

REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT #10
Budget Workshop
Har-Bur Middle School Learning Center
26 LYON ROAD, BURLINGTON, CT 06013
Monday, February 27, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Phillip Penn, Chairman
Thomas Fausel, Vice Chairman
Paul Omichinski
Corey Rewenko
John Vecchitto
Bruce Guillemette (*arrived 7:02)
Susan Baccaro (*arrived 7:01)
Eleanor Parente
Brooke Joiner (*arrived 7:01)

Absent:

John Goodno

Also Present:

Alan Beitman, Superintendent
Cheri Burke, Director of Student Learning
Susan Laone, Director of Finance and Operations
Patricia George, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order:
Board Chair, Phillip Penn, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Pledge of Allegiance
Mr. Penn led the pledge of allegiance.

III. Communications:

Superintendent Beitman deferred to Kevin Kryzwick, a senior at Lewis Mills High School, who is organizing the Annual Chess Tournament. Kevin extended an invitation to attend the event, which is scheduled for March 4th at 10:00 a.m. The entry fee is \$5 with all the proceeds earmarked to the Make-a-Mark Region 10 Enrichment Fund.

Phillip Penn added that Senators Martin and Witkos, along with Representative John Piscopo, will be holding a Town Hall meeting on March 7th at the Harwinton Town Hall from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Mr. Penn thought

it would be a good forum for the Board and community members to voice their displeasure with the direction of education funding in Connecticut.

Mr. Penn said that he would be testifying at the state capitol on Wednesday as part of the education committee as to what a disaster the plan is for many of Connecticut's communities.

*(Bruce Guillemette, Brooke Joiner, Susan Baccaro arrived)

A. Superintendent's Report

1. Update of the 2017/2018 Estimate of Expenses

Superintendent Beitman stated that there were no revisions to the Estimate of Expenses that was originally presented to the Board on February 13th.

As it stands, the 2017/2018 Estimate of Expenses remains at \$738,255 or 1.89%. Burlington's share of the Region 10 increase is \$489,242 or 1.25% and Harwinton's share is 249,013 or .64%.

Lewis S. Mills High School

With no anticipated fluctuation in enrollment numbers, Principal Rau said that the full time equivalents (FTEs) would remain the same for the 2017/2018 school year at this juncture in the budgeting procedure.

He explained that the course selection process is currently underway, which will ultimately facilitate in the creation of the master schedule. This process will provide a better comprehension of staffing requirements.

Principal Rau stated, for the most part, that there were no major additions to his budget. He asked his staff if they could offer the same level of programming while reducing the costs a little.

That being said, he clarified that the \$5,000 increase in the nurse's budget was not new money, but rather the relabeling of several services to a more appropriate designation.

Athletics

Athletic Director David Francalangia presented a budget that offered the same number of sports at a slightly reduced cost.

He met with all coaches and categorized their needs into three different categories; (1) a necessity, (2) could use if the funds were available, and (3) not a necessity, but would be great for the program.

Two items that were challenging to forecast were transportation costs and dues and fees. Transportation is difficult for a variety of reasons, primarily weather, the number of tournaments and tournament locations. Dues and fees for officials are also difficult to predict as they are mandated by the CIAC and official's board.

Overall, he attempted to keep his budget costs lower than last year.

Har-Bur Middle School

Like the high school, Principal Kenneth Smith indicated that they, too, are in the beginning stages in the development of their schedule.

There were several budget line items that were questioned by the Board to which Principal Smith offered a justification. Specifically, Mr. Penn inquired about School-Wide Purchased Services, which appeared to be a new line item. The item was explained to be software for parent/teacher conferences, which is not a new item, but again, a new accounting for the item. Principal Smith has been asked to provide the account or accounts from which the funds had been reallocated.

Principal Smith was also asked to revisit two budget areas, Tech Ed Equipment Replacement and Library Books, as they both appear to carry the same budgeted dollar amount for several budgeting cycles.

Lake Garda School/Harwinton Consolidated School

Principals Stefanie Carbone of Lake Garda School and Principal Megan Mazzei of Harwinton Consolidated School commenced their budget overviews with an explanation of how they were developed. Ms. Carbone explained that the budgets are created separately and are based on the needs of their respective buildings and students. The principals then met to compare and determine if cuts could be made as great attempts to look for ideas to trim their budgets as much as possible were at the forefront.

Specific attention was directed to account 590, a new account this year for in district field trips. It was explained, that the account was created with the premise of defraying transportation costs to families.

Both principals were asked to provide a justification relating to the increase in social studies texts. The social studies coordinators, or assistant principals, recommended that the schools purchase an on-line resource and the cost was more than they had anticipated when they created their budgets in the prior year. Ms. Burke, the Director of Student Learning, further stated that it will be resource that will allow for variety of books and support the newest standards aligned with the new Connecticut frameworks.

Board member, Thomas Fausel, questioned the expenditure history of the Professional Development budget line. New to her position last year and lacking experience in the process, Ms. Carbone said that she would be happy to revisit the budgeted amount.

Board member, John Vecchitto asked if there might a way to obtain a breakdown of the expenditures to CREC services that the district is currently utilizing.

Mr. Penn requested that library books at both schools be re-examined as the numbers appear to be fairly static.

Student Support Services

Superintendent Beitman prefaced the special education budget dialogue by stating that there continues to be big increases in special education, with dramatic increases in the needs of children, particularly autistic children. There is a growing concern with regards to the amount of money for specialized services for children with needs and to counter, there is a significant reduction in the amount of state funding.

Similar to the principals' budgets, Ms. Carabis, the Director of Pupil Services, created her budget utilizing a zero based process and worked her way up.

She offered justifications for increases in a number of budget line items including, Pupil and Professional Services, Tuition, Transportation, Professional Development, Audio Visual and Textbooks.

Shared services and in-house programs were several concepts brought forward as a way of defraying some of the costs and were asked to be investigated further.

V. Public Participation:

Melissa Harris

Advocated for her son to attend Wamogo.

Stacy Foote


Advocated for her son to attend Wamago.

Melissa Roderick

Expressed support for Melissa Harris. Promoted the idea of more students being granted the opportunity to attend Wamogo.

- VI. Budget Workshops will be held on:
Mr. Penn reminded Board members of the next budget workshop, which will be held on March 13th as part of the regular meeting. An additional day has been scheduled, if necessary.
- VII. Adjourn:
A motion was made by Paul Omichinski to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 p.m.; seconded by Bruce Guillemette, all in favor; none opposed; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



John Vecchitto, Secretary

3/13/17

Date

Board of Education Meeting Minutes are placed on our web page (www.region10ct.org) within seven (7) work days following the Board of Education Meeting.

The minutes are marked as DRAFT, pending Board of Education approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

When participating in or attending a Board of Education meeting or reviewing minutes, please note that the Board of Education uses formats prescribed by Robert's Rules of Order for conducting meetings and publishing minutes.

Robert's Rules state, "Minutes are a record of what was done at a meeting, not a record of what was said." [RONR (11th ed.), p. 468, II. 16-18] which is the standard for which board minutes strive. For this reason the minutes will typically not reflect the discussion surrounding a motion, only its outcome.

Additionally, Robert's Rules in brief advises "The name and subject of a guest speaker or other program may be given, but no summary of the talk." [RONRIB page 149]

Both books can be found at our local libraries for anyone interested in more information.

RSD10 Chair