

1 **Shaker Regional School District**
2 **Annual Meeting Minutes**
3 **March 4, 2016**
4

5 IN ATTENDANCE

6 *School Board:* Chairman: Sean Embree, Bob Reed, Heidi Chaney, Jill LaVallee, Richy Bryant,
7 Gretta Olson-Wilder, Patty Brace

8 *Administration:* Superintendent: Maria Dreyer, Business Administrator: Debbie Thompson;
9 School District Attorney: Matt Serge; Moderator: Roy Roberts

10
11 At 10:50am Moderator: Roy Roberts swore in Assistant Moderator, Cory Yelle.

12 At 10:58am Moderator Roberts swore in Assistant Moderator, Thomas Garfield and the Ballot
13 Clerks:

14
15 **Belmont:**

16 Supervisors of the Checklist: Brenda Paquette, Donna Shepherd, Nikki Wheeler

17 Ballot Clerks: Liz Austin, Sharon Ciampi, Kathy Davis, Gail Garfield, Susan Harris, Gerri
18 Mitchell, Norma Patten, Kelly Rolfe and Sharon Wright

19
20 **Canterbury:**

21 Supervisors of the Checklist: Mary Ann Winograd, Brenda Murray and Denise Sojka
22

23 At 11:00am, Moderator Roberts declared the polls open for voting on Articles 1, 2 and 3. Paul
24 O'Connell verified that the ballot box was empty before placing his ballot in the box.

25
26 Moderator Roberts explained that the polls will be closing at 7:00pm and that those that are not
27 registered voters, can register to vote now, while the polls are still open. Roy explained that the
28 non-registered voters or non-residents are to sit on the bleachers up to the right, where it is
29 marked. A few newspaper reporters may sit in the front row of seats to the left, where it is
30 marked. He had other non-residents raise their hands so their location was known.

31
32 At 7:06pm, Moderator Roberts closed the polls for voting on Articles 1, 2 and 3.
33

34 At 7:07pm, Moderator Roberts called the meeting to order and reviewed safety and emergency
35 procedures. He also stated there is babysitting available for those with small children. He asked
36 for a round of applause for the ballot clerks.

37
38 The meeting began with the pledge of Allegiance led by Belmont High School student,
39 Katherine Wieck. The National Anthem was led by former graduate of the Class of 2015, Asher
40 Clark; Asia Merrill and Zoe Cygan. The SRSB Members, Administration and Legal Counsel
41 were introduced.
42

43 **Student Representative Recognitions:** Heidi Chaney began by recognizing Student
44 Representative, Carol Lipshultz from BHS and Sierra McIntyre from BMS. These students have
45 been a pleasure to have on the Board and to participate at the meetings. They are not selected by
46 the Board; they are selected by their peers. They inform the Board of the school activities and

1 answer any questions the Board may have. They are both active in the schools and represent the
2 schools with pride. Dan Clary, BHS Principal was asked for some words to describe Carol and
3 he said she is independent and well respected. Aaron Pope, BMS Principal described Sierra as
4 hardworking, motivated and an all-around good student. They have both been very good reps for
5 their schools. Heidi said Carol will be graduating in June and Sierra will be attending BHS next
6 year. The board would love to have her back if she would like. It has been a pleasure to have
7 them both on the Board. Heidi presented them each with a gift.

8
9 **Retirements:**

10 Sean Embree recognized Maria Dreyer's retirement. She has been Superintendent of the SRSD
11 since 2012. He said she has made some significant changes in the District. She has implemented
12 technology changes and updates and she has written and received many Grants. Regarding
13 academics, she has overseen the meeting of AYP at the middle school and she has brought
14 Competency Based Grading to the forefront. She has consistently kept the budget low and has
15 cut the cost for transportation by combining the high school and middle school routes. She also
16 has begun an Engineering Course at BHS that has saved the District some money because our
17 students did not need to go to the Huot Center for the class. She also implemented the different
18 diplomas to accommodate all types of students. Roy Roberts was asked by a parent in the
19 District, Janice Pelletier, to read a letter she had written in regard to Maria stepping down from
20 Superintendent. She wanted to say that Maria is very professional and caring of children and she
21 feels it would be a mistake not to keep her. She said she feels she has been an asset to the
22 District.

23
24 Maria thanked the members of the original Board that had hired her in 2012. She also thanked
25 the SAU staff, District Administration and the teachers for all of their work and the Town's
26 taxpayers. She said she assured everyone that she has always been a good steward of the money.
27 She is proud of what has been accomplished in the District over the past 3 years. She is ready to
28 move on with her life and spend time with her family. She is still going to work with children in
29 Miami. She plans to work with homeless families and help them get into shelters and the
30 children into schools. She thanked everyone for the chance to work with our students in the
31 District.

32
33 Ken Knowlton of Belmont spoke on behalf of the Gale School Committee. He thanked Maria
34 for her hard work looking for alternatives for them.

35
36 Patty Brace recognized Patricia Sarausky on her retirement. Patty said that she has been a very
37 dedicated teacher to the school and the children. She has taught many different grades over the
38 years, but her love has been to teach 2nd grade. Both of Patty Brace's children had been taught
39 by Mrs. Sarausky. She has shown patience, energy and dedication. She has been the school's
40 sunshine and energizer bunny. Over the years, she has been very active on many committees
41 especially with the Drama Department for the elementary school and the high school. She has
42 helped other high schools with their drama productions as well. Mrs. Sarausky has also received
43 the Recycling Teacher of the Year Award. She has taught children to be caretakers of the earth.
44 Patty feels Mrs. Sarausky has been one of the most successful teachers we have had a SRSD.

1 Patricia Sarausky said she has been teaching for 34 years. She thanked all of her parent
2 volunteers over the years. A lot of them are present at tonight's meeting. She added that it takes
3 a whole village to raise a child and she is proud to have been a part of BES and the Shaker
4 District.

5
6 Richy Bryant recognized Dan Clary on his retirement after 12 years in the District. He said that
7 Dan has been very hard working and has a calming influence on students and staff. He had come
8 up with the Accommodation Award for students so that no one is being left out. He has been a
9 role model to both students and staff. He added that he not only organized many of the school
10 events, he also participates in them. He has been active in the outside activities such as clearing
11 brush and has been in several of the school plays. Richy said that Shaker will miss him and
12 thanked him for a job well done.

13
14 Dan Clary said it has been a pleasure to work with the students and the teachers at SRSD.

15
16 Sean Embree recognized Jill LaVallee for her 3 year term on the SRSB. Sean said she has given
17 important insight for the Board with her education background. She has served on many
18 committees. Her opinions and thoughts have been very well respected. Sean wished her well
19 moving forward.

20
21 Moderator Roberts reviewed the rules of order for the meeting, based on the Town and School
22 Meeting Guide developed by the Local Government Center. He also explained the point of
23 order. All people speaking are to introduce themselves. All questions and comments are to be
24 directed to the Moderator. No comments or questions at the microphone can be more than 3
25 minutes. Please be brief and polite. All motions and amendments will be stated and submitted
26 in writing.

27
28 **Article 01: SB2 Petition Warrant Article**
29 Shall we adopt the provisions of RSA 40:13 (known as SB 2) to allow official ballot voting on
30 all issues to come before the Shaker Regional School District on the second Tuesday in March.
31 This article submitted by Petition. (3/5 majority vote required.) (Board does not recommend
32 passing this article.)

33
34 Article 01 passed on a ballot vote.
35 355 In favor
36 194 opposed
37 Total votes cast 555

38
39 **Article 02: Election of Moderator**
40 To choose, by ballot, a School Board Moderator to serve for a term of two years. Candidate
41 must be a resident of Belmont or Canterbury.

42
43 Article 02
44 Record of Election – Shaker Regional School Board Moderator
45 Roy Roberts – 474 votes

46

1 **Article 03: Election of Officers**

2 To choose, by ballot, two School Board members, one from the pre-existing District of Belmont
3 to serve for a term of three years and one from the pre-existing District of Canterbury to serve
4 for a term of three years. Candidates must be residents of Belmont and Canterbury respectively,
5 but will be elected at large.

