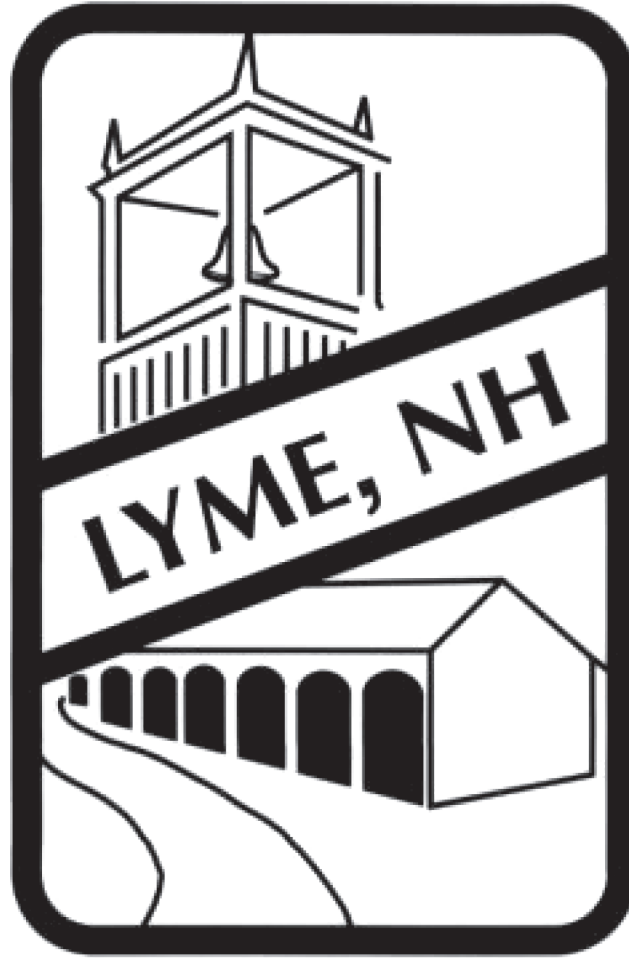


LYME SCHOOL DISTRICT



MINUTES FOR MARCH 8 & MARCH 13, 2012 SCHOOL MEETINGS

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
SCHOOL DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING
March 8, 2012
MINUTES

Moderator William Waste brought this meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. in the Lyme School Community Gymnasium. There were approximately 150 attendees.

Representing the School Board were Mark Schiffman, Sue Hanlon, Kate Semple-Barta, Scott May, Stephanie Clark, Bruce Hammond and Heidi Lange.

Also in attendance were: Jeffrey Valence, Principal; Teresa Thurston, Coordinator of Business Services; Michael Harris, Superintendent of Schools-SAU #76 and Torrelee Fisher-Sass, Thetford Academy, Head of School. Mr. Harris, Ms. Thurston and Ms. Fisher-Sass were given *Voice without Vote* for purposes of communicating administrative issues at this meeting.

ARTICLE ONE. To hear the reports of Agents, Auditors, Committees, or other officers heretofore chosen, and pass any vote relating thereto.

Torrelee Fisher-Sass provided an update of issues and events taking place at Thetford Academy. She expressed appreciation to the Lyme community for continued support and interest.

Chairman of the Lyme School Board Mark Schiffman introduced members of the Lyme School Board and provided a Power-Point presentation detailing budgetary issues and comparisons. *A copy of the Power Point detail is attached to the original filing of the School District Meeting minutes for 2012.*

He indicated that the Lyme School is a great school, striving to be better. This comes with challenges; school population being a big one. It can change from week to week, and does, as it's clear that Lyme has become a very desirable place to live.

Points addressed during the Power Point presentation included but are not limited to:

--At the start of school for 2011-2012 the educational operating costs were as follows: 55% to operations, 33% to High School tuition, 10% to Special Education and 2% to Spanish. Anticipated costs for the 2012-2013 year are expected to be 52% to operations, 32% to High School tuition, 14% to Special Education and 2% to Spanish. There are currently two out of district Special Education residential and day transit placements. The State of New Hampshire reimburses the town a small percentage of the overall costs for Special Education needs-approximately \$56,000.00

--Costs-Controlled and not controlled: Salaries, insurance costs, retiring teachers and the replacements for them.

--Health care cost increases

--Increased population presents need for 1 additional instructional staff member.

--We currently have the highest population in 30 years.

