

BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
draft as of May 28, 2020

Date: May 19, 2020

Place: Virtual Meeting (using Zoom) as permitted by Executive Order 7b (March 14, 2020)

Present: Kathleen Stowe (chair)
Christina Downey
Joe Kelly
Dr. Toni Jones, Superintendent
Mr. Sean O'Keefe, Chief Operating Officer

Absent: Peter Sherr

Action Items:

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ms. Downey and seconded by Mr. Kelly. Motion passed 3-0.

Discussion Items:

1. 2020-21 BOE Operating Budget

There was discussion about the BOE operating budget for 2020-2021 after the approximately \$3 million in reductions made by the BET to the budget passed by the BOE in December 2019. The discussion focused on what possible items can be cut or reduced to achieve the lower figure. The committee discussed the impact of those reductions, along with the projected shortfall of an additional \$1.5 million for Special Education out of district placements and settlements.

Dr. Jones advised the committee that she had consulted with the leadership of all of the schools to get their input and suggestions about possible areas for cost savings to minimize the impact on students and staff. She provided information on a variety of

items they suggested or are considering. If accepted, those she has been looking at come to approximately \$2.27 million, still short of the \$3 million (or \$4.5 million) figure.

The committee agreed to discuss these issues at the May 21 full BOE meeting before proceeding further.

2. 2021-22 BOE Operating Budget

Dr. Jones advised the committee that she is looking at the budget design to better communicate the information which should be the first task. She is starting to build that budget already. The committee discussed the difficulty in making any concrete suggestions at this time and can await further discussion until the 2020-21 budget decisions are made.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Kelly and seconded by Ms. Downey. Motion passed 3-0.

Adjourned 3:07 p.m.