

**Orange Board of Education
Finance Sub-committee meeting minutes**

November 21, 2016

Present: Superintendent Vince Scarpetti, Mary-Jo Sierakowski, Sue Riccio, Kim Browe, Chantelle Bunnell, Betty Hadlock

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:45PM.
2. Public Participation
There was no public participation.
3. Review Prior Month's Expenditures
M. Sierakowski reviewed the prior month expenditures. They were in line with expectations and included payments for interns, professional development, and legal expenses. Dr. Scarpetti commented on the legal expenses and reminded the committee that our six-month contract with Cohen & Wolf is about to expire. He said that Attorney Vin Marino will make a presentation at an upcoming board meeting.

Board members noted that the water bill for Turkey Hill School and the electricity bill for Peck Place School seem high. B. Hadlock and M. Sierakowski concurred that the THS water expense is related to the size of the pipes rather than water usage. M. Sierakowski will explore possible explanations for the Peck electricity expense.

4. Review Year-to-Date Expenditures
The report shows an overage for special education. M. Sierakowski assured the committee that excess costs will cover those expenses. M. Sierakowski said that the year-to-date expenditures are in line with the budget. She does not recommend any reallocations at this time.

M. Sierakowski noted the VoIP initiative and the committee's recommendation to accept a bid that exceeds the allotted \$140,000. M. Sierakowski recommends that the board use the E Rate program to cover the excess. She explained that the district is eligible to receive about \$15,000, which will cover that excess since it is not earmarked for other use.

5. Cafeteria Update
M. Sierakowski said that she had explored the cost benefits of our participation in the national food program. She said that if we ceased participating, the district would lose \$60,000, the e rate funds, and other grant funds.

She said that the cafeteria is making operational improvements and that the lunch counts for teachers are going up.

6. 21st Century Update
The ad hoc committee will schedule a meeting.
7. The meeting adjourned at 7:23PM.