

**FOSTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING  
CAPTAIN ISAAC PAINE SCHOOL LIBRARY  
December 17, 2008**

**Open Session – 7:00PM**

**CONVENE MEETING:**

-Meeting was convened at 7:00PM

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

-The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ROLL CALL:**

-Chairman Ron Cervasio, Vice Chair Cindy Bernard, Member Dennis Chretien, Superintendent Robert Wallace, and Principal Gary Moore were present.

**REQUESTS TO USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES:**

-Superintendent Wallace reported no requests at this time.

**TECHNOLOGY:**

-Mr. Chretien had no new information to report.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE:**

-Tabled to the January Meeting

**BUDGET 2009-2010:**

-Superintendent Wallace reported that since the last proposed budget, which was over the 4.75% cap, a budget workshop was held in which the school committee had asked that additional line items be reduced. Mr. Wallace stated that 19 line items had been reduced and that the new proposed budget is within the 4.75% cap and the overall budget was reduced by \$19, 942. Chairman Cervasio asked that the superintendent prepare a contingency budget for a proposed cut in state aid to cities and town.

**PLAYGROUND:**

-Mr. Wallace reported that through information gained from the Superintendent Association, he has learned that President-elect Obama has a proposed stimulus plan that will include monies for the renovations and improvement of school. The Superintendent reported that he has sent a letter to all of the Representatives for Foster, listing all of the capital improvement, as well as \$70,000 for improvement of the playground. Chairman Cervasio asked Mr. Wallace to check with the school attorney about the issue of which town agency has ownership of the playground, especially in regards to upkeep.

**CHECK SIGNING:**

-Mr. Cervasio stated that he had contacted the school attorney to get a legal opinion on having two signatures on a check. The attorney stated that there was no rule against it and that perhaps the school should follow the same procedure as the town. Mr. Cervasio stated the town has two people sign checks. Mrs. Bernard made the motion to approve and implement recommendation #3 of the Temporary Budget Committee to require two

signatures for checks paid by the school district, except for payroll. The second signature on the check should be a school committee member or members appointed by the school committee. Chairman Cervasio asked for a second with Mr. Chretien seconding. After a lengthy discussion, Mrs. Bernard withdrew her motion. Mrs. Bernard made a motion to approve and implement recommendation #3 of the Temporary Budget Committee to require two signatures for checks paid by the school district, except for payroll. The second signature on the check should be the finance director. Mr. Chretien seconded. The motion passed 3-0-0.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

-Superintendent Wallace reported no communications.

**PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:**

-Principal Moore reported that was going to be a Learning Celebration on December 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2PM.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

-Mr. Wallace presented 2009 calendar of meeting dates for the Foster School Committee and recommended approval. Mr. Chretien made the motion to approve with Mrs. Bernard seconding. The motion passed 3-0-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

-Mr. Cervasio made a motion to accept the minutes with the following amendment under the Reinstate Recommendations of the Temporary Budget Committee to reflect a motion he made stating since we are already doing 3 of the 5 recommendations that we accept the fourth and table the fifth. Under the warrants section the vote on the warrant of First Student Transportation should have been 2-0 with Mrs. Bernard recusing herself from the vote. Mrs. Bernard seconded. Motion passed as amended 3-0-0.

**APPROVAL OF WARRANTS:**

-Mr. Chretien made a motion to accept the warrants for First Student in the amount of \$66,135.50. Mr. Cervasio seconded. Motion passed, 2-0 with Mrs. Bernard recusing herself. Mrs. Bernard made a motion to accept the warrants for in the amount of \$65,641.14. Mr. Chretien seconded. The motion passed 3-0-0.

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- Policy 9000
- Technology
- Building Committee

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Chairman Cervasio made a motion to adjourn at 7:46 p.m. Mr. seconded. Motion passed, 3-0-0.

Submitted by Gary G. Moore