

**S.A.D. #44 BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2008
7:00 PM – ANDOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
MINUTES**

I CALL TO ORDER:

Directors Absent: Ms. Davis, Mr. Korhonen

Others Present: Mr. Brown, Mr. Davis, Mr. Tornrose, Ms. Littlehale, Dr. Murphy, Mr. Rice, Ms. Waite, Mr. Sabin, Ms. Aloisio, Ms. Tancrelle, Ms. Chase, Mr. Deegan

Pledge of Allegiance

II ACTION ON MINUTES:

Ms. Cross motioned to approve the minutes from the March 24, 2008 meeting.

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Ms. Taylor VOTE: Unanimous

III CITIZEN COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

IV BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: (maximum fifteen minutes)

Chairman's Report

Ms. Cummings welcomed Ronald Deegan, former Board member, back to the district as Transportation Supervisor.

V COMMITTEE/BOARD MEETINGS:

SAD #44 Board Meeting: Monday, April 28, 2008 – Woodstock – 7:00 PM

Executive Committee: TBD

Education Committee: Monday, May 5, 2008 – 4:00 PM - EBS

Personnel Committee: Monday, April 14, 2008 – 6:45 PM - AES

Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Monday, April 14, 2008 – 6:40 PM - AES

Negotiations Committee: TBD

Finance Committee: Monday, April 14, 2008 – 6:30 PM – AES

Policy Committee: Monday, May 5, 2008 – 5:30 PM - EBS

Region 9 Cooperative Board: Tuesday, April 15, 2008 – 7:00 PM

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VI COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Education Committee: Ms. Arizzi – No Report

Facilities & Ancillary Services Committee: Ms. Cross reported that the committee toured the facility. She stated that the roof is no longer leaking.

Finance Committee: Mr. Pew reported that the committee met prior to the meeting for continued budget discussion.

Negotiations Committee: Mr. Pew – No report

Personnel Committee: Ms. Brown – No report

Policy Committee: Ms. Largess – The committee has several agenda items.

Region 9 Cooperative Board: Mr. Farrington – No report

VII SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND CORRESPONDENCE:

- Appointments and Resignations – Dr. Murphy reported that he has accepted the resignations of John Emery, Andover Elementary teacher and Joe Bailey, Middle School Guidance. He also reported the following appointments: Daniel Crooker, Jr. – THS Asst. Track Coach; Laura Kaufman – THS Head Track Coach; John Eliot – THS Asst. Baseball Coach; Kelly Blaszcak – TMS Head Track Coach; Scott Haines – TMS Asst. Track Coach; Kelly Dole – TMS JV Softball Coach and Tera Ingraham – CPS Softball Coach.
- School Consolidation Update – LD 1932 and Governor's Bill – Dr. Murphy distributed an article related to Consolidation issues and spoke briefly regarding the "stand-off" in Augusta between the Legislature and the Governor. He added that the current Legislative session ends this week. He stated that he will keep the Board updated via e-mail as the situation evolves.
- Revolving Renovation Project Update – Dr. Murphy reported that he has spoken to Mr. Smith and the sprinkler system at THS will not be completed during this summer. The main pipes will be run and the project will be completed in the summer of 2009. The THS entryway project will be completed this summer.
- Telstar Accreditation Visit – Dr. Murphy began by stating that Telstar students were highly praised by members of the Visiting Team. The team's report was completed on Wednesday and will be available in late summer. The report will be available in school offices, town offices and possibly on-line. Dr. Murphy stated that the report will provide the new Telstar administration with a good base to work from. Mr. Davis stated that there were no surprises. Telstar received both commendations and recommendations. He also thanked Lainey Cross for the power-point presentation she put together for the team.
- Adjustments to Graduation Week – Dr. Murphy reported that due to the state requirements of holding a Public Meeting 3 days prior to a Referendum vote for budget approval, the Baccalaureate will be held on Wednesday instead of Thursday.
- Update on School Calendar – Dr. Murphy reported that the 2008-2009 School Calendar will be on the 4/28/08 agenda for Board approval.

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- Telstar Middle School Curriculum Fair – Dr. Murphy commended the middle school staff and students on the successful Curriculum Fair. Many students were on hand to present their projects.
- Telstar Dual Enrollment Course Options for 2008-2009 – Mr. Davis reported that the process of developing dual courses with CMCC for THS students is underway. Four classes will be offered including Writing, Sociology, Psychology and Business Math. Mr. Davis noted that the math course will be scheduled for after school hours and evenings. There are currently approximately 35 students who have signed up. There will be an entrance and book fee of approximately \$150.00 to \$200.00.
- Dr. Murphy informed the Board of Wellness Committee basket raffle to raise money for staff to attend the annual Wellness Conference. The basket was currently on display at AES and is on its way around the district.

VIII OLD BUSINESS:

None

IX NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion - None
2. Adjustments to the Agenda - None
3. Ms. Largess motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST reading of Policy ADC Tobacco Use and Possession.

MOTION: Ms. Largess SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

4. Ms. Largess motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST reading of Policy EBCF Automated External Defibrillators (AED's).

MOTION: Ms. Largess SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

5. Ms. Largess motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST reading of Policy JLF Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect.

MOTION: Ms. Largess SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

6. Ms. Largess motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST reading of Policy KHB Advertising in the Schools.

MOTION: Ms. Largess SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

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7. Ms. Largess motioned to accept the Policy Committee's recommendation and approve the FIRST reading of Policy JHB Truancy.

MOTION: Ms. Largess SECOND: VOTE: Unanimous

8. Mr. Pew motioned to approve entering into a Workshop session for the 2008-2009 School Budget.

MOTION: Mr. Pew SECOND: Ms. Cross VOTE: Unanimous

Workshop Session – 7:40 PM

Discussion on FY '09 School Budget

Mr. Pew began by thanking the Finance Committee for their hard work over the past few weeks. He stated that the Committee has met 4 or 5 times. Mr. Pew reminded the Board that last year's budget was approximately \$9.8 million. For FY '09 SAD #44 is facing cost increases of approximately \$350,000 for salaries, \$200,000 in fuel, and \$165,000 for Region 9. Coupled with a \$200,000 decrease in state funding, SAD #44 is looking at a deficit of somewhere in the vicinity of \$900,000.

Dr. Murphy distributed a listing of reductions already made to the FY 09 proposed budget. Dr. Murphy noted that SAD #44 is one of only two districts in the entire state operating on a different cost share formula. Each town's share of the cost of education is based on state valuation figures. The figures for our district towns have increased by 19% compared to the state average of 11%. Dr. Murphy stated that the only addition made to the FY 09 budget was a return to a full-time Special Education Director. Due to the fact that significant funds had been kept in the FY 08 budget for contracted services and that the Board added a half time liaison to assist in this process earlier this year, no new funding should be required in the FY 09 budget beyond maintaining the status quo. Dr. Murphy also stated that the current plan was to keep 2 principals at the Telstar complex. In a straw poll, the Board overwhelmingly agreed by a vote of 12 to 1 to maintain the two principals at Telstar.

Dr. Murphy spent several minutes reviewing a packet of budget information with the Board. He noted that any increases in the budget needs to come from taxpayers. He stated that his goal was to obtain feedback from the Board in terms of the percentage increase to the local they wanted to present to the Public Meeting. A 2.9% increase to the expenditure budget represents a 5% increase to the local.

Dr. Murphy spent a few minutes discussing the additional monetary cuts necessary to the FY 09 budget to achieve increases of 2.9%, 5%, or 7% to the local. The Finance Committee felt that a 2.9% would be the best recommendation. It was also noted that several local towns have built 5% into their budgets for education.

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Ms. Cummings called for a straw vote of the Board to determine the acceptable percentage increase to the general expenditure budget to be brought to the public meeting. By a 12-1 vote, the Board determined that the expenditure budget should reflect an overall 2.9% increase.

Mr. Polak questioned the cost savings involved if an elementary school was closed in the future. Dr. Murphy explained that he is suggesting the establishment of a Facilities Study Committee to review the viability of all buildings in the district. Ideally, he suggested that this Committee should resemble the Regional Planning Committee structure established under School Consolidation with a Board member, Selectman and resident from each town serving on the Committee. He stated that closing a school is a very complicated process that involves many steps.

9. Mr. Farrington motioned to approve exiting the Workshop Session and returning to Public Session.

MOTION: Mr. Farrington SECOND: Ms. Cross VOTE: Unanimous

ADJOURNMENT: 8:53 PM

MOTION: Ms. Cross SECOND: Mr. Farrington VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted:

David W. Murphy, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools