

Darien Public Schools

Darien, Connecticut

Series 3000
Business Policy 3050

BOARD BUDGET PROCEDURES AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS

In accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-222, the Board of Education shall prepare an itemized estimate of its budget each year for submission to the fiscal authority (i.e. Board of Finance, Board of Selectmen, Town Council, or other appropriating municipal authority) (the “Fiscal Authority”) for review and appropriation. For purposes of this policy, an itemized estimate means an estimate in which the following broad budgetary categories listed below are divided into one or more budgetary category line items.

- Salaries
- Benefits
- Purchased Services
- Property Services
- Other Purchased Services
- Supplies
- Equipment
- Other
- Revenue

The itemized estimate provided to the Fiscal Authority is referred to herein as the “Itemized Estimate”.

The Board of Education shall review the recommendations and suggestions made by the Fiscal Authority as to how it may consolidate non-educational services and realize financial efficiencies. If the Board rejects such suggestions and recommendations it shall provide the Fiscal Authority a written explanation of the reason for the rejection.

Following the annual appropriation, the Board of Education shall meet and revise the Itemized Estimate, if necessary, and adopt a final appropriated budget for the year. Line items in the budget may be allocated more specifically by the Superintendent or his/her designee in the development, administration and monitoring of the budget.

The Superintendent and/or his/her designee shall be responsible for administering and monitoring the budget through the course of the year. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall maintain a system of appropriate expenditures and encumbrance accounting that is organized to conform with the requirements for State and Federal Accounting Reports. A quarterly budget report shall be prepared in the same format as

the ~~annual budget~~ Itemized Estimate showing for each budgetary category line item the appropriated budget amount, expenditure to date (to include encumbered and expended amounts), projected expenditures, difference between the projected expenditures and the appropriation, and general comments indicating the reasons for the difference. Such budget report shall be presented to the Board of Education monthly

Based on expenditures and budget projections, with such budget reports, the Superintendent shall recommend to the Board of Education transfers from one ~~line item~~ of the broad budgetary categories in the Itemized Estimate (as set forth above) to another as needed.

The Superintendent has the authority to make budget adjustments within the same broad category. Such adjustments will be reported at the next scheduled Finance Committee meeting.

The Superintendent is authorized to make transfers as necessary if the urgent need for transfer prevents the Board of Education from meeting in a timely fashion to consider the transfer, provided that such transfers by the Superintendent shall not exceed five percent (5%) of the annual budget. Transfers between the broad budgetary categories in the Itemized Estimate made in such instances shall be announced at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Education and a written explanation of such transfer shall be provided to the legislative body of the municipality or, in a municipality where the legislative body is a town meeting, to the board of selectmen and transfers subsequently ratified by the Board at any such meeting shall not be counted in the limitation on the authority of the Superintendent to make transfers.

The Board of Education shall not expend more than the amount of the appropriation and the amount of money received from other sources for school purposes. If any occasion arises whereby additional funds are needed by Board of Education, the Chairperson of the Board shall notify the Fiscal Authority and submit a request for such necessary additional funds. No additional funds shall be expended until such supplemental appropriation is granted and no supplemental expenditures shall be made in excess of those so authorized.

Legal Reference:

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221

§ 10-222

ADOPTED: November 22, 1977

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