

**NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET EXPENDITURE COMMITTEE**

February 10, 2021

5:30 p.m.

Virtual-Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

Present: Heather Romanski, Aaron Daniels, Swaranjit Singh Bhatia, Carline Charmelus, Mark Kulos, Kevin Saythany, Derell Wilson, Yvette Jacaruso, Christine DiStasio, Stacy Gould, Patricia Staley

Staff: Kristen E. Stringfellow, Ed.D., Superintendent
Jamie Bender, Director of Student Services
Tamara Gloster, Asst. Superintendent
Christine Goracy, Director of Grant Financial Services
Amber Rutigliano, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
School Administrators, Teachers, Public Audience

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 pm by Heather Romanski.

Dr. Stringfellow gave a detailed presentation that included:

- An overview of the budget development process
- Budget history including reductions, percent increases & employee concessions
- Student demographics & enrollment history
- Employment costs (including salary & health insurance premiums)
- Revenue
- City Fund Balance
- High school Per Pupil Expenditure costs
- NFA Tuition (Regular & Special Education programs)
- Other designated high schools & magnet schools
- Long term plan to eliminate deficit spending and reliance on grants
- Clarification between grants and the operational budget
- Important comparisons when examining data
- Staffing (Certified and Non-Certified)

Discussion ensued in response to Dr. Stringfellow's presentation whereas committee members asked questions/clarification in response to:

- Enrollment differences due to COVID-19
- COVID relief grants (ESSER I & ESSER II)
- Request for a supplemental document to include what the COVID relief grants are being used for

- Differences in the NFA special education programs
- Significant changes in grant funding from 20-21 to 21-22
- Savings from the Norwich Public Schools Residency officer
- The impact from last year's budget cuts that resulted in reducing 50 full time employee positions
- Funding for the NPS Equity Committee work
- Eight grade Norwich students declaring high school choices

The next meeting will be held on February 24, 2021 @ 5:30 pm via ZOOM.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm