

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE

PRESENT: MAYOR LANG, DR. FLETCHER, ATTY. CLARK, DR. FINNERTY, MRS. USSACH,
ATTY. CLARK

ABSENT: MR. NOBREGA

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. FRANCIS, L. OLIVEIRA, H. LARKIN, C. COSTA, L. DUNAWAY (Acting recording
secretary)

Justin Braga, Student Representative, was in attendance.

Several School Committee members and the Student Representative delivered reports.

Mayor Lang started the ongoing budget session by stating that a tentative vote was taken by the Committee on July 12, 2010 and that he hoped the Committee would take the final vote on the budget.

Mr. Oliveira reviewed the cuts preliminarily voted on at the previous meetings. He went on to explain that since the last meeting it has been determined that 109 teaching positions in the amount of \$6,089,229, would have to be eliminated to balance the budget.

Ms. Pollock asked the Committee to revisit the issue of eliminating three assistant principals at each middle school which amounted to \$240,000.

Dr. Fletcher, Dr. Finnerty and Mrs. Ussach voiced their opinion by stating that they did not want to add back the Assistant Principals as this would eliminate five teaching positions.

Dr. Finnerty asked how much money we were short and how many people will lose their jobs.

Mayor Lang responded that so far, 120 layoffs are planned system wide, not including the teaching positions. Mr. Oliveira stated that there will be 224 less positions in September 2010 than there were in June 2010 between the new positions that were eliminated, retirements, positions not filled and layoffs.

Atty. Clark asked how many teachers will actually be laid off to which Mr. Oliveira responded that 94 teachers may be laid off at this time.

Dr. Fletcher asked Dr. Francis what the average class size would be. Dr. Francis responded that class size could reach into the high 30's and low 40's.

Atty. Clark and Mrs. Ussach appealed to the teachers union to work with the Committee to prevent the loss of the teaching positions.

On a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Atty. Clark, the Committee voted to approve the FY 2011 in the amount of \$105,560,262.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Lang	Yes	Atty. Clark	Yes
Dr. Finnerty	Yes	Ms. Pollock	Yes
Dr. Fletcher	Yes	Mrs. Ussach	Yes
Mr. Nobrega	Absent		

6 - Yeas

0 - Nays

1 - Absent

At 7:35 P.M. a motion was made by Ms. Pollock and seconded by Dr. Fletcher, to adjourn and go into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining and non-union personnel negotiations.

The roll call vote was as follows:


Mayor Lang	Yes	Atty. Clark	Yes
Dr. Finnerty	Yes	Ms. Pollock	Yes
Dr. Fletcher	Yes	Mrs. Ussach	Yes
Mr. Nobrega	Absent		

6 - Yeas

0 - Nays

1 - Absent

Submitted by,



Dr. Mary Louise Francis
Superintendent of Schools
Secretary, School Committee

MLF/lpd