

**East Lyme Board of Education
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
November 23, 2009, 5:45 p.m.
Room B100, East Lyme High School**

In attendance: Mary Broderick, Melissa Ford, Tim Hagen Committee Chair, Marlene Nickerson, Kevin Seery, Nancy Burdick, James Lombardo, Don Meltabarger

The meeting was called to order at 5:47 p.m.

Agenda Item 1. FY 10 Budget Update (October)

Don Meltabarger provided the Budget Committee with an update on new spending deficits for the 2009-2010 Budget. Preliminary estimates for the budget as of 10/31/2009 show the total shortfall to be \$254,916, which is an increase of about \$115,000 over the estimated budget as of 9/30/2009. Don told the committee that the new estimates were only generated late last week and further verification was required. The cause of the additional shortfall was primarily in the areas of Special Education. A new outplacement student has been added to the East Lyme's fiscal responsibility. The cost of tuition through this year will be \$33,667, and transportation is projected to be an additional \$19,337. Another \$60,000 in revenues is projected to be lost with two medically-fragile, tuition paid students having recently left the district.

In response to these additional budget shortfalls, all discretionary spending, including equipment and textbooks, has been frozen. Dr. Lombardo expressed the need to complete the verification of the new estimates and to fully understand all aspects for the causes due to the Budget's deficit. The committee recommended that the full Board be informed of the situation at tonight's BOE meeting. In addition, once the estimates are confirmed the Committee agreed that the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance should be informed of the budget deficits and their impact of upon the district. It is important to note that virtually no flexibility remains in covering any additional shortfalls.

The committee was adjourned at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tim Hagen
Budget Committee Chair