

1. Call to Order

Dr. Nugent, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. Other Members present: Deborah Burke-Grabarek, Charles Raymond, Dan Harris, Megan Gallant and Cindy Dupointe. Cindy Luty was excused. Also present: Dr. Seitsinger; Superintendent (virtually), and Gloria Homiski; Recording Secretary.

2. Public Comment

Dr. Nugent read aloud an email from Laura Martin, a parent, expressing the importance of keeping the PK Program in the FY23 Budget (included with minutes).

No in person Public Comment was made.

Charles Raymond asked to read a prepared comment.

He stated that he has been on and off the board for many years and that the Board has always worked very well together as a team. He believes the Board represents the community appropriately and has thorough discussions before making decisions that are best for the entire community. Charles greatly appreciates being a part of the Preston Board of Education.

Cindy Luty was unable to attend but asked Dr. Nugent to read a prepared statement that she wrote. Mrs. Luty believes the budget should be moved onto the BOF as presented – without cuts. PK is a very important program. She does not want to see it cut (included with minutes).

Dr. Nugent stated that the notion that PK would be eliminated was simply not true. There was a discussion regarding PK and whether or not to have 2 or 3 PK classrooms. It was necessary to have such a conversation.

3. New Business

FY23 BOE Budget

Dr. Nugent asked if everyone had a chance to review the FY23 Budget Packet. A short discussion followed.

Dr. Seitsinger framed a motion to approve the budget at \$13,459,494.00.

Moved, to present the FY23 Budget as presented, in the amount of \$13,459,494.00, to the BOF on April 5, 2022. Harris/Raymond. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

4. Public Comment

Susan Strader, teacher and community member thanked the Board for moving the budget forward intact. She stated that now is the time to campaign and support. All faculty/staff are needed to maintain appropriate instruction.

Dr. Nugent shared the following important dates:

BOE submits their budget to the BOF:	April 5, 2022
BOE presents to the BOF:	April 14, 2022
Public Hearing:	May 19, 2022
Town Meeting:	June 2, 2022
Referendum:	June 14, 2022

Dr. Seitsinger thanked everyone for all of their hard work. He assured everyone that ALL options would be reviewed if changes need to be made to the budget down the road. He expressed the importance of revitalization and recovery for all.

5. Adjournment

Moved, to adjourn the meeting at 7:30PM. Burke-Grabarek/Gallant. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

From: hfb95@aol.com
Subject: Please read at the Board meeting oin Thursday March 31, 2022
Date: March 28, 2022 at 4:14 PM
To: s.t.nuge@gmail.com



March 31, 2022

Sean,

I am disappointed that, due to a prior commitment, I am not able to attend tonight's Board of Education meeting. Though I will not be there to partake in the discussion, I would like to share my thoughts nonetheless. It is my feeling that we should send the budget to the Board of Finance as it was presented at the meeting last Thursday evening. I am also adamantly against making any changes that would compromise the Pre-K program that has been so significant and successful, providing our youngest learners with a strong fundamental basis for their future education. There is little question as to how important early childhood education is and that it should be an opportunity for all preschool-age children in our town. Providing and protecting such a program is, after all, our fundamental purpose and our budget should reflect those efforts. To do anything to diminish it would deny our children the benefit that students in many other districts receive. It would also be taking a considerable step backwards from how far we have come to be not only a good school district but a great one. Our preschool has been an invaluable factor in our endeavors to do so.

Respectfully submitted,
Cindy Luty



Gloria Homiski <homiskig@prestonschools.org>

BOE meeting concern

1 message

Laura Martin <Laura6184@yahoo.com>

Thu, Mar 31, 2022 at 12:25 PM

To: homiskig@prestonschools.org

Good afternoon,

I realize this is a bit past noon and I hope I can still have my concerns addressed at the meeting. I just want to emphasize my concerns of the importance of keeping the preschool program in the schools. I would hate to see this program removed from the budget. It is an essential program for these children. I hope the board considers this in proposing the budget and please take our concerns (as parents) into consideration as well.

Thank you,
Laura Martin

Sent from my iPhone