

**Approved**  
**Candia Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**November 19, 2009**

**Attendees:** Chairman Ann Tierno, Carla Penfield, Kim Byrd, Allyn Chivers, Erin Asselin, Selectmen's Rep. Carleton Robie, School Rep. Melissa Madden.

**Absent:** Craig Sandler

**Chairman Tierno called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.**

**Meeting with School Board and SAU Members**

The following are answers from the School Board/SAU Members to the questions submitted by the Budget Committee.

1. What percentage of the Budget are Salaries & Benefits? 78.5% (this includes K-12).
2. Are we on a rotating system for replacing Phys Ed equipment? They have not been replaced for over 5 yrs. It was necessary to dispose four out of the ten and the remaining need replacing. Normally two would be replaced per year. Due to budget restraints, one was recommended to be replaced.
3. Are the Reg. Ed. Instruction Periodicals in lieu of a textbook series? Yes.
4. What are Other Informational Resources? Mr. St. Cyr explained extensively this is an attempt to move away from children sitting in grids and rows doing the same worksheet. Rather using manipulatives, hands on activities, creative grouping process.
5. How many students are in the Minds in Motion Program this year? What is done in the program? Minds in Motion have been shifted to reaching all of the students in a 3-tier program. Tier 1 is all students participating. Tier 2 is smaller population, more specific. Tier 3 is project based advanced activities.
6. How often are athletic uniforms replaced? They were on a rotating basis. However last year none were replaced. This year we will take the worst condition uniforms and replace those.
7. What is NWEA Testing? Reading and Language usage testing for grades 3 thru 8.
8. How long do we need to continually train on the PBIS program? This is an ongoing training process. Sometimes there are new components that come out but also to train new staff.
9. Are we making the Media Library Periodicals available because they are not available at Smyth Library? Are the children able to check them out?

- No, they are an in school resource and the children cannot check them out.
10. What was purchased last year for video cameras? Is it part of essential education? These are part of the portfolio program and are part of the essential education.
  11. Will we still be underinsured or are we now where we should be for building insurance? Yes, we are insured at where we should be.
  12. How many students are in ESY Program. Candia population of K-8 students there were 26 and 5 attended out of districts.
  13. How many days in the summer for the ESY Program? 15 days over the course of the summer. The five that are out of district is different though. Typically 6 weeks over the summer.
  14. What does the Psychologist do? How many students served? The School Psychologist is responsible for any testing that is required under Special Education. So far, 23 students have been tested. Out of district would have cost approx. \$2,500.00 per student so we would have already expended close to \$60,000.00. Her responsibilities also include counseling students, safety assessment on a child of concern (state required), or consulting with teachers.
  15. What percentage of total Health Insurance cost does the employee pay? For example, the Psychologist would be 15%.
  16. Why was the Assistant Principal's Salary reduced by only \$1,000.00? If the former Assistant Principal, remained the salary would have been \$2,079.00 higher. The new Assistant Principal also contributes 15% towards their Health Insurance Benefits.
- Dr. Littlfield thanked the Budget Committee for the reception that was given to him in October and the willingness of the BC to listen to him before the School Budget process began. Secondly, to formulate and frame the questions before hand so the School Board could provide concrete information. He hopes this is how the process will be done in the future.
  - Chairman Ann Tierno responded with a thank you to the School Board for putting together a Budget that reflected the economy and what people in the town can afford. The BC is very appreciative of the work that was put into the budget and bringing it in with the number that they brought in.

**The meeting with the School Board ended and the regular BC meeting began.**

- There was discussion over the proposed School Budget.
- The Budget Committee is recommending the School Budget as proposed.

- The majority voted 5 to 2 to amend the recommendation of the proposed School Budget to accept the proposed Budget as it stands. However, the BC still has concern regarding the Minds in Motion Program and the proposed changes in it and if they will be effective.

**Warrant Articles (attached)**

1. Recommended by the BC
2. Recommended by the BC
3. Recommended by the BC

**Motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm. All were in favor.**

**Recorded by Mary Phillips**