

Board of Education Budget Workshop
February 4, 2016

Minutes approved at the Monday, March 21, 2016 BOE Meeting

E. Russo, M. Sierakowski, V. Scarpetti, M. Luzzi
B.Hadlock, W. Kraut, J. Cap, M. Saccente, S. Riccio, D. Pucillo, C. Young, K. Ziman,
C. Bunnell, K. Browe

Chair called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM

M. Luzzi provided an update on the lighting project and UI. Towns addressed concerns that monies had already been committed. The money has now been restored. Total cost and incentives were presented and reviewed. The new agreement provides additional savings above and beyond the original agreement.

A motion was made to approve the terms of the new agreement. S. Riccio and seconded by K. Ziman.

Chair called for any discussion

Vote in favor: B.Hadlock, W. Kraut, J. Cap, M. Saccente, S. Riccio, D. Pucillo, C. Young, K. Ziman, C. Bunnell,

Abstain: K. Browe

Grounds update:

\$8,000 for grounds upkeep of schools. Twice a year upkeep.

Superintendent reviewed the status of 2016-17 Budget

Summary of what composes the 2.39% increase: salaries, benefits, school needs, professional development and food services

Follow-up on outstanding questions.

M. Sierakowski. Positive cash flow for 21st Century. There are now no administrative costs charged by the Board of Education to 21st. At the last budget meeting a specific request was made for the 21st Century and cafeteria budget to be presented at tonight's meeting. K. Browe former chair of the 21st Century committee noted disappointment that one was not available for review tonight but has complete confidence in the Budget Director. Going forward the Board of Education should have a 21st Century budget as part of the annual budget process. The Finance Chair requested at monthly finance meetings that in addition to the current reporting to have a 21st century and cafeteria budget.

Cafeteria costs were separately identified in the budget. It was noted that K-6 systems provide limited opportunity for profits. High school cafeterias are what balance budgets. Tax dollars are there to provide foodservice to students the same as bus service.

Some school districts bring in companies to do projections on class sizes. We currently base budgets on students in seats. This budget keeps class sizes where they currently are and allows for some additional student enrollment in most classes. There are a few outliers with larger than average class sizes.

The Board supports keeping class sizes low as proposed. This may result in a reduction in force.

Motion for the Board of Education to move forward with the 2016-17 budget as proposed and not to exceed a 2.4 % increase. S. Riccio and seconded by D. Pucillo

Chair called for discussion

Unanimously approved

Motion to adjourn at 6:25 PM S. Riccio and seconded by K. Ziman

Unanimously agreed.