## Please Note: These minutes are pending Board approval. Board of Education Newtown, Connecticut

Minutes of the special Board of Education meeting on Monday, March 10, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 3 Primrose Street.

- D. Leidlein, Chair L. Roche, Vice Chair K. Hamilton, Secretary K. Alexander J. Vouros D. Freedman (absent)
- M. Ku

J. Reed L Gejda R. Bienkowski 1 Press

<u>Item 1 – Call to Order</u> Mrs. Leidlein called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. <u>Item 2 – Public Participation</u> (none) <u>Item 3 – Communication from Legislative Council</u> Mrs. Leidlein distributed a communication from Mary A

Mrs. Leidlein distributed a communication from Mary Ann Jacob for input from the Board for the charter revision commission.

<u>Item 4 – Discussion and Possible Action on Board of Education Budget Statement</u> MOTION: Mrs. Roche moved to approve the budget statement drafted by the communications subcommittee. Ms. Hamilton seconded.

Mrs. Roche said the communication subcommittee received input from Board members and developed the attached budget statement for the Board of Finance. She drafted a letter to parents and staff members which will include the letter to the Board of Finance to encourage them to attend their meetings.

Ms. Hamilton asked to have the Town send it to the community via their system. Mrs. Roche asked to follow-up with a note to the community regarding where they can view Dr. Reed's budget videos.

Motion passes unanimously.

MOTION: Mr. Alexander moved to adjourn. Ms. Hamilton seconded. Motion passes unanimously.

<u>Item 5 – Adjournment</u> The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Kathy Hamilton Secretary

## Draft statement from Board of Education in support of budget.

We, the Board of Education, fully support the Board of Education budget as presented to the Board of Finance. We believe this budget addresses both the educational needs of our district as well as the declining enrollment. It is the collective work of the Superintendent and the Board of Education to present a fiscally responsible budget. We realize that there may be necessary adjustments to the budget due to realized differences in costs and we would support any mutually-recognized adjustments due to findings during the review by the Board of Finance. As we move forward, the Superintendent and the Board of Education will continue to examine the school system for efficiencies, as stated in our board goals, along with a continuous review of the effects of declining enrollment.

We respectfully ask the Board of Finance to collaborate with us to support this budget.