained this was mostly due to 4 people changing health coverage.

Mrs. Idelkope questioned the Kindle Farm tuition decrease; Mrs. D'Eon explained this is due to a program change.

*Board requested to have birthdates added to section 500114 near the grade level of students.*

Mr. Mahoney wanted to know what factors were considered in maintaining current level of staffing in special education.

Mrs. D'Eon handed out a sheet with identification trends and noted that there was not a huge decline in special education numbers. She has made no cuts to special education teacher positions. Right now there are high needs in two specific grade levels. Families are also requesting more face-to-face time and monthly update meetings. Mrs. Idelkope questioned why we were honoring such requests, feels we are setting ourselves up by honoring those requests.

Mr. Ruehr stated that with the administrative change it might be detrimental to cut special education aides at this time, (loss of vice principal). Staff is stressed with current caseload; this has been discussed multiple times and would like to stabilize the new administrative model before moving to cut more aides.

Mrs. Idelkope was interested in how we will be assigning special educators. Are we looking at different models for the fourth special educator? She is not arguing for a reduction but rather would like to see various options looked at. Mrs. D'Eon stated that they have talked about different models.

Discussion ensued on various special education options. Current model of aides will continue into next year. Aides are however, being stretched.

Mrs. Idelkope questioned the change in Title One. Mrs. D'Eon stated that there would be cuts in that department; federal money will be gone July 1<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Idelkope questioned whether we will have the staff we need. Stated to Mrs. D'Eon that she could make the argument to keep a staff member and fund it differently.

*Page 3, section 500564, change grade 10, 12/95 to grade 11.*

**Section 1400:**

*Mr. Mahoney requested changing Assistant Athletic Director to read Athletic Director.*

Mrs. Idelkope questioned the Student Council stipend. *Decision made to recommend increase stipend for Student Council to \$900.*

*Mrs. Idelkope recommends \$700 for an Assembly Coordinator stipend.*

*Math error on page 5, Nature's Classroom budget should read \$3,200 not \$3,300*

**Section 2120:**

Mrs. Idelkope had a question regarding testing and evaluation; the figure looks the same as last year. Mrs. D'Eon explained that prior year spending is looked at. Mr. Ruehr explained that this line is related to the chance we might have someone hit this line, for extraordinary evaluation costs, if necessary.

*Page 6, change section 500340, should read 279 to 293, with a total budgeted amount of \$3,488.*

**Section 2130:**

Mrs. Idelkope questioned the increase in the transportation aide. *Mr. Ruehr will check with Dr. DeVoid to find out why there is such an increase in this figure.*

**Section 2140:**

*Page 8, section 500323, change grade 10 to grade 11.*

**Section 2150:**

Mrs. Cordell questioned whether 80% speech was workable, Mrs. D'Eon stated it is.

**Section 2153:**

Mrs. Idelkope asked if the OT caseload was still the same.

**Section 2212**

*Delete section "cost associated with curriculum work...."*

Mr. Mahoney questioned what curriculum committees there will be next year, Mrs. D'Eon answered that she was not sure.

**Section 2222:**

Mrs. Idelkope questioned where the accessibility to the library will be with this cut. Mrs. D'Eon stated that with one start and stop time it will open the mornings up. A library schedule was handed out; discussion ensued on the library schedule.

**Section 2410:**

Mr. Mahoney asked Mrs. D'Eon what she sees as the impact with the loss of a vice principal. Mrs. D'Eon stated her priorities would be as follows: students, staff, and parents. Parents will need to make appointments. Mrs. D'Eon stated that it would affect her staying after school and for late evening meetings. LEA will be affected. Staff evaluations will be difficult.

Mrs. Idelkope noted that outside evaluations are an option.

Mr. Mahoney questioned the need for the principal to attend every single board meeting. Demands and expectations of the board need to be looked at.

**Section 2620:**

Mrs. Cordell asked for a breakdown of salaries. Mr. Mahoney would like to discuss custodial issue in non-public. Mrs. Idelkope questioned having the rewiring of computer lines here, feels that should be under technology, Mr. Ruehr disagreed.

**Section 2700:**

Discussion ensued on one start and stop time. Discussion ensued on joining with Keene to get the best bid, but will still have our own contract. Mr. Mahoney suggested adding the 8<sup>th</sup> grade trip to the budget.

**Section 2840:**

*Suggested made to remove \$9,900 for iPads. Mrs. Idelkope suggested looking at grants.*

Non-Public Session R.S.A. 91-A:3

Motion made for the Board to enter non-public session under the provisions of R.S.A. 91-A:3 at 8:45 p.m. to discuss staff personnel/negotiations. Motion seconded, all in favor. Accompanying the Board were Mrs. D'Eon and Mr. Ruehr.

The board resumed public session at 9:37 p.m. Ms. Hockensmith left the meeting during non-public.

Ms. Idlekope moved to make the following changes resulting in an increase to the administration's budget of about \$4,594. The motion was seconded by Ms. Cordell and passed unanimously 3-0.

Changes adopted

- |                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| 1. acct# 1-500112-500260 +\$839 | for lane change                            |
| 2. acct# 6-500112+\$200         | Student council stipend                    |
| 3. acct# 6-500112+\$700         | Assemblies program coordinator             |
| 4. acct# 6-500810-\$100         | Nature's classroom fee adjustment          |
| 5. acct# 7-500340-\$175         | NWEA student testing                       |
| 6. acct# 45-500734-\$6,510      | iPads for the music lab                    |
| 7. acct# 45-500650-\$360        | Software reduction related to iPad request |
| 8. acct#28-500119+\$10,000      | TBD determined employee for custodian      |

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Brady  
Recording Secretary

APPROVED: January 9, 2012