

**SPECIAL MEETING - MONTVILLE BOARD OF EDUCATION
DR. CHARLES E. MURPHY SCHOOL
LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER
January 12, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.**

Item 1: Call to order/ Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting opened 6:32 p.m. Board of Education members in attendance were Carrie Baxter, Steven Loiler, Thomas McNally, Robert Mitchell, Todd Pomazon, Deborah Reed-Iler and David Rowley. Also in attendance were Superintendent Pamela W. Aubin, Assistant Superintendent Brian Levesque, Director of Special Services Donna Maynard, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Laurie Pallin, Business Manager Kathy Lamoureux and Principal Jeff Newton.

Item 2: Budget suggestions, 2010-11

P. Aubin gave a brief introduction of the budget process. Chairperson Rowley opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, introduced Board of Education members, and gave a brief summary of the budget assumptions and constraints. P. Aubin opened the meeting to the public for discussion, asking for ways we might reduce expenditures.

Discussion was held on the following items:

- Ensuring small class sizes
 - Fifth grade class sizes at Murphy School are large, with 25 students in the classes
 - Teachers also spoke on the effectiveness of small class sizes
 - Questioning past cuts to paraprofessionals as adding paras might help with class size issues
- Discontinuing purchase of agenda books for students
- Preserving instruction in the arts (art and music) as they are needed for the creativity of students and gives students the opportunity to learn to play an instrument
- Focus on conservation of energy
 - P. Aubin discussed increased awareness of energy conservation
- Cutting the World Language program was unfortunate; however, the middle school curriculum is so weak, that eliminating that program should also be considered
- Redistricting
 - Don't want to lose staff at Murphy so redistricting might help to keep staff there
- Busing – D. Rowley suggested we widen the walker perimeters to save on transportation costs
 - J. Newton stated that a third of the students are walkers or driven to school by parents
 - The need to increase walkers at Oakdale was asked to be considered

Item 3: Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 p.m.

Submitted by,

Pamela W. Aubin
Superintendent of Schools