

Mt. Greylock Regional School District

Finance Sub Committee

Date: April 14, 2020

Location: via Zoom virtual meeting

Start: 8:00 AM

Adjourn: 8:38 AM

Per Governor Baker's order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c. 30A sec. 20, this meeting will take place virtually via ZOOM

In Attendance :

Committee Members:

Jamie Art, Regina DiLego, Christina Conry

Others: Supt Kim Grady, Asst Supt/Bus Mgr Andrea Wadsworth

I. Call meeting to order at 8:00 am

II.

Annual Tuition: Wadsworth reviewed spreadsheet calculations to compute the per pupil cost per the tuition agreement between MGRSD and tuitioning towns. The numbers used are from DESE. MGRSD per pupil cost for FY20 is \$17022.55. Special education costs and transportation costs are backed out of the calculations as though are paid for separately by the sending towns. This results in a calculated per pupil rate of \$14,947.87, which is a reduction from last year. Dilego moved, Conry seconded the motion to recommend to the full Committee a Mt Greylock Regional School District annual school tuition rate of \$14,947.87. DiLego aye, Conry aye, Art aye.

III. Bus contract amending during COVID 19: Discussion regarding the bus contract and how to handle it with school closed centered around the desire to ensure bus company employees are made whole. The recommendation from DESE and School Committee legal counsel is to cover overhead costs for the bus company and to provide for employees to remain employed. In this instance, the bus drivers have already been laid off. Requiring Dufour to recall them would mean the District would have access to 17 buses and drivers – but to do what is the question. Conry asked how we could ensure that none of the drivers had been exposed to and carry COVID 19 while laid off. Art responded that this is just one of many issues we will face when school reopens. Art recommends negotiating with Dufour to keep operations afloat and people employed as best as possible. In response to a question, Wadsworth stated that the subcommittee has the authority to move forward with this without recommending to the full Committee as this is an existing contract. Certainly, the full Committee should be informed but this allows negotiations to occur timely. DiLego moved, Conry seconded to authorize the Superintendent to negotiate a reduced contract price with Dufour Bus Company, contingent on the preservation of employees and the

maintenance of the bus fleet to keep the business operational and ready for when school resumes, within a range of 50-75%, depending on where calculated costs to accomplish this fall, with a final review between the Superintendent and the chair of the Finance Subcommittee prior to agreement. DiLego aye, Conry aye, Art aye.

- IV. FY21 Chapter 70 and MLC update or changes: Grady noted the emails and links sent regarding concerns around Districts getting budgets approved and issues towns may face regarding passage of their budgets. Our budget was approved, but information regarding minimum local contribution changes may be delayed as well as town meetings in each of our member towns. This item is informational only.
- V. Nothing unanticipated.
- VI. DiLego moved to adjourn at 8:48 am. Conry seconded. Conry aye, DiLego aye, Art aye.