

**Special Meeting  
Stafford Board of Education  
Pinney Administration Building  
April 23, 2007**

**Board Members Present:** Mr. Mark Fontanella, Chairperson  
Mrs. Sandy Fowler, Secretary  
Mrs. Jennifer Davis  
Mrs. Lisa Finch

**Board Members Absent:** Mr. Scott Nozik  
Mrs. Tracy Rummel  
Ms. Ilene Whitmarsh

**Also Present:** Dr. Thérèse G. Fishman, Superintendent of Schools  
Mr. David Bartlett, Principal, Witt Intermediate School  
Mr. Michael Bednarz, Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Mr. Richard Dobson, Chairman, Board of Finance  
Mr. Damian Frassinelli, Director of Athletics and Recreation  
Ms. Jill Gregori, Business Manager  
Mr. Francis Kennedy, Principal, Stafford High School  
Mrs. Paula Kuenzler, Principal, Staffordville Elementary School  
Mr. Kenneth Valentine, Principal, Stafford Middle School

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 P.M. A quorum was established.

1. **Discussion and Approval of Adjustments to the 2007 – 2008 Board of Education Budget**

Mr. Fontanella stated that the Board of Finance has directed the Board of Education to cut \$144,500 from their proposed 2007 – 2008 budget.

Mr. Dobson stated that the Board should be prepared to inform the public at the second public hearing where the cuts would be made. Mr. Dobson stated that the Second Public Hearing on the budget is tentatively set for Wednesday, May 2, 2007, pending the outcome of the Board of Education meeting that evening.

Dr. Fishman stated that, at the direction of Mr. Fontanella, she had prepared a list of possible cuts to the budget that exceeded \$144,500, so that Board members could choose where they wanted the cuts to be made. She explained each of the cuts on the list.

Ms. Gregori explained the Excess Cost passbook and how it is used. She stated that this passbook contains Excess Cost grant funds from the State, based on the number of costly outplacements of special education students in a given year. These moneys are

to be used by the school district to replenish funds in the school budget used for outplacements. Any funds not used are then given to the town.

After discussion, Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Finch, that the Board should make the following cuts to the proposed 2007 – 2008 school budget:

Pupil Services	\$ 17,000
Pension	\$ 20,000
Data Warehousing	\$ 2,000
NEAS&C	\$ 1,000
SMS Wireless	\$ 1,000
Mimio Board and Projector	\$ 1,625
Price per Computer	\$ 2,000
Supplies	\$ 15,000
Maintenance	\$ 10,000
Sub-total	\$ 69,625
Amount taken from	
Excess Cost Passbook	\$ 74,875
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$144,500</b>

Mr. Fontanella, Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch and Mrs. Fowler voted for the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Fowler suggested that the Superintendent of Schools put an explanation of the budget cuts on the school district's web site.

Mrs. Davis made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Finch, to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Finch and Mrs. Fowler voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Jill D. Gregori, Recording Secretary**

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**Mark Fontanella, Chairperson**

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**Sandra Fowler, Secretary**