

NEW SHOREHAM SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING
Block Island School
January 29, 2015
7:00 p.m.

The New Shoreham School Committee met in open session on Thursday, January 29, 2015, in the media center of the Block Island School. Secretary Elizabeth Connor called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The following members were present: Elizabeth Connor, Ann Hall, and Christopher Willi. Patricia Doyle and William Padien were not in attendance. Robert Hicks was also present.

2015-2016 Budget Work Session

Elizabeth Connor asked if it was necessary to phase out the part-time principal. Mr. Hicks gave background information on the position, stating that we currently have 1.5 principals and he feels the part-time position is an extravagance. He intended it to be a transitional position once the full-time principal was hired. Mrs. Connor stated there are more students in the high school and their needs are different than elementary students. Mr. Canole's strengths are different than Mrs. Monje's and Mrs. Conner does not feel it is a luxury to have both of them. Ann Hall worried about the upcoming transitional year with a new superintendent. Mr. Hicks has budgeted half of the town's facilities manager by eliminating the part-time principal and the maintenance supervisor. If asked to choose, he would pick the facilities manager over a part-time principal. The town is in the process of developing the facilities manager position, which will be designed for one person to handle all town facilities including the school. While the school is not half of the facilities it is very use intensive and has higher demands than other buildings. Mr. Hicks is nervous about coming in with a budget at the four percent cap or higher if the school's budget includes the part-time principal and half of the facilities manager. He also reported that we need someone to provide curriculum support and professional development for the teachers.

Mr. Hicks walked the committee through the program expense budget and highlighted several items. Negotiations with the town employees/non-certified staff will begin shortly. He has included enough in the budget to cover what he feels is a worst case increase in their salaries. He has also added 14 days for the computer technician in the hopes that the computer technician's days in the summer will enable our technology needs to be up and running prior to the first day of school. The increase in the Superintendent's Office includes the extra days for the new superintendent to work 90 days per year. He included an increase of five days for the guidance counselor to work on student schedules over the summer. Mr. Hicks has included an increase of ten percent for health care, but \$26,308 is available in The Trust's stabilization account to offset some of this.

Adjournment

A motion (Connor, Hall) at 7:50 p.m. to adjourn carried with a vote of 3-0.

Marsha L. Gutierrez, Clerk

Date approved: March 16, 2015