

**MINUTES OF THE ANCHORAGE SCHOOL BOARD  
SPECIAL MEETING OF JANUARY 24, 2001**

The Anchorage School Board met in a Special Meeting on Wednesday, January 24, 2001 at 4:30 p.m. in the Board Room, at the Anchorage School District Administration Building. President Peggy Robinson presided.

A. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL, FLAG SALUTE

Board Members Present: Peggy Robinson, Dave Werdal, Rita Holthouse; Debbie Ossiander, Tom Anderson and Harriet Drummond.

Board Members Absent: None

Others Present: Carol Comeau, Pat McDowell, George Vakalis, Janet Stokesbary, Marie Laule, Patricia McRae, Gail Opalinski, Jim Taylor, Robyn Rehmann, Fred Stofflet, Ray Amsden, Norm Holthouse, Steve Kalmes, Teresa Johnson, Ellen Montague, John Alexander, Bill Mikawa, Stan Syta, Lee Wilson, Brent Rock, Neal Black, Mary Lou Boughton, Bob Henry, Tom Bibeau, Betsy Nickels, Michelle Egan, Russ Ament, Hans Bernard, Grace Likeness, the press and other interested persons.

The School Board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

ASD Memorandum #192 – FY 2001-2002 Proposed Financial Plan (First Reading)

It is the Administration's recommendation that the School Board approve and authorize the Superintendent to prepare the Anchorage School District's FY 2001-2002 Proposed Financial Plan as set forth in the projected revenue and expenditure schedule in this memorandum (Attachment C). The total budget recommended is \$424,106,236. This includes individual fund budgets currently projected as follows:

	<u>Proposed FY 2001-2002 Financial Plan</u>
General Fund	\$337,266,258
Food Service Fund	11,088,000
Debt Service Fund	47,751,978
Local/State/Federal Projects Fund	<u>28,000,000</u>
Total – All Funds	<u>\$424,106,236</u>

The total of local tax contribution to be requested is \$134,844.130.

It is further recommended that the School Board authorize the Superintendent to adjust the budget expenditure ceiling above in accordance with any education – related ballot proposition that may be approved in the April 3, 2001, Municipal Election.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to approve Memorandum #192.  
seconded by Harriet Drummond

Carol Comeau thanked the staff for their efforts in putting together all the budget information and responses to Board questions. Ms. Comeau reviewed the major changes made to the memorandum being presented. She pointed out that in order to reduce the impact of budget and program reductions an Equipment Replacement Fund was created that would hopefully allow us to buy textbooks and major equipment with some of the new revenues that came from the Municipality as a result of the tax cap not passing. This was reflected on Page 7 of Memorandum #192. Ms. Comeau also stated that a paragraph was added on Page 9 of Memorandum #192 to adjust for the error the Board noted in the Social Security and Medicare for the Bilingual Tutors in the Bilingual budget. She stated the Administration has identified some of the shortfall and will continue to do that over the next several days. In addition, Ms. Comeau mentioned that a number of employee groups have approached the Administration asking for consideration and discussion of a Limited Service Recognition Program. This has been inserted into Memorandum #192 as an item the Board may want to discuss. Ms. Comeau also stated that a summary of major revenue reductions was included on Attachment A.

Janet Stokesbary reviewed the following handouts: 1) General Fund Comparison of Maintenance Level Revenues and Expenditures, FY 2001-2002; 2) General Fund Summary of Estimated Revenues for Maintenance Level Budget, FY 2001-2002; and 3) General Fund Summary of Major Budgeted Expenditure for Maintenance Level Budget, FY 2001-2002 compared to FY 2000-2001.

Ray Schmidt, Kasuun Elementary School kindergarten teacher, urged the Board to lower class size. He stated that lowering class size needed to be at the top of the District's agenda.

Deborah Geooding, School Psychologist, stated that for every cut in regular education there is an impact to special education. Ms. Geooding spoke about the shortage of Psychologists in the District and the impact to the students. She stated she was not asking for more money for related services, but asking for things we need.

