

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD
BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
WINCHESTER SCHOOL LIBRARY
DECEMBER 12, 2023**

School Board Members Present: K. Jerome, J. Blake, J. Hadler, L. Picard
Administration Present: L. Carey, C. Mayberry, M. Pouliot, K. Seaman, S. Bryant
Budget Committee: Brenden Hubbard, Ben Kilanski, Michelle Dwight, Kevin Bazan
Rep to Budget Committee: J. Blake

The meeting was called to order for the Budget Committee by B. Hubbard and School Board Chair, L. Picard at 6:00pm.

B. Hubbard asked for a Special Education Transportation update.

L. Picard advised the Budget Committee received a hard copy and a copy via e-mail making sure that the total cost is accurately captured because it is spread over several lines. The figure of \$17,000 was throwing things off; it has been moved. Sometimes Regular Ed and Special Ed are billed together. There is also other Transportation in the budget. Will be working on that for other budget seasons.

The second update was to make sure that everyone is confident with that number.

C. Mayberry explained she took an extra zeroed line out and reviewed the Transportation lines.

B. Hubbard confirmed that the changes are only those two lines in Transportation and deductions for the IT person.

C. Mayberry reviewed fees for IT, Google licensing, items above and beyond what are covered with the IT Contractor.

B. Hubbard asked if there is a reason the funds haven't been spent yet.

L. Picard advised \$5,000 is showing as encumbered. That is the known.

C. Mayberry advised may find more as she reviews those lines.

K. Bazan asked about Line 318 – it is going down by \$81,000 for Out-of-District Transportation, but there are three additional students.

L. Picard explained not all placements are transported daily.

K. Bazan asked how much is in the Capital Reserve for Special Education now?

C. Mayberry advised \$259,534.87 and \$443,700.84 in the Building Fund as of the end of November. She feels those numbers are still close, if not exact.

B. Hubbard asked for the Budget Committee's view on the requested budget number.

B. Kilanski explained he spoke with Theresa Sepe, who couldn't be here tonight. She was confident on a couple of different amounts; would vote for one of those.

K. Bazan analyzed the lines. Was confident in the answers they received. Out-of-District Placements is concerning. Doesn't feel it is fair to vote against the budget.

K. Bazan MOVED to accept the budget proposed by the School Board in the amount of \$12,774.454, SECONDED by: J. Blake,

B. Hubbard advised with a reduction of the substitute teacher line, the budget number would be \$12,701,934.18. He is not sure that is a reduction, as the 2023-2024 budget was approved at \$13,089,941.

M. Dwight advised she is confident with the number.

B. Hubbard made recommendations to the budget number: \$5,000 from the Supplies line; Social Worker - dropped all numbers to Version 5; Staff Development – SAU Line 248 down to \$2,000; Replacement furniture to \$7,500 – there was a considerable jump. The total reduction is \$72,000 from B. Hubbard's recommended budget number of \$12,701,934.18.

M. Dwight advised they asked and were told about staff development; adding \$2,000 back in.

K. Bazan asked about the Social Worker.

L. Picard explained recommended part-time Social Worker and part-time Psychologist. It doesn't exactly look like one-half as it is just two hours per day. They added part-time Psychologist back into the Social Worker position. Moved the other job into Social Worker position to make it full time and reduced benefits from other position.

B. Hubbard advised the second number adds that position back in and \$2,000 for Staff Development at \$12,756,953.50. The changes would be \$10,000 to the Sub line, \$5,000 to the Supplies Line, \$2,500 to Replacement Furniture.

K. Bazan would not accept a friendly amendment for \$12,756,953.50, however advised he would go with bringing the Substitute Teacher line to \$10,000, for a new budget amount of \$12,764,453.51; SECONDED by: J. Blake, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

The Budget Committee reviewed and accepted their minutes from their last meeting.

B. Kilanski MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 6:37pm; SECONDED by: K. Bazan, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.

L. Picard MOVED to go into non-public session under RSA91:3-A III (k) at 6:37pm; SECONDED by: K. Jerome, VOTED: J. Hadler – yes, J. Blake – yes, L. Picard – yes, K. Jerome – yes, MOTION PASSED.

J. Hadler MOVED to leave non-public session at 7:12pm; SECONDED by: J. Blake, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

J. Hadler MOVED to seal all of tonight's non-public minutes; SECONDED by: K. Jerome, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

The Board discussed the second meeting in December. After discussion, it was decided to cancel the 12/21/23 meeting. The next one will be held on 1/4/24.

S. Bryant explained a new intervention has been introduced in Special Education. Once Case Manager received word that her kids received completion points and a pizza party. Kids are very excited. All kids are making progress in Math.

J. Blake MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:19pm; SECONDED by: K. Jerome, VOTED: 4-0, MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins
School Board Secretary