

Madison Public Schools
Board of Education - Finance Committee
Tuesday, December 15, 2020
5:30 PM
Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

Happy Marino called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Members present:

Happy Marino, Galen Cawley, Tom Pellegrino

Also Present:

Dr. Craig Cooke, Gail Dahling-Hench, Dr. Liz Battaglia, Stacy Nobitz, Dr. Diane Infantine-Vyce, Dr. Greg DeSantis, Heather Dobson, Art Sickle, Darcy Fiano (public)

Recorder: Happy Marino

Dr. Cooke began with providing updates from the Administrative Team budget retreat, noting the team was very mindful that we are in a pandemic year and found reductions up front including 4 FTE at the High school level based on declining enrollment. Enrollment in grades 1-8 is currently flat, but keeping an eye on Kindergarten as many students were held at home this year and there may be up to 25% enrollment bump. Potential to move a teacher down from 1st grade to cover a section.

Budgeting was approached with three primary areas of focus:

1. Academic Concerns related to the pandemic and instructional time
2. Technology Needs - an innovative solution to enable classroom projections from Chromebooks
3. School Security

Stacy Nobitz reviewed the budget summary. Total budget increase was 2.06% but the debt service brought that down to 1.94%. Areas of increase were reviewed, which consist of contractual obligations, 2 new positions, and 2 new programs. Art Sickle reviewed the request for a Tech Support Specialist. Gail Dahling-Hench then reviewed the high school math interventionist position and discussed the envisioned difference between that and a teacher's role and the current learning lab model where students self-select and drop in for help.

Mrs. Dahling-Hench also reviewed the weekend/after school SAT program and discussed the potential for student cost sharing at \$100 per child and the ability that might offer to provide scholarships, as well as make it available to sophomores and seniors in addition to Juniors. She then discussed Madison Intervention Academy that would run in the summer in response to pandemic impact on k-5 learners.

Dr. Battaglia discussed the SPED increase with transportation costs requested at 2.5%. The law changed in June to ensure districts provide services up until the day before an eligible student's 22nd birthday. This extends services to 5 students in district. Dr. Battaglia is procuring exact numbers of students impacted to see if the addition of the five next year is offset by reduction or addition of new eligible students in the district.

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm

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