6
7 Record of Election – Shaker Regional School Board Members

8 School Board – Belmont 3 years

9 Sean Embree – 415

10 Write-ins – 1 vote

11
12 School Board – Canterbury 3 years

13 Jodie Martinez – 402

14
15 **Article 04: Operating Budget**

16 To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty one million,
17 seven hundred thirty nine thousand, eight hundred seventy dollars (\$21,739,870) for the support
18 of schools, the salaries of school district officials and agents, and for the payment of statutory
19 obligations of said district, and to authorize the application against said appropriates of such
20 sums as are estimated to be raised from the State's equalized and building aids together with
21 other income. The School Board shall certify to the selectmen of each of the towns of Belmont
22 and Canterbury the amount to be raised by taxation of each of said towns. This article does not
23 include appropriations voted in other warrant articles. (Majority vote required.) (The School
24 Board recommends passing this appropriation.)

25
26 *A motion was made by Ron Mitchell of Belmont, and seconded by Bill Hart of Belmont, to*
27 *move Article 4 to the floor for discussion.*

28
29 Sean Embree is pleased with the budget. He said all of the Administrators should be
30 commended for their hard work. There were two Public Hearings for the public to speak
31 regarding the budget. The increase over last year is \$199,666.00 which is a .99% increase. He
32 said the contractual mandates total \$670,715.00. The teacher contract totals \$337,595.00 and
33 the Chromebook lease is \$114,900.00 and the Special Education expenses are \$202,143.00.
34 The Board and Administration has the quality education of students in mind when making the
35 budget.

36
37 *A motion was made by Diane Marden, and seconded by Ken Knowlton, to amend Article 4*
38 *and reduce the 2016-2017 operating budget by \$16,002.50 to remove and discontinue the*
39 *Empower computer program.*

40
41 Diane Marden explained that in last year's budget the funds were wasted on Empower. SRSD
42 is looking to waste \$16,000 more this year and there is no clear plan on how to implement this
43 program. It is causing frustration for students, parents and teachers. It seems students will
44 spend more time on computers and less time interacting with the teachers.

45
46 Sean Embree said that from a technology perspective, sometimes you have to overspend to plan

1 for the future.

2
3 Maria said that with Empower they have had to purchase enough licenses for the actual
4 enrollment in the District. Empower is a competency based learning program and it is needed
5 for the teachers to manage the students learning and grading. Empower has given the District a
6 credit toward this year’s bill because we did not need as many licenses.

7
8 Tracey LeClair of Belmont explained that even if the money was removed from the budget, the
9 Board can still purchase Empower.

10
11 ***The amendment to Article 4 failed on a voice vote.***

12
13 Amanda DeGange of Belmont, asked if the Board had decided on a person for Curriculum
14 Director or a Consulting Firm.

15
16 Sean Embree said the Board had not decided yet. They will work with Maria and the incoming
17 Superintendent to make a decision.

18
19 Fred Fecteau of Belmont asked for some clarification on the benefits compared to the salaries.

20
21 Roy Roberts said the budget is based on people currently in positions and if coverage changes
22 for family plans instead of single plans the rate will be higher.

23
24 Ron Mitchell of Belmont asked if the District had received any rebates on the energy savings.

25
26 Bob Reed said they have received several rebates. There was one at the entrance, when
27 entering the school. He also stated there was a 27% decrease in Electricity for November, 42%
28 decrease in December and a 37% decrease in January. The rebates that the District has received
29 were used to buy down the lease for all of the energy upgrades.

30
31 ***Article 4 passed on a voice vote.***

32
33 **Article 05: Collective Bargaining Agreement**

34 To see if the school district will vote, by ballot, to approve the cost items included in the
35 collective bargaining agreement reached between the Shaker Regional School Board and the
36 Shaker Regional Education Support Professional Association, NEA-New Hampshire which
37 calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at the current staffing level:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Increase
2016-17	\$117,679
2017-18	\$74,410
2018-19	\$73,542

38 and further to raise and appropriate one hundred seventeen thousand six hundred seventy nine
39 dollars (\$117,679), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in
40 salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current
41 staffing levels, with such amount to be funded from the June 30, 2016 unassigned fund balance.
42 (Majority vote required.) (The School Board recommends passing this article.)

1
2 ***A motion was made by Ron Mitchell of Belmont, and seconded by Polly Camire of***
3 ***Canterbury to move Article 5 to the floor for discussion.***
4

5 Heidi Chaney recognized the negotiating team members for the Board and the Union. She also
6 thanked Debbie Thompson for her hard work negotiating the contract. The CBA is a 3 year
7 agreement. There is a salary schedule with a new starting pay. There is a 2% increase between
8 steps. The health insurance coverage has a \$12,000 cap and there is a \$2,000 buyback for those
9 who choose not to take the health insurance. Heidi said the there is no tax impact for the first
10 year of the contract because SRSD will offset the total amount through this year's fund balance.
11 The second and third year will be a tax increase of .09cents for Belmont and .07cents for
12 Canterbury.

13
14 Roy Roberts said this article was written to be a ballot vote, but it is not required to be done by
15 ballot.

16
17 ***A motion was made by Donna Cilley, and seconded by Ken Knowlton, to vote on Article 5 by***
18 ***a voice vote.***

19
20 ***Article 5 passed on a voice vote.***
21

22 **Article 06: Permission to call Special Meeting for CBA if necessary**

23 Shall Shaker Regional School District, if Article 05 is defeated, authorize the governing body to
24 call one special meeting, at its option, to address Article 05 cost items only. (Majority vote
25 required).

26
27 Roy Roberts said this Article is not necessary at this time. It is written as a backup if Article 5
28 did not pass for the CBA.

29
30 ***A motion was made by Ron Mitchell of Belmont, and seconded by Ken Knowlton to table***
31 ***Article 6.***

32
33 ***The motion passed on a voice vote.***
34

35 **Article 07: Addition to Facilities & Grounds Expendable Trust Fund**

36 To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of up to seventy five
37 thousand dollars (\$75,000) to be added to the School Facilities & Grounds Expendable Trust
38 Fund which was established at the March 21, 1997 Annual District Meeting. This sum to come
39 from June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No amount to be raised from
40 taxation. (Majority vote required) (The School Board recommends passing this article.)
41

42 ***A motion was made by Woodbury Fogg of Belmont, and seconded by Kerry Bergeron of***
43 ***Belmont to move Article 7 to the floor for discussion.***
44

45 Bob Reed explained that they have been setting money aside in this Expendable Trust fund in
46 preparation for maintenance on buildings in the District. The high school will need a roof in
47 the next few years, which is a \$350,000 project. Bob said that there are several items on the
48 CIP so they would like to have money build up for those items. The money going into the
49 account is not going to raise taxes.

1
2 Ken Knowlton of Belmont asked if the replacement storage unit will be paid for out of this
3 account if the Gale School is voted to be razed. Bob said it would not come from the Facility
4 and Grounds Expendable Trust Fund, it will be paid for as a budgeted item.

5
6 ***Article 7 passed on a voice vote.***
7

8 Maria said that each year the Administrative team gets together to decide on the Champion for
9 Children. This person is well known for his sense of humor, dry wit and devotion to Belmont
10 and Canterbury communities and children. Ray Craigie began his career with SRSD in 1983.
11 During his 28 year tenure, he grew the band program and its membership. You can still see the
12 fruits of his labor in the band program today. He traveled to many states with the students for
13 band competitions and they won several of them. He was also a ski coach and a golf coach for
14 several years. Maia congratulated Ray Craigie.

15
16 **Article 08: Move Gale School to Concord Street Location Petition Warrant Article**

17 Shall the School District vote, by Ballot, to raise and appropriate the sum of Two Hundred
18 Forty Two Thousand, Eight Hundred Seventy Eight Dollars (\$242,878) for the purpose of
19 relocating and restoration the Gale School. Five Thousand Twenty-Seven Dollars and Seventy-
20 Nine cents (\$5,027.79) to be funded from the previously established Expendable Trust account
21 "Gale School Restoration", Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$65,000) to be funded by the School
22 Facilities and Grounds Expendable Trust Fund established in 1997, Fifty Thousand Dollars
23 (\$50,000) to be funded by unassigned fund balance. (This article submitted by Petition.)
24 (Majority vote required.) (The School Board does not recommend passing this article.)

25
26 **Article 09: Keep Gale School in Current Location Petition Warrant Article**

27 Should Article #08 fail: Shall the School District vote, by Ballot, to raise and appropriate the
28 sum of One Hundred Eighty Seven Thousand, Nine Hundred Seventy Eight Dollars (\$187,978)
29 for the purpose of repairs/maintenance and restoration of the Gale School Building. Five
30 Thousand Twenty-Seven Dollars and Seventy-Nine cents (\$5,027.79) to be funded from the
31 previously established Expendable Trust account "Gale School Restoration", Sixty-Five
32 Thousand Dollars (\$65,000) to be funded by the School Facilities and Grounds Expendable
33 Trust Fund established in 1997, Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be funded by unassigned
34 fund balance. (This article submitted by Petition.) (Majority vote required.) (The School
35 Board does not recommend passing this article.)

36
37 **Article 10: Disposal of Gale School**

38 To see if the voters will vote, by ballot, to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy one
39 thousand dollars (\$71,000) to raze the Gale School, and take any such actions necessary to
40 properly dispose of all related materials and restore the site. (Majority vote required) (The
41 School Board recommends passing this appropriation)

42
43 Roy Roberts said that Articles 8,9 and 10 are all related so the 3 options will be discussed
44 together.

45
46 Ken Knowlton said that a year ago the Gale School committee came to the people at the Annual

1 District Meeting and asked for an alternative use for the Gale School Building. The Save the
2 Gale School Committee met with the School Board representatives. The choices given tonight
3 are to maintain the building where it is, move the building to the corner lot at BMS on Concord
4 Street, which he doesn't think is possible because the District doesn't want to get rid of that
5 corner lot and the third option is to raze the building. Ken said that in Article 10 it will cost
6 \$71,000 to demolish the building and the District has said they would spend another \$30,000
7 for a storage building. This is totaling over \$100,000. He feels that money should be used to
8 put the Gale Building on a new foundation, fix the outside and put in new windows. It could
9 continue to be used for storage. The second option could be to make it into the SAU office.
10 Ken said this is a historical building and it should be saved. He said the committee is asking
11 the public to vote for Article 8 or 9.

12
13 Diane Marden said they have \$61,000 in donations for the Gale School. It can be used toward
14 site work, foundation and move to a new lot. There is support available through NH Historical
15 resources and the Victorian Chapter in Boston. She added that the building is a community
16 icon. This building is a lot to a lot of people. In the future, it could offer more space to the
17 District. She supports Article 8, to move it to a lot and to be utilized by the general public. She
18 explained the process to move the building. She said maybe a private entity could purchase it.
19 Diane supports Article 8.

20
21 Bob Reed said the Board is in favor of Article 10. He understands the emotional commitment
22 the public has. The School Board's job is to watch out for the taxpayers and the students.
23 Article 8 is asking to spend \$65,000 out of the Expendable Trust and the Unexpended funds
24 which the District may or may not have available at year end. He said that SAU space is not
25 needed. When looking at the Demographic Study, the space needs are met. The Gale Building
26 is a fire hazard and it puts the middle school at risk.

27
28 Roy Roberts said that Article 10 should be voted on first and if it doesn't pass then Article 8
29 and 9 will be addressed.

30
31 ***A motion was made by Priscilla Lockwood of Canterbury, and seconded by Sumner Dole of***
32 ***Canterbury, to go to Article 10 first. The motion passed on a voice vote.***

33
34 ***A motion was made by Jim Spiller of Belmont and seconded by Sumner Dole of Canterbury,***
35 ***to move Article 10 to the floor for discussion.***

36
37 Ron Mitchell of Belmont said he has been a contractor most of his adult life. He said the Gale
38 Building is a sound structure. The roof lines are straight and there are no cracks in the rafters.
39 It does need a new roof and some paint. The building needs a new foundation as well. Ron
40 opposes Article 10.

41
42 David Nix of Belmont said the voters are presented with 3 choices. His understanding is that
43 all of these choices will raise taxes. Belmont is number 42 out of 258 towns from the highest
44 tax rate in the State. He said 1 choice is being overlooked and that is to do nothing with the
45 Gale Building at this time. Another option could be to sell the wood from the building. David
46 opposes Article 10.

1
2 George Condodemetraky of Belmont stated that to destroy the building would be a sin. It really
3 isn't going to raise the taxes by much to repair the building. He said this building can't be
4 replaced. It is a pleasure to see the old buildings. He feels we need to keep our history. He
5 feels the town needs to keep the building and they can repair it by donations. He opposes
6 Article 10.

7
8 Bob Steenson of Canterbury said he respects the Historic preservation. He added that the
9 figures to rehabilitate the building appear too low. Using the Districts funds should be for the
10 students and their education. The funds should not be used for the Gale Building. The District
11 should be cautious to adding more funds when the taxes will be going up next year. Bob
12 recommends not passing all 3 Articles and do something to save the building without the
13 School District's funds.

14
15 Ken Knowlton suggested again to use the \$71,000 it would cost to raze the building, to repair it.
16 He said we need to preserve our history. We were able to save the Mill and now we need to do
17 the same with the Gale Building.

18
19 Helen Corriveau of Belmont said we have been doing nothing about this building for years.
20 She added that the District can't say they do not have a space issue. The elementary school is
21 bulging at the seams. We are trying to have Belmont parents send their children to CES because
22 there is room at that school. BES has lost a computer lab and they have 5 Kindergarten
23 classrooms. They could use the Gale School as the SAU and free up the Memorial Building for
24 classes. Helen opposes Article 10.

25
26 Barbara Garneau of Belmont feels that half of the people in this room has probably spent
27 thousands of dollars to travel to other countries to see history but we are not willing to spend
28 money locally to save our history.

29
30 Beth Anderson of Belmont has been here 10 years. She has seen a change in Belmont. She
31 said the Belmont needs a larger library. She has seen the children fill the current library. The
32 Gale Building could be looked at as a starter. Beth opposes Article 10.

33
34 Bob Reed said that the large group at BES is short term. They will be moving through the
35 District and there is room for the upcoming students. If we save the Gale School the money is
36 not included to fix the inside of the building.

37
38 Tim LaVallee of Canterbury said the money in the each Article is not including repairing the
39 inside of the building. When discussing the use of the building as a library that is a totally
40 different price tag.

41
42 ***A motion was made by George Condodemetraky of Belmont and seconded by Ken Knowlton***
43 ***of Belmont to table Article 10 by a hand vote.***

44
45 ***The vote to table Article 10 failed on a hand vote. 96 yes and 130 no.***
46

1 Sumner Dole of Canterbury said that the District has been discussing the Gale Building for over
2 15 years. They have been frustrated and haven't done anything with it yet. It is a surplus
3 building to the District. The building does have a lot of importance to some people. The Town
4 of Belmont is not interested in this building at all. He recommends the Save the Gale School
5 Committee take on the fund raising to save the building. He also recommends passing Article
6 10 by razing the building in one piece or many pieces but also allowing the Save the Gale
7 School Committee time to have a viable plan for the building by August 1, 2016. If they have a
8 plan, the SRSD can give the \$71,000 to the committee to move it and do what they want with
9 the building. He also said the unexpended funds that are being asked to spend on the Gale
10 School in Article 8 and 9 are funds that the District uses to fund the buildings and grounds
11 projects. It is not a good idea to spend all of those funds on the Gale School. He does not want
12 to amend the Article.

13
14 Peter Harris of Belmont suggested forming a Charrette. This would allow a design team to
15 come to town, in the past it took 3 days and see what we have to work with. Belmont is small
16 and doesn't have a lot to offer for commercial trade. A lot of things have been done to the
17 Town from this Charrette. The building should be saved.

18
19 Brad Corriveau of Belmont stated that there is more to education than books. Community pride
20 is a part of education. It is not a good example to tear down a historic building and replace it
21 with a metal shed. You teach by example and leadership. Even if it's not easy, you do it
22 because it is the right thing to do.

23
24 Colleen Akerman of Belmont asked if there is a way that the School District can decide on an
25 action for the building so that the committee can get the funds raised to save the building.

26
27 Ken Knowlton spoke on behalf of he and Diane Marden that if it does not pass to save the Gale
28 Building, he and Diane will go away and stop pushing to save it.

29
30 Polly Camire of Canterbury said the Gale School is a part of our District. She is opposed to
31 Article 10. It belongs to the District and there are a lot of possibilities for the building. It is our
32 responsibility to save this building and there are all kinds of things that can be done with the
33 building. Canterbury has preserved their one room school house for educational purposes and
34 she can see the same thing being done with the Gale School.

35
36 Amanda Littlefield of Belmont spoke against Article 10. She said it is important to keep the
37 integrity. This building can teach the children history and we would be a town with dignity and
38 respect. She also suggested having the high school students work on the building and learn a
39 trade.

40
41 George Dagoumas of Belmont suggested giving the Gale School to the Save the Gale School
42 Committee and letting them do what they want with it.

43
44 Mark Ekberg of Belmont said by looking at the numbers in the budget and what they are trying
45 to do to save it, saving the Gale Building doesn't really add up to a lot of money. He is
46 personally willing to spend the money to save the building.

1
2 Fred Fecteau of Belmont says the Board is against relocating the building to the corner. He
3 suggested giving the corner lot away with the Gale Building on it and then it is no longer a
4 school building. The SRSD will no longer have to deal with it. He doesn't understand why
5 this can't be done.

6
7 Diane Marden suggested selling the corner lot to a private entity. They would like the \$71,000
8 used to move the building and then it can be given away.

9
10 Bob Reed said the Board can't give away the property. He said it would have to be a Warrant
11 Article for next year.

12
13 ***A motion was made by Bill Hart of Belmont, and seconded by Ron Mitchell of Belmont***
14 ***to vote on Article 10.***

15
16 ***The motion passed on a voice vote.***

17
18 At 9:25pm, Peter Harris of Belmont verified the ballot box was empty before placing his ballot
19 in the box.

20
21 At 9:50pm, Moderator Roberts declared the polls closed for voting on Article 10.

22
23 Article 10 failed on a ballot vote.
24 104 in favor
25 128 opposed

26
27 **Article 11: Petition-Allow the Town to utilize Middle School for 8 week Summer Day**
28 **Camp**

29 To see if the voters of Shaker Regional School District will vote to allow the Town of Belmont
30 to utilize and extend the Middle School's District space and facilities for the Town of Belmont
31 Park and Recreation Department known as Summer Day Camp Program for a 8 week program
32 (pending school release and start date) on an annual basis, rather than early August as currently
33 allowed. (This article submitted by Petition.)

34
35 ***A motion was made by George Condodemetraky of Belmont, and seconded by Diane Marden,***
36 ***to move Article 11 to the floor for discussion.***

37
38 Bobbi Jo Joyce of Belmont said she is asking for the Parks and Rec Summer Camp to be
39 extended at BMS from 6 weeks to 8 weeks. Currently, it ends 2 weeks before school starts.
40 She is asking for it to run at BMS right up until school starts. She said she had spoken with
41 Maria about extending the program.

42
43 Sean Embree said the School District definitely wants to work with the Parks and Rec. They
44 are concerned with an 8 week program being held at BMS because they need time to clean the
45 school. There are other spaces that can be used in the District for the last 2 weeks of the camp.
46 They would definitely like to work with the Parks and Rec Department to come up with a

1 solution.

2

3 *Article 11 passed on a voice vote.*

4

5 **Recognition of Bob Harper**

6 Bob Reed stated that Bob Harper had passed away a couple of weeks ago. He had served on
7 the Belmont Police Department for 8 years and the Belmont Fire Department for 32 years. He
8 owned his own market downtown called Harps Market. They did meat cutting at the market.
9 He received NH Custodian of the Year while working for the SRSD. He started the Senior
10 Breakfast in the 1980's at BHS and it continues today. He previously received the Champions
11 for Children Award as well. He will be missed by all.

12

13 *A motion was made by Tracey LeClair of Belmont, and seconded by Woody Fogg of*
14 *Belmont, to move Article 8 to the floor for discussion.*

15

16 Diane Marden suggested amending Article 8 to move the Gale School to the corner of Concord
17 Street and Memorial Street and give the building to the Save the Gale School Committee.

18

19 Tracey Leclair of Belmont is asking if the District can sell the corner lot and the building for
20 \$1.00 to the Save the Gale School Committee. She is asking to have a special meeting to
21 approve this transaction. The committee could use their own money to move the building
22 because the District does not want to use their money. She is looking to table 8 and 9 and have
23 a special meeting to sell the building and corner lot.

24

25 Woody Fogg of Belmont is suggesting amending Article 8, to transfer the property at the corner
26 of Memorial Street and Concord Street to the Save the Gale School Committee and spend
27 \$71,000 of the SRSD money to move the building to the property. The committee would need
28 to become a non-profit organization and then they would be able to seek grants and donations.
29 All of this is subject to the committee obtaining non-profit status before next year's school
30 district meeting.

31

32 Attorney Matt Serge stated that the appropriation of funds has to be used for education, there
33 needs to be a direct school purpose. Moving the Gale School to the corner lot and giving the
34 building to a committee is not a direct school purpose for education. If Article 8 or 9 does pass
35 it is for advisory only. The SRSD does not have to act on the Articles.

36

37 Barbara Garneau of Belmont said that if the District is willing to spend \$71,000 to destroy this
38 building, they should now be willing to put that money into repairing it. She does not want us
39 to overlook a wonderful resource that we have, the building trades program from Laconia could
40 be used to help repair it and it would incorporate the children's education.

41

42 Mary Jo Reed of Canterbury asked if this amendment is now saying that \$71,000 of taxpayer's
43 money is going to be used to donate to a non-profit organization.

44

45 Roy Roberts explained that the SRSD would pay that amount to a contractor to move the
46 building to the corner lot and then the property and the building would be given to the Save the

1 Gale School non-profit organization.

2
3 ***A motion was made by Woody Fogg of Belmont, and seconded by Diane Marden of Belmont,***
4 ***to amend Article 8.***

5
6 “To amend Article 8 to \$71,000 and to authorize the SRSD to transfer the property at the corner
7 of Memorial Street and Concord Street and to move the Gale School to said property and
8 transfer the Gale School to the Save the Gale School Committee subject to said committee
9 attaining status as a non-profit entity. All of this subject to the Save the Gale School
10 Committee attaining said status no later than next year’s Shaker Regional School District
11 Meeting.”

12
13 Roy explained that this Article is advisory only.

14
15 David Morse of Belmont was surprised that a Petitioned Warrant Article could be amended.
16 He also stated that he was disappointed that this is being suggested at a District Meeting rather
17 than have the Board worked with the Save the Gale School Committee and presented it tonight.

18
19 Bob Reed said that the Board and Maria had met with the committee 5 or 6 times and they had
20 hit road blocks with the different options that had come up.

21
22 ***The amendment to Article 8 passed on a voice vote.***

23
24 ***Article 8 passed on a voice vote.***

25
26 ***A motion was made by Mike Akerstrom of Belmont, and seconded by Terry Roberts, to table***
27 ***Article 9.***

28
29 ***The motion passed on a voice vote.***

30
31 ***At 10:36pm, Moderator Roberts adjourned the meeting accompanied by a motion from Sean***
32 ***Embree of Belmont, and seconded by Bob Reed of Canterbury. The motion passed on a***
33 ***voice vote.***

34
35 Respectfully Submitted,

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38 Stacy S. Kruger
39 School District Clerk
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