

**2011 RANDOLPH SCHOOL DISTRICT
ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 1, 2011
CHANDLER MUSIC HALL**

The 2011 Annual Randolph School District Meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. by Moderator Kelly Green. Before calling the meeting to order Ms. Green introduced herself and Town Clerk Joyce Mazzucco to the audience. She gave the audience instructions on how to be recognized and to speak at the meeting. She reminded the audience that only registered voters are allowed to vote on the issues at this meeting. Anyone who is not a registered voter in the Town of Randolph who wishes to address any matter under discussion must be given permission by the registered voters assembled. Ms. Green also acknowledged Peter Nowlan's many years of service as Moderator and there was a round of applause for Mr. Nowlan. Ms. Green reminded the audience that Town Meeting is the people's meeting and encouraged the audience to discuss the issues at hand and to ask questions.

The meeting began with the reciting of the "Pledge of Allegiance". Moderator Green informed the audience that the warning for the Annual School District Meeting and school district reports could be found beginning on page 129 of the "Town Report". She reminded the audience that voting was taking place by Australian ballot on Articles II, III, IV and V at the Town Hall until 7:00 p.m.

ARTICLE I. To hear and act upon the reports of the several Town School District Officers and Committees. Moderator Green recognized Laura Soares, Chair of the Randolph Elementary School Directors. Ms. Soares introduced the members of the board present at the meeting: Brooke Dingedine, Jennifer Messier, and Anne Kaplan. Board member Sarah Murawski was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Soares also introduced Orange Southwest Supervisory Union (OSSU) Superintendent Dr. Brent Kay and the elementary school Co-Principals Shirley Stewart and Eric McLaughlin. She recognized Ms. Stewart, who is retiring after 32 years of service, and read a portion of a letter acknowledging Ms. Stewart's service. There was a round of applause for Ms. Stewart. Ms. Soares also recognized the years of service of Andy Becker who stepped down from the Union High School District #2 board this year.

Ms. Soares spoke about the OSSU mission statement which lists four priorities: critical thinking, foundational knowledge, ability to adapt and information technology. She also talked about the budget and surpluses. She said when the budget is developed there are a number of unknown factors. She credited Superintendent Kay with changing the philosophy of spending in the district to one where funds are spent on only what is needed and to save the rest. How surpluses are spent is up to the voters. Since the education taxes are a statewide system, any surpluses not used would go back to the state. Surpluses over the past few years have gone into reserve funds for Vehicle Replacement and Building Maintenance. The Elementary School is now in year 11. If the voters choose not to use the surplus funds towards building maintenance or bus replacement, then it goes back to the state.

Ms. Soares told the audience she has served as a School Director for 18 years and, due to a lack of candidates running for the Union High School District #2 School Director position, she

is running for that position this year. It was not her intent to serve on two boards, and she may be resigning from the Randolph School Board at a later time.

Ms. Soares also talked about Act 153 which asks school districts to explore consolidation of districts into Regional Educational Districts (RED). Randolph is well-positioned for RED. If districts decide to dissolve, one board will be elected. If communities decide to form a RED there are incentives from the state. Voters must agree to close a school. A committee made up of board members and community members will be formed to explore the options.

Ms. Soares made a motion to allow Dr. Brent Kay to address the meeting. Darcy Daniel seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried by majority vote.

Marty Strange asked a question about the last paragraph of the Superintendent's Report on page 137. Dr. Kay responded that there were 6 different systems in place and these have now been consolidated.

Julie Iffland recognized Laura Soares and her years of service to this community and thanked her for her service. There was a round of applause for Ms. Soares.

Daniel Sax and Larry Townsend both made a motion to accept the reports of the school district officers. Holly Sanders seconded the motion. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried by majority vote.

ARTICLE II. To vote by Australian Ballot on the following Town School District Officers:

- SCHOOL DIRECTOR for a term of two years**
- SCHOOL DIRECTOR for a term of three years**
- SCHOOL DIRECTOR for Union High School District No. 2 for a term of three years**

Moderator Green told the audience that Title 17 does not allow discussion on the election of officers which is done by Australian ballot.

ARTICLE III. To vote by Australian Ballot on the following:

- Shall the voters of the Randolph Town School District appropriate \$4,399,433.00 necessary for the support of its elementary school for the year beginning July 1, 2011?**

Moderator Green opened the floor for discussion. There was no discussion on this article.

ARTICLE IV. To vote by Australian Ballot on the following:

- Shall the voters of the Randolph Town School District approve the transfer of \$50,000.00 in surplus funds from the 2009-2010 school year to the Bus Replacement Fund for the year beginning July 1, 2011?**

Moderator Green opened the floor for discussion. There was no discussion on this article.

ARTICLE IV. To vote by Australian Ballot on the following:

-Shall the voters of the Randolph Town School District approve the transfer of \$70,303.00 in surplus funds from the 2009-2010 school year to the Building Maintenance Fund?

Moderator Green opened the floor for discussion. There was no discussion on this article.

ARTICLE V. To vote on the floor the following:

-Shall the voters authorize the School Board to borrow money up to but not exceeding the anticipated revenue for the ensuing year?

John Westbrook made a motion to authorize the School Board to borrow money up to but not exceeding the anticipated revenue for the ensuing year. Ron Schoolcraft seconded the motion. John Joy asked why the school district needs to borrow money if there are surpluses. Dr. Kay responded to the question. He told the audience that borrowing funds smoothes out the operating expenses. The school borrows the funds and invests the funds at a higher interest rate—this is arbitrage. There was no further discussion. A voice vote was taken and the motion carried by majority vote.

ARTICLE VI. To do any other business proper to come before the meeting. Moderator Green opened the floor for discussion. There was no discussion on this article. The meeting adjourned at 10:39 a.m.

A True Record.

Attest: _____, Town Clerk
Joyce L. Mazzucco

Approved by: _____, Moderator
Kelly Green

_____, School Board Director