Judy O'Rear, Whaley teacher, asked the Board to support special education funding.

Tess Nott, Whaley teacher, urged the Board to not cut funding for special education and supported lowering class size in special education classes.

Judith Conte, Romig parent, spoke in favor of the counseling staff at her children's school and asked the Board not to cut the middle school counseling positions.

Sam Daniel, Anchorage Community Education Association Board member, testified in support of the Community Education budget. He asked that the Board approve the budget as presented.

Jody Vascarde, Bear Valley Elementary School gifted enrichment teacher, asked the Board to take the tremendous student growth that has happened in the Egnite Program over the past four years and the unique requirements of their positions into consideration when making budget reductions.

Phil Gordon, Oceanview Elementary School librarian, urged the Board to increase the pupil/ librarian ratio in the District. He added that increasing the number of librarians would help improve test scores.

Joan Bohmann, Psychologist, spoke in favor of maintaining the special education budget.

Connie Bensler, Goldenview Middle School principal, testified as President of the Anchorage Principals Association and spoke in support of the 123 members of the Association. Ms. Bensler stated that overall the membership was in agreement with the proposed budget and appreciated the opportunity to provide input into the budget. She shared the membership's views with the Board. They were supportive of the special education funding increase and supportive of leaving the middle level model intact, but not in support of losing counselors. If a decision had to be made to put something back in the budget, principals would rather have middle school counselors rather than interscholastic sports. High school administrators can support an increase in the PTR if a viable academic program could be maintained. While they agreed music is important to a child's education, members supported elimination of the band and orchestra program. There was two to one support in favor of raising PTR. She added that cutting the supply account by 10 percent could be supported but smaller schools stated it will have an impact on their program. She summarized that the budget is less than bare bones and nothing could be cut without jeopardizing the overall education of children in Anchorage. As an organization they planned to continue to take an active part in making the community and the State understand that school budgets should be increased and funded adequately.

Dave Werdal asked for clarification on the comment about elimination of the elementary band and orchestra program. Ms. Bensler deferred to Lou Kustin for response.

Lou Kustin, Oceanview principal, stated it was a divisive issue and that at the elementary level it was very disruptive to the program in that band and orchestra could never be scheduled at the same time. It was difficult to schedule along with the other electives. Also, many teachers at the schools felt the band and orchestra program took away from the effort to get the students up to par to pass the benchmark exams.

Rita Barris, foster parent of severely challenged children, spoke in favor of maintaining the special education program at Whaley Center. She asked the Board to look to inventing or creating more of the school rather than cutting. Ms. Barris asked the Board to look favorably toward the special needs of our children.

Thomas Andre, former Whaley student, spoke in favor of the special education program at Whaley Center. He told the Board that if it wasn't for the Whaley staff, he wouldn't be where he is now as an adult. He added that without teachers and counselors, students wouldn't become successful members of society.

Brooke Hull, Rogers Park pre-school teacher, spoke against the Full Day Kindergarten Program in the IA Program at Rogers Park. She asked the Board to look at the program through the eyes of a student, teacher, and parent.

Kent Kaltenbacher, Whaley special education teacher, urged the Board not to make any cuts to the special education program. He encouraged the Board to educate the public about what it means to educate a child at the needed level.

Mary Rasmussen, Anchorage Community Education Association Board member, supported the budget as presented and, in particular, supported funding for the community education program.

Donna Shaw, Whaley teacher, spoke in support of special education funding.

Cathy Lichner, Anchorage Community Education Association member, spoke in support of the Administration's budget recommendation for the community education program. She asked the Board to accept the Administration's recommendation.

Debbie Ossiander asked to be kept up to date on the Association's progress relative to their plans to develop a joint use agreement with the District.

Dianna Patton, Whaley employee, stated that while there are very passionate reasons to not want to cut the budget, it was time to look at dollars and cents. She spoke in support of initiating a school tax to support education. She felt it was time to look at ways of raising taxes for education.

Merrikæ Vanderploge, Gifted IA program employee, presented her ideas for finding funding. She asked the Board to seek grants that deal with personnel. She also supported business partnerships to finance programs, university partnerships, endowment funds, and state lobbying with a specific focus on special education.

Rich West, Whaley teacher, spoke about the benefits of the special education program at Whaley Center.

John Gallop, Clark Middle School teacher, advocated for the return of competitive sports at the middle schools. He also advocated for the return of a third school counselor at middle schools. He also supported an additional administrator at Clark.

John Lewis, Whaley teacher, urged the Board not to cut the special education budget.

Mike Martinson, Music Supervisor, spoke in disappointment at an earlier speaker's suggestions to cut the music program. He addressed the benefits of the music program as it related to the high school graduation qualifying exam. He supported the Administration's recommendation to keep the music program intact.

Debbie Ossiander announced that at every School Board meeting during the legislative session she will announce times and locations of legislative committee meetings for education issues and urged people to listen to the announcements so they can testify.

Recessed at: 7:20 p.m.

Reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

Hans Bernard, Student Advisory Board member, stated the proposed budget was an excellent compromise. He commended the Administration for all their work in creating a budget that is not only trimmed but maintains the integrity and academic standards of the District. On behalf of the Student Advisory Board he expressed concerns about cuts to the middle school counselors, as well as cuts for travel money to state events for sports teams.

Ken Jones, School Budget Advisory Board member, brought forward the idea of a marketing plan for the District relative to a lobbying plan to outreach to the community about the District's needs.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Harriet Drummond  
Rita Holthouse

to add back in the following seconded by  
amounts from Att. B:

\$1,921,500	30.5 Elem. FTE
220,500	3.5 Elem. Music
220,500	3.5 Elem. PE
126,000	2.0 Elem. Art
<u>63,000</u>	<u>1.0</u> Counselor/Tyson
\$2,551,500(p2)	40.5 FTE (40.5)
and	
\$ 567,000(p3)	9.0 FTE Middle School Counselors
and	
<u>\$787,500</u> (p3)	<u>12.5</u> HS Classroom Teachers
<u>\$3,906,000</u>	<u>62.0</u> FTE

Purpose: to retain teachers and counselors in student contact positions to keep class size at this year's levels. Funds to come from 2000-01 \$5,047,774 of additional local taxes appropriated to ASD due to failure of 99 PTAR. Leaves \$1,141,774 for 2000-01 spending.

Harriet Drummond reminded the Board that the function of the District is to keep teachers in the classroom with the students. She acknowledge that while this motion only delays the pain of teacher position cuts for another year, this should be the most important issue for the majority of the Board. While supplies and equipment needs are important, they don't replace the need for the teacher in the classroom. In addition, kids at this age need all the help they can get. Ms. Drummond added that taking counseling positions away from the kids in the schools is not going to get them the help they need.

Debbie Ossiander stated that while she didn't like spending money for one time expenditures, she was interested in reducing class size. She announced that her comfort level increases as the amount of one time money we use for reoccurring expenses decreases.

Dave Werdal expressed concern with the large dollar number of this amendment. He feared the amendment may create some very large shortfalls for next year. Mr. Werdal reminded the Board that the Assembly notices when we use one time expenditures.

They didn't like it last year. He cautioned the Board that we are setting ourselves up for a situation where we will be in significant trouble next year.

Tom Anderson stated that while the idea of this motion is commendable, he doesn't like these type of motions. They are easy to say, but hard to do, and he couldn't support the motion.

Carol Comeau expressed concern with the on-going costs and the gap that it creates for whatever the program or purpose.

Rita Holthouse stated that she seconded the motion for discussion purposes only. She expressed interest in hearing other ways to add teachers into the budget without taking other items out. She announced, however, she would not support the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond

Nays: Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

AMENDMENT FAILED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Rita Holthouse  
seconded Tom Anderson

to reduce School Board travel  
(Acct. 3600) by \$5,000, leaving \$12,000 in  
the account. This \$5,000 would be  
added to (Acct. 1099) ASD staff travel  
account.

Rita Holthouse stated that most of the people that travel in this District are mostly funded by grants. Yet, on the other hand, the Board's budget for travel is \$17,000. Ms. Holthouse felt it was necessary to take some funds from this account to allow for some other staff to travel.

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by Harriet Drummond

to direct savings to high school travel  
championships.

Rita Holthouse stated she was not in favor of the amendment. It was important to compare the value of people traveling to national and state conferences versus student travel to championships. She stated that if a team qualified for travel to a state championship, they would come to the Board for funds and most likely we would fund it.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal  
Robinson

Nays: Holthouse, Anderson

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT PASSED.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT AS AMENDED:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson, Anderson

Nays: Holthouse

AMENDMENT AS AMENDED PASSED.

MOTION:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander

seconded by Dave Werdal

to cut National Board certification category by \$100,000 and use the money for high school team travel to championships and varsity busing.

Debbie Ossiander pointed out that the Budget Review Team recommended this area be cut by \$110,000. She added that she felt this area was over budgeted.

Debbie Ossiander added that she would like to give each school as much flexibility as possible on how the funds are used. In addition, maybe they could work on the number of teams that qualify for state championships and then not need the full amount. If so, the rest could go toward varsity busing. Ms. Ossiander stated her intent was to get as much additional resources in this area of the budget as possible.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal

Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Tom Anderson

Seconded by Rita Holthouse

to add \$2,300 to Whaley School (1625) for the addition of an elementary department chair, and reduce Special Education instruction "added days" component by \$2,300.

Tom Anderson stated that in touring Whaley and speaking to staff at the school, he came to the conclusion, after soliciting their comments, that although they already have a secondary department chair, an elementary department chair would be optimal for them. They have over 300 IEP's to manage per year and have had an increase in the number of non-certified staff. This motion would allow a small amount of money to be set aside for managing this area. In addition, he did not feel his motion would create a deterrent to the "added days" component.

Robyn Rehmann expressed appreciation for the need for additional funds for Whaley school. She agreed there was a need in this area. However, at the same time, the “added days” component was extremely important. It funded the extended school year which we were required to provide. In this budget the extended school year funding for July and August would come out of the budget the Board was reviewing. She is not able to spend any federal grant moneys on the extended school year in July and August. Deleting funds for “added days” would have a significant impact on the department.

Carol Comeau acknowledged that the extended school year is an issue.

VOTE:

Ayes: Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal

AMENDMENT FAILED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Dave Werdal

seconded by Debbie Ossiander

to add back middle school  
interscholastic sports.

Estimated Revenue: \$195,000

Estimated Cost: \$268,786

Estimated Cost: \$73,786

Per response #02-06.

Dave Werdal encouraged the Board to support this amendment. Mr. Werdal stated he did not think competition at this level was bad. By the middle level, it was important. For a lot of kids, sports are the reason they go to school. All budgets come down to choice. Mr. Werdal also expressed concern with the lack of stability in this area.

Tom Anderson stated that he also supports sports but was concerned that each amendment have an area where it will be funded.

Gail Opalinski stated the main reason this recommendation came forward from the Administration was because it was the number one recommendation of the Budget Review Team for activities. When it came forward as their number one recommendation, the Administration felt it had to concur since it was philosophically what the principals wanted. She stated the Administration feels we can deliver an exceptional intramural program given the opportunity to put it together and work with the community where we can role our intramural program into a competitive program. We are not opposed to competition but expressed concern with the extra cost of busing, coaches salaries, officials, timers and scorers when you run a competitive interscholastic program as opposed to an intramural program. She added that the recommendation of the principals was that intramurals was the way to go if the Board desired.

Peggy Robinson voiced that competition makes a big difference with the kids and with the staff as well.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson

Nays: Holthouse, Anderson

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander to cut middle school team planning  
seconded by Harriet Drummond for electives and PE teachers and put  
savings toward K-12 PTR.

Debbie Ossiander asked that the Administration provide cost figures associated with this amendment prior to Second Reading.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal

Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: Robinson

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Rita Holthouse to reduce the Board Contingency  
seconded by Harriet Drummond account (3400) by \$7,000, leaving  
\$8,000 in the account. The \$7,000  
would re-create the high school  
emergency student food account.

Rita Holthouse stated that since there was a previous Board acknowledgement that there are children who don't have enough to eat at home and can't afford school lunches when they are in elementary and middle school, there is a need for this motion. She added that since we don't get federal assistance from the federal government for senior high school lunches, there is no free and reduced lunch for senior high school students. Therefore, she was amazed that students needing lunch assistance in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade suddenly appear to not have that need when they are in high school. Ms. Holthouse stated that while she understood that this program didn't work well in the schools before, it could work if there was a will to make it work and we don't require receipts. Ms. Holthouse summarized that hungry students don't do well in their subjects if they don't have anything to eat.

Carol Comeau reassured the Board that if this item were reinstated, the Administration would make sure that there is a non-cumbersome procedure in place so that we aren't requesting a receipt for every fifty cents.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to Divide the Question.  
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson

Nays: Holthouse, Anderson

MOTION PASSED.

1. To reduce the Board contingency account (3400) by \$7,000.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal  
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

AMENDMENT PASSED.

2. To re-create the high school emergency student food account.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: Ossiander, Werdal

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Tom Anderson to add a .5 FTE (\$31,500) vocational teacher for regular education in the Horticulture Program at King Career Center (1805), and reduce the Bilingual/Multicultural budget by \$31,500, eliminating one (1) secretarial position at a cost of \$31,500.  
seconded by Dave Werdal

Tom Anderson stated that as he toured schools he tried to determine where there were needs. After visiting the Horticulture Program at King Career Center, he was impressed with the amazing work the students do. He felt it was an important program. We keep putting more kids from other schools into the program, yet we don't provide additional staff. On the converse, in terms of reducing the Bilingual/Multicultural budget, while the secretarial position at first glance may be

devastating, the Budget Review Team stated you could remove one secretarial position and survive if you added back the extra help funds.

Maxine Hill expressed concern with the reduction and stated it would be devastating to the Bilingual/Multicultural program. Ms. Hill explained there are currently 5,000 students that receive bilingual services. The documentation the department is required to keep for the Department of Education is quite high. The two secretaries do not actually support the staffing end of the department but center around providing statistical support for record keeping that we have to do. If there were an audit, it would be very difficult to get someone to come in and know what procedures are necessary for the paperwork that we have to do.

VOTE:

Ayes: Werdal Anderson

Nays: Drummond, Ossiander, Robinson, Holthouse

AMENDMENT FAILED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander  
seconded by Dave Werdal

to cut Re-Open (\$378,715) and use  
funding for K-12 PTR.

Debbie Ossiander stated that this is a program that is specifically designed and targeted for special education students who are at risk of dropping out. Ms. Ossiander stated her rationale for the reduction is that she is anticipating we are going to need an across-the-board program for drop-outs with the move towards standard stakes and high stakes exams. In addition, the regulations from the federal government on supplanting versus supplementing mean there could be no grant application to bring back a position unless you completely eliminate a category. She summarized that it appears there is a potential for additional staffing positions being obtained from a grant program because this program would be totally eliminated.

Peggy Robinson questioned who would be providing the special education services for these students and expressed concern that this amendment would mean an increase in the PTR at the high schools.

Rita Holthouse stated from personal experience with the Re-open Program she knew the number of actual students who attend the program on a daily basis is much smaller than the number who enroll. These are students who have had attendance difficulty. That is why they were withdrawn from the regular program. They don't attend Re-open on a more consistent basis than they did before. In some of the schools the Re-open teacher does other special education functions because of the low number of students at times. Ms. Holthouse summarized that she would support the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal  
Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: Robinson

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Dave Werdal  
seconded by Tom Anderson

to accept Response to Request for  
Information #02-22 reorganizing  
the Curriculum Department for a cut of  
\$603,047. Direct the dollars towards  
reducing PTR increases.

Dave Werdal stated that while the Administration said they wanted to look at this closely and perhaps bring it back next budget cycle, he preferred to move it up to this year. Mr. Werdal noted this has been done in many districts across the country. It is often due to budget cuts like this one and it is a matter of priorities. He desired not to have to increase class size to the degree that the Board may have to do. He urged the Board to support this motion.

Carol Comeau expressed concern that this was being done for a budget cut reason rather than a thoughtful analysis of how we can do it differently with input from teachers, principals, curriculum staff and the community. Ms. Comeau stated she has discussed this with other Superintendents around the state who have done this, as well as with the Superintendent in Portland, Oregon. Ms. Comeau explained these districts are now in the process of putting the department back together based on a curriculum audit. Ms. Comeau favored doing an audit, however, the Administration first preferred to spend some time to examine organizational possibilities versus needed functions and bring forward a plan for reorganization next fall, if that is determined to be the best course of action.

Dave Werdal stressed the need to keep the dollar cuts away from the classroom and other than using one-time funds there were very few ways to do that.

Rita Holthouse stated that while she was tempted to support this motion based on Mr. Werdal's arguments, sometimes we lag behind other districts a few years and by the time we get on the bandwagon everyone has discovered the problems associated with it. She stated she would not support this motion. She would be much more supportive at the end of a comprehensive audit that looked at our entire instructional program that could give us comparisons with other districts.

Harriet Drummond inquired about the cost of an audit of this nature.

Carol Comeau stated that the cost may be prohibitive and she desired to do an RFP.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal, Anderson

Nays: Robinson, Holthouse

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Tom Anderson

seconded by Rita Holthouse

to add a .28 FTE position to Whaley

School to increase the current half-time nurse to full-time.

Tom Anderson stated that at Whaley it was critical to have a full time nurse. He spoke about the large numbers of pills that were dispensed per day at the school in addition to all the other duties and responsibilities of the position.

Debbie Ossiander spoke about Response to Request For Information #02-30 which discussed the feasibility of obtaining new staffing through grant funding.

Rita Holthouse indicated she would like to see this as a full FTE position. She wondered whether or not it was better to fund this position through the budget or through a grant.

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander

seconded by Tom Anderson

to fund the position out of State and Federal grant funds.

Peggy Robinson clarified that the item on the floor was for the position to be funded out of Local, State and Federal VI B grant funds.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal

Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

AMENDMENT TO AMENDMENT PASSED.

VOTE ON AMENDMENT AS AMENDED:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal, Anderson

Nays: Robinson, Holthouse

AMENDMENT PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Debbie Ossiander

seconded by Harriet Drummond

cut the new 2.5 FTE in Special

Education and request positions in

Title VI B grant funds in the amount of \$157,500.

Debbie Ossiander referred the Board to Response to Request for Information #02-30. She pointed out the Administration's underlined comments on the last page of the document.

Robyn Rehmann explained that the amount of federal grant funds for next year is unknown at this time. After speaking with EED, there is reason to believe that the federal grant dollars for next year may increase. With this information, the Administration believes that it is possible to reduce the requested budget amounts for special education for the 2.5 new special education positions.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal  
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson  
seconded by Debbie Ossiander

to delete \$200,000 in income expenses from the Food Service budget, coming from their fund balance. This equipment expense would be paid for out of this year's budget-fund balance as part of budget adjustments brought to us later.

Peggy Robinson announced that her interest with this amendment was to decrease the overall cost of budget changes as much as possible. Since the Food Service fund shows an increase of approximately \$300,000, this amendment would make the increase in this fund less for next year. Also, since the District currently has the funds and has an extra \$3 million in spending authorization in this year's budget, Ms. Robinson felt the equipment could be purchased this year.

George Vakalis confirmed the Administration could proceed if this motion passed.

VOTE:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal  
Robinson, Holthouse, Anderson

Nays: None

MOTION PASSED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Peggy Robinson to decrease \$19,400 in revenue for  
 seconded by Debbie Ossiander three tier high school activity fees.

Peggy Robinson stated that since the District has seen a decrease in participation because of the fees, this may be one way to have some students come back into sports. If families feel they don't qualify for the subsidized rate but want to participate, they can chose a sport with a lower fee. She didn't feel this would create a socio-economic tier of sports.

Tom Anderson stated he was never supportive of a sport fee system. He expressed concern that the community might look at this in terms of a socio-economic issue. He stated this motion does not help the situation but rather exacerbates the problem.

Hans Bernard stated this would be a beneficial thing for the high schools. He added that while it would be a decrease for some of the larger participated sports, it is offering a great deal to the high school students. He noted that while costs could increase over time in a tier program, it would provide an excellent opportunity for students for this year.

Peggy Robinson announced that depending on how the votes go with this motion, she had an interest in making adjustments to this amendment at the Second Reading. She expressed concern that some sports were subsidizing other sports. She wanted to ensure the fees were not more than what the actual cost is to provide the sport.

Dave Werdal voiced that this may have some merit but since he had not seen this proposal until tonight, he was inclined to vote against it and wait until Second Reading. He stated this is a complex issue.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Robinson, Holthouse

Nays: Drummond, Werdal, Anderson

MOTION FAILED.

AMENDMENT:

Moved by Harriet Drummond	to add back in the following from Att. B	
seconded by Rita Holthouse	\$1,921,500	30.5 Elem. FTE
	567,000	9.0 M/S Counselors
	<u>787,500</u>	12.5 HS Classroom Teachers
	\$3,276,000	52.0 FTE
	<u>1,797,162</u>	Cuts
	\$1,478,838	Needed Funds

Funding is combination of cuts made earlier this evening that reduce amount needed from the \$5,047,744 tax appropriation to just \$1,478,838, leaving \$3,568,906.

\$ 657,900	Potential M/S
	Elective Planning
378,715	Re-Open Cut
603,047	Curriculum Reorg.
<u>157,500</u>	2.5 Spec. Ed. FTE
\$1,797,162	Cuts

Recessed at 11:30 p.m.  
 Reconvened at 11:40 p.m.

Debbie Ossiander stated that while she was tempted to support this amendment, she felt it was important to have a discussion about the benefits of the Equipment Replacement Fund, before voting. She considered dealing with this item on Second Reading.

ACTION:

Moved by Dave Werdal to postpone the amendment until  
 seconded by Debbie Ossiander the Second Reading of the budget.

VOTE:

Ayes: Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson  
 Holthouse, Anderson  
 Nays: Drummond  
 MOTION PASSED.

VOTE ON MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED:

Ayes: Drummond, Ossiander, Werdal, Robinson  
 Holthouse, Anderson  
 Nays: None  
 MAIN MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED.

Rita Holthouse stated she would like additional information on how the average cost of a teacher is figured at \$63,000. She understood there is something called a scattergram that is done every month that shows FTE and what the cost is. Because it a central point when we take up Ms. Drummond’s motion, she wanted to know where the \$63,000 comes from and what was the average that we used last year in building this year’s budget. She asked that the Administration provide a comparison to how this years budget is configured.

C. SCHOOL BOARD COMMENTS

D. EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL/FINANCE/NEGOTIATIONS/  
LITIGATION)

E. ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting of January 24, 2000 was adjourned by unanimous consent at 12 midnight.

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Peggy Robinson, President

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Debbie Ossiander, Clerk

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Date Minutes Approved