

**East Lyme Board of Education
Budget Committee Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2009
Room B100, East Lyme High School**

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda Item 1. Proposed 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 Tuition Rates for Non-Salem Students

Don Meltabarger provided the committee with background and past precedence for adjusting future tuition rates for non-Salem students. Typically, the BOE has adopted a 5% increase in the tuition rate on annual basis and has authorized the adjustment for two consecutive years. Don also provided the committee with non-resident tuition rates for surrounding school districts. East Lyme's rates are comparable to other districts but could in the future be tracking to the higher end of rates. Dr. Lombardo was concerned that the East Lyme did not have a clear set of guiding principles for establishing the rates. The committee agreed to recommend to the full BOE that the 2009/2010 non-Salem tuition rates be set at the 2008/2009 level with a 5% increase, and that the tuition rate for the 2010/2011 school year be determined in the spring of 2010. In addition, the committee agreed that a policy or guiding principles should be explored for determining the tuition rates in the future.

Agenda Item 2. FY 10 Budget Discussion

Don Meltabarger presented to the committee an updated estimated budget for the 2009-2010 school year as of September 30, 2009. Overall, the budget is tracking at about \$143,000 deficit due to primarily additional needs in the Special Ed. services. Dr. Lombarbo has instituted a purchasing freeze on educational supplies to assure coverage of the projected deficit. The committee commended Don Meltabarger and Nancy Burdick on their diligence in tracking the budget and noted that this is a particularly tight year with almost no flexibility in the budget to cover unexpected deficits. Committee discussed the need to have the full Board informed on the evolving situation in Special Education budgeting due to the impact of the Stimulus funding and the shortfall that it will create for the 2010-2011 budget. Dr. Lomarbo offered to lead the discussion at the BOE meeting on October 27.

The committee was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Tim Hagen
Budget Committee Chair