--Space issues-School Board has investigated ways to provide additional instructional space.

Considerations included renovation of existing space in the school, use of the Library basement, the

Academy Building, private commercial spaces, Crossroads Academy and the use of modular/portable classroom units. All but the portable units have been eliminated for consideration at this time.

--Anticipated student population for 2013 is 218 or more.

--Anticipated that the 2013-2014 warrant will request money to do extensive work to enlarge the existing facility. The timing would be appropriate as the existing bond for the previous expansion will be paid by then.

--High School tuitions and comparisons.

--Teacher negotiations and eventual agreement.

There was a period of time for questions regarding Article 2.

ARTICLE 2. Judy Brotman made the motion that the Lyme School District vote to raise and appropriate the Budget Committee's recommended amount of Five Million, Four Hundred Thousand Three Hundred Seventy-two Dollars (\$5,400,372) for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for School District officials and agents, and for the payment of the statutory obligations of the District. This article does not include amounts proposed in any other article except for Article 8. The School Board recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommended a total budget amount of \$5,500,372 which includes the amount of this article plus the amounts in Articles 6 and 7.

SECONDED

ARTICLE 2 was VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE.

ARTICLE 3. Judy Brotman made the motion that the Lyme School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Lyme School Board and the Lyme Education Association which calls for the following estimated increases in salaries and benefits at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>ESTIMATED AMOUNT</u>
2012-2013	\$28,669
2013-2014	\$44,000
2014-2015	\$44,000

AND, further, to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-eight Thousand, Six Hundred Sixty-nine Dollars (\$28,669) to fund the cost attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those of the appropriation at current staffing levels paid in the prior fiscal year. The School Board recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

ARTICLE 3 WAS VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 4. Judy Brotman made the motion that the Lyme School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$55,000) to procure temporary classroom space and to allow the Lyme School District to conduct modifications to the school and/or to another rented property that accommodates Lyme students. And further to authorize the School Board to enter into a lease/purchase agreement for a portable classroom provided that any lease longer than one year will contain an escape clause. The School Board recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

Questions, comments and requests for clarification were asked regarding the need for a temporary classroom by Garry Thrasher, James Graham, Cynthia Bognolo, Rob Meyer, Sam Greene and Don Elder.

Mark Schiffman responded to all the questions.

ARTICLE 4 WAS VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 5. Judy Brotman made the motion that the Lyme School District authorize the School Board to grant the Lyme Water Association, Inc. easements to install, use, and maintain buried water lines, water storage tanks, plumbing, and other appurtenances located at the Lyme Elementary School, and to execute the Lyme Water Association Members' Easement, a copy of which is available at the SAU #76 office, said easements to remain in effect for as long as the Lyme Water Association, Inc. supplies potable water to the District, and on such other terms and conditions as the School Board determines are in the best interests of the District. The School Board recommends approval of this article.

SECONDED

Mark Schiffman explained about the Lyme Water Association issues and activities.

ARTICLE 5 WAS VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 6. Judy Brotman made the motion that the Lyme School District vote to raise and appropriate up to Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Enrollment Response Capital Reserve Fund, established at the Lyme School District Meeting on March 3, 2011, with such amount to be funded from the year end undesignated fund balance available on July 1, 2012. The School Board recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

Mark Schiffman offered an explanation about the Enrollment Response Capital Reserve Fund.

ARTICLE 6 WAS VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 7. Judy Brotman made the motion that the Lyme School District vote to raise and appropriate up to Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be placed in the Special Education Reserve Fund, established at the Lyme School District meeting on March 8, 1984, with such amount to be funded from the year end undesignated fund balance available on July 1, 2012. The School Board recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

ARTICLE 7 WAS VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 8. Judy Brotman made the motion to determine and fix the salaries of school district officers as follows: School District Treasurer \$800.00; School District Clerk \$75.00; School District Moderator \$75.00. The amounts in this article are included in Article 2. The School Board recommends this appropriation. The Budget Committee recommends this appropriation.

SECONDED

ARTICLE 8 WAS VOTED IN THE AFFIRMATIVE BY VOICE VOTE

ARTICLE 9. To transact any other business that may legally come before this meeting.

Mark Schiffman thanked outgoing board members Sue Hanlon and Kate Semple-Barta. They were offered a round of applause.

Moderator Waste reminded attendees about Town Meeting on March 13.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia G. Jenks, Deputy School District Clerk