

BUDGET COMMITTEE MINUTES

Date: May 26, 2021

Place: Both in person and 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
Dr. Ann Carabillo
Sasha Houlihan

Meeting was called to order at 11:36 AM

Action items:

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

A motion to approve the minutes of the 3/31/21 meetings was made by Ms. Stowe and seconded by Ms. Downey. Motion passed 3-0.

Discussion items:

Discussion of American Rescue Plan Funding (only discussion item)

Dr. Carabillo and Mr. O'Keefe presented to the committee the various grants from the federal government relating to COVID.

1. **ESSER 1** -- \$758,160 which was focused on Survival – primarily technology. Also items such as hand sanitizer, masks, gloves, wipes, partitions from this grant and CRF. This amount has been fully expended and transferred from operating expenses to grants within the Town finance department.
2. **Corona Rescue Fund** -- \$1,203,684 which has been fully spent on items such as facilities and teaching and learning items.
3. **ESSER 2** -- \$4,268,046 which was focused on Thriving. Priorities were academic support such as ALP, learning loss, additional staff such as social workers (added them for elementary school along with math interventionists), social emotional learning, remote learning and technology (e.g. Chromebooks purchased which can support the

technology needs better at the same price as the existing ones. Older Chromebooks will be redeployed to grades 3, 4, 5). Of this grant approximately \$2.7 million has been expended, leaving \$1.5 million still available with a deadline of September 2023 to do so.

4. **American Rescue Plan/ESSER 3** -- \$9,858,423 to be spent by September 2024 with a focus on Transformation.
 - 20% of this amount must be focused on learning loss issues.
 - Greenwich received more than some comparable districts because our students were in school more, along with Title I schools.
 - application for these funds just came out and is due in August; community input is a requirement and Dr. Jones will be holding town halls and sending out surveys to staff, students and families to get this input
 - areas of focus are social emotional learning, learning acceleration, family and community involvement, strategic use of technology, and building safe and healthy schools

Next steps are for the administration to review the application, get community input, and submit the requested funds to the state. The entire amount of the ARF grant needs to be addressed in the application, even if over the several year period.

Mr. Kelly moved to adjourn the meeting and Ms. Stowe seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 12:14 PM