

**Inter-Lakes School Board Regular Meeting  
BUDGET WORK SESSION  
Humiston Building Conference Room, Meredith NH  
January 23, 2020**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Hanson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. RECORD ROLL**

**Members Present:**

Mr. Richard Hanson, Chair  
Mr. Howard Cunningham  
Mr. Mark Billings  
Mr. Charley Hanson  
Mr. Craig Baker (arr. 5:40 p.m.)

**Members Absent:**

Ms. Lisