

**Middletown Public Schools**

**Middletown, Rhode Island**

**February 25, 2010**

**MICHAEL S. PINTO CONFERENCE ROOM**

**Members Present:**

**Michael F. Crowley, Jr., Chairman**

**Theresa Spengler, Vice-Chair**

**Kellie M. DiPalma**

**Liana F. Fenton arrived at 6:10 p.m.**

**William R. O'Connell**

**Also Present:**

**Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools**

**Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent for Academic and  
Technology Services**

**Raquel Pellerin, Director of Finance**

**Edward Collins, Director of Facilities**

**Budget Workshop was called to order at 6:04 p.m. by Chairman  
Michael Crowley. Administrative staff member present was Steven**

**Ruscito.**

**Mrs. Kraeger reported that she met with the Budget Subcommittee members Mrs. Savastano, Miss Pellerin, Mrs. Spengler, Mrs. Fenton, and Mrs. VonVillas. The group discussed revenues and expenses. The School Committee will go forward with a 4.5% request to the Town Council.**

**Mrs. Kraeger reviewed the Goals and Objectives of the workshop, as well as the Budget Goals. At the Budget Subcommittee, there was discussion about ways to market the school district. Many parents of elementary school children are unaware of what is going on at the high school level, as well as high school parents unaware of elementary issue. Fielding Nair could assist in putting together a brochure. Items to highlight should include the Gaudet Football Field, Gaudet Library, and R.I. State Teacher of the Year. Fielding Nair would like to send two teachers to Vancouver, B.C., to talk about small learning communities. Mrs. Fenton would like to involve business people in marketing efforts. Mr. Crowley suggested a video that could be viewed from the website. Fielding Nair is currently producing a documentary on learning centers. Miss DiPalma suggested a PowerPoint Presentation. Mrs. Kraeger asked Mr. Ruscito if there is any student interested in producing a video as a Capstone Project.**

**Miss Pellerin discussed the budget increases. Miss Pellerin attended a state funding formula workshop. The funding formula includes 3 key components; core instruction, student success factor, and state share ratio. It is based on the number of students receiving**

free/reduced lunch and property assessment. Business Managers want to perfect the formula before it is approved. Rhode Island is the only state without a funding formula. Mr. Crowley said that with the proposed RIDE formula, 18-20 districts in the state will lose revenues.

**(Minutes of February 25, 2010 Budget Workshop, Page Two)**

Mrs. Kraeger reported that Impact Aid funds are currently holding. Tuitions are substantially down. Superintendent Rearick recently requested a proposal for Tiverton High School students to attend Middletown. This would be for the current Tiverton 8th grade class.

Miss Pellerin attended a follow-up meeting today at RIDE regarding UCOA. The timeline to upload the information is June, with a view date of July. There was discussion around how much detail of the budget we need to submit. We are currently in compliance by showing the current level. The Town Council might request more details, but the School Department is following RIDE recommendation.

The Committee decided that the next Budget Workshop scheduled for March 11th is not necessary. The next workshop will be held on March 18th, prior to the Regular School Committee Meeting.

**MOTION: 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) William O'Connell. To adjourn from**

**the Budget Workshop at 7:31 p.m. Unanimous vote.**

**Respectfully Submitted,**

**Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk**