Call to order
Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance
All rose and pledged allegiance.

Roll Call
Present: - Stephanie D’Onofrio, Laura Harris, Ken Marcucio - Chairman, Martin Hubbard, Rebecca O’Hara, and Kim Kreiger. There is a quorum.

Absent: Andy Mancini, Casey Picheco and Jodi Chevarella.

Also Present: Dr. Stephen Tracy, Superintendent.

A moment of silence was observed for Mr. Vitello a former athletic director and teacher.

Public Portion
Wendy Buckley - 18 Cottage Street. The children at Irving School are 62.8% economically disadvantaged. One quarter to a third of the preschool children going into kindergarten will need extra help next year. Cutting back the full day kindergarten will dramatically hurt the children.

Erica Baumgardner. There is a tremendous benefit for full day kindergarten academically as well as socially.

Jessica Mizzelli - 1056 Main St South - Waterbury CT. Jessica read off names of children whose education will be compromised.

Nancy Maleri. - All day kindergarten teacher - Irving School. The work done now cannot be done in a half day kindergarten. The readiness program is being brought back for full day. It is a tremendous step backward.

? DeAngelo - 123 Olivia Street. What happens to the children who go to full day kindergarten if it is cut back? What happens to parents and caregivers who work or go to school every day? There has to be an alternative to this.

Lou Coppola - teacher DHS. The blogs say we need more education not less. No matter what happens here, we will still lose. However, It does make a difference what we do here. The City Tax Board and Administration has said do more with less.
Athletics has approximately 200 students. There is a lot more students than that; that need their teachers. Each teacher deals with 100-150 students on a year basis. A coach deals with far less students for three months or so. It is a hardship to get rid of athletics, but what is more likely to happen?:

the town coming back and saying we cut you for the last two years, here is an extra million to hire more teachers.....

or if the City was embarrassed because Derby has to pull back out of every league and sports endeavor for awhile, because of what they didn’t give us,

that will make a far bigger impression on them, and we will get our money back sooner than for 20% of the teachers gotten rid of the past two years.

What is more important, learning more English or hitting baseball, learning more Math or kicking the football, more losing of any of the subjects than athletics?

Fran Gallo - Principal of Irving School. There are wonderful programs that produce wonderful children. Every teacher or program cut will have an effect. Please take a serious look at what they are doing.

Linda Coppolla - Principal of Bradley School. The district has worked hard as a team for the all day kindergarten. The old schedule had two hours and forty minutes of instruction versus six hours. The children will not meet the standards that the state is setting.

Brenda Cayer-McCarthy - The kids still struggle who had half day kindergarten before than the ones in full day kindergarten. She cannot afford to send her kids to a parochial school or kindergarten or day program. We need to look at what the kids need for college.

Public Portion closed.

2009 - 2010 Budget
There is a positive balance nearing the end of the year. Electrical expenses have been less than anticipated along with unemployment expenses. Some of those dollars saved could be spent on supplies within the next few weeks.

2010-2011 Budget
Dr. Tracy presented his recommendations for budget cuts. The City's appropriation calls for $850,000.00 cut of the school budget that was approved by the school board in March.

$110,000.00 of ARRA (America Recovery & Reinvestment Act) money and Title I funds can be spent on staff benefits.

There is an addition to the nursing staff for a full time nurse. This will allow for a full time nurse at all four schools.

There is the elimination of technology teaching positions at the elementary schools. There is an addition to technology tutor positions in those labs.

The professional development initiative for reading in the first and second grades will be added along with Title I money contributed to this.
The curriculum development position is eliminated.

Business and music programs at the high school will be eliminated.

One reading teacher at the Middle School will be eliminated.

The all day kindergarten will be half day kindergarten.

The custodial staff and security staff will be reduced by one each.

The alternative education program at the high school will be eliminated.

The Middle School inter-scholastic sports program will be eliminated.

Inter-scholastic sports at the high school will be reduced by 28%.

The membership for the state's superintendent's group will be eliminated.

Curriculum development money will be eliminated.

Long range plan money is eliminated.

Instruction and maintenance supplies cut by 10%.

The high school on-line learning program will be cut.

The estimate for out of district students has been reduced from 41 to 38 students. (at $120,000.00 per student)

The electricity account will be reduced (by $55,000.00) on the basis that the aging high school heating equipment doesn't get much worse and that the turbines that are still to be installed and turned on, saves money.

The principals, special education director and athletic directors were offered an opportunity to comment. Mr. Thompson - principal of the DHS and Joe Orazietti spoke.

Ms. Chevarella - Board member sent in a letter of concern regarding half day kindergarten. Tremendous feedback was received when changing from half day to full day kindergarten. The school system was moving forward.

(SIDE B of TAPE ONE - NOT LEGIBLE).

There was discussion of the positions of guidance counselor and social worker at Irving School. There are two social workers for the district and three school psychologists. There is one guidance counselor at the Middle School and two at the High School.

Dr. Tracy warned to be careful that you don't have a viable management structure in place. He does not recommend the administrative aide. It is less viable than what is in place now.

Mr. Marcucio does not agree. There was one and one half administrative positions added between the High School and Middle School.
The maintenance/custodian account has an increase of $350,000.00, mostly for the Middle School; maintain the turbine - $61,000.00, HVAC maintenance is $6,500.00, Water treatment - $4,800.00, Gym maintenance - $3,300.00, Fire Alarm/Sprinkler maintenance - $3,000.00, and Natural Gas - $197,000.00 to heat the building and run the turbine. The rest of the money for the Middle School is for cleaning supplies, electric, water, and repair and maintenance.

A MOTION to table the budget until Thursday night by Ms. Kreiger, second by Ms. Harris, all in favor, motion carries.

A MOTION to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, legal and collective bargaining matters and invite Dr. Tracy by Ms. Harris, second by Ms. D’Onofrio at 9:48 p.m., all in favor, motion carries.

A MOTION to come out of Executive Session at 10:19 p.m. by Ms. O’Hara, second by Ms. D’Onofrio, all in favor, motion carries.

A MOTION that the Board of Education accepts a letter of retirement from Linda Coppola - Principal of Bradley School - with appreciation, thanks and best wishes as recommended by the Superintendent by Ms. O’Hara, second by Ms. Harris, all in favor, motion carries.

A MOTION that the Board of Education approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Derby Administrator’s Association and the Derby Board of Education as recommended by the Superintendent by Ms. Harris, second by Ms. D’Onofrio, all in favor, motion carries.

A MOTION to adjourn by Ms. D’Onofrio, second by Ms. O’Hara, all in favor, at 10:18 p.m., motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Denise Cesaroni
Recording Secretary

*****These minutes are subject to approval by the Board of Education at their next regular meeting.