Committee Members Present: Sarah Pregent (Chair), Andy McMichael, Jennifer Chioldi
Committee Members Absent: None
Administrators and Staff Present: James Taffel, Michael Dreiblatt, Stacy Anderson, Lisa Perreault
Visitors and Guests Present: Sonya Spaulding (BCMES School Board Chair)

The meeting was called to order by Mrs. Pregent at 6:30 pm.

No additions or deletions were made to the agenda

Upon motion (McMichael/Chioldi) duly adopted, the committee voted unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2017 meeting.

Mrs. Perreault presented information detailing FY18 expenses versus the budget, with year-end projections. Projections are slightly better than the prior month’s meeting, however it was noted that there are many things still unknown, example teacher’s contracts. The FY18 budget is still shown to currently be projecting a deficit, however the committee will continue to monitor.

Mrs. Perreault presented a draft and considerations for FY19 Budget Development. Items that had been revised since the first draft presented to the board included reductions in technology equipment, 7-8th grade athletic programs, field trips and enrichment contracted services. Other adjustments were also made. Overall changes reduced the potential budget increase to 4%, down from the 9% increase originally cited. Additional items to consider include that funding for curriculum specialists that were no longer allowable under Title IIA Grants, may be allowable again. Administrators are waiting to confirm. The draft presented also did not include a change to teacher salaries pending the outcome of negotiations. Discussion ensued surrounding transportation costs and whether or not bus runs could be combined or eliminated. Consolidating busing for both elementary/middle schools was also considered. The committee thanked the administration for their work in lowering the budget, however was hesitant to accept the budget as “bare bones” and requested that they add some items back in pending the results of unknown issues described above.

Mrs. Pregent circulated results of the BCEMS Finance Committee Budget Survey and briefly reviewed some of the data already collected.

Mrs. Pregent also circulated a copy of Governor Scott’s letter to school boards surrounding budgets.
No other business.

The next Finance Committee Meeting is set for December 18, 2017 at 4 pm.

Upon motion duly adopted, the committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Sarah Pregent, Finance Committee Chair