MEMORANDUM

TO: Barre City School Board Finance Committee
   Sonya Spaulding, Chair
   James Carrien
   Tyler Smith

DATE: October 28, 2015

RE: BC School District Finance Committee Meeting
    November 5, 2015 @ 5:30 p.m.
    BCEMS Conference Room

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Additions/Deletions to Agenda
3. Approval of September 3, 2015 Finance Meeting Minutes
4. FY '17 Budget – First Draft
   ~Review Options
   ~Pre-K Options
   ~SU Assessment Options
5. Warrants
6. Other Business
7. Adjourn

C: Full Board
   John Pandolfo
   James Taffef
   Richard Meyers
   Jacquelyn Ramsay-Tolman
   Stacy Anderson
   Lisa Perreault
Finance meeting minutes 09/03/15

Meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm.

Sonya Spaulding, Jim Carrien, Tyler Smith, Giuliano Cecchinelli (board members), Jackie Tolman, Jim Taffel (arrived at 5:39 pm)(BCEMS principals), Stacy Ferland (left at 6:13 pm)(Director of Special Services), John Pandolfo (Superintendent), and Lisa Perreault, (Business Manager) were all present.

Lisa presented a powerpoint presentation on FY17 budget development that included the following:

Budget considerations include Act 46 cost containment, VTSTRS requiring the district to pay into the teachers retirement fund for new teachers, Act 166 universal PreK, biomass heating system, SU assessment changes with Act 153 and 156 requiring special ed and transportation to be brought into SU budget, and Jim C asked to add Facility and Safety Improvements including secure access to the building. All of these items will contribute to additions to the budget, in addition to the salary and benefit increases. Reductions will be seen in the Special ed and transportation budgets, as those are being moved from the local budget to the SU budget. We may also see a reduction in our facility budget as there may be cost savings from a more energy efficient biomass heating system.

Lisa also discussed the 4 different options for assessing cost to each district when special ed and transportation are pulled into the SU budget. They include:

Equalized pupils which is a number calculated by the Agency of Education and is weighted based on socioeconomic indicators and ESL services.

ADM, or Average Daily Membership is a count of students from the 11th to the 30th day of the current school year.

Child Count is data collected that reflects the status of children with disabilities or eligible for services.

Enrollment is a straight head count on 10/1.

Lisa also discussed the five factors the affect the tax rate:

1. Expenses (the only factor that we can control)
2. Revenues
3. Equalized students
4. State base amounts
5. CLA, common level of appraisal

Lisa also presented a slide regarding BCEMS Act 46 FY17 Cost Containment that illustrated that the FY17 allowable growth is 3.7% or 424.44 per equalized pupil. This translates to $374,186 in total allowable growth.

Lisa will continue to work with the administrators to create a first draft of the budget, but will wait until after the tri-board meeting in October when the option for calculating cost/revenue to each district is decided by each board.

John Pandolfo gave an update on the boiler. He handed out a sheet with results from the RFP and reviewed the results. It is difficult to make apples to apples comparisons because no two proposals were alike. Bill Root, the engineer will do a detailed evaluation of the RFPs and make a recommendation the
board. John P. recommends moving forward with the $2500 in repairs, as the timeline for the installation of a new system is beyond the timeframe of the need to start the heating system for this winter.

Jim C and Giuliano reported from a tour of the safety committee and reported a need for more storage, which may be addressed with some modifications to one of the outside entrances to the gym and a renovation of the office space in the gym. They also discussed a way to provide a more contained entrance to the school directly into the office, rather than into a hallway. In addition, there was discussion about secure access with a swipe card system, and Jackie noted that there is a security audit next week. The engineer also is investigating the possibility of adding a second floor to the prek and kindergarten wing as an idea to create more space. The committee also discussed the stage and using it as a classroom versus its original purpose as a place to perform.

Finally, the committee discussed the possibility of breaking off the facility portion of the Finance/Facility Committee to the Safety committee. This will be added as an agenda item for the meeting on Monday, 9/14.

Adjourned at 6:57 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sonya Spaulding