

**Minutes
Watertown Board of Education
Budget & Finance Committee Meeting
Monday, January 17, 2012 - 6:00 PM
John Trumbull Primary School
Library**

Present:

Guy Buzzannco, Committee Chair
Rich Mazzamaro, Board Chair
Thomas Lambert, Board Member
David Guerrero, Board Member
Ray Nardella, Board Member
Gail A. Gilmore, Ed.D., Superintendent
James Collin, Assistant Superintendent
Karen Clancy, Business Manager
Julie Haggard, Supervisor of Special Education
Donnah Rochester, Supervisor of Special Education
Matthew Geary, Principal Watertown High School
Marylu Lerz, Principal Swift Middle School
Lisa Rommel, Principal Judson School
Kathy Scully, Principal John Trumbull Primary School
Fran Palmer, WEA Representative
Tanya Beach, Secretarial Union President
Other concerned citizens

1. Convene meeting

Mr. Guy Buzzannco, Committee Chair, convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

2. Preliminary Review of FY 2012-2013 Operating Budget

Dr. Gail Gilmore, Superintendent, distributed and reviewed the preliminary budget PowerPoint handout for school year 2012-2013. Ms. Karen Clancy, Business Manager, distributed a budget summary document and a reductions document which were also reviewed in detail with the committee.

Mr. Guerrero, Board Member, asked several questions relative to grants, use of grants, reporting of grants, and total expenditures reported by the town on behalf of the Board of Education. Responses were provided. Mr. Guerrero would like to see grants reported in our operating budget. Mr. Guerrero also asked about the cost of the CABA membership being included in the 2012-13 budget request. He did not believe the membership was approved by the full Board of Education. Mr. Mazzamaro responded that he had directed the Superintendent to include the cost of the membership in the budget request as a point of discussion. Mr. Guerrero inquired about the increase in the cost of benefits and wanted to know if they could be negotiated. Ms. Clancy responded that those costs are provided by our insurance agents, town officials and are based on contractual obligations.

A review of the reductions spreadsheet began but was postponed until 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 19th due lack of time. The Superintendent was to attend the Town Council meeting to be recognized for the work of the Board of Education throughout the storm.

3. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Karen Clancy
Business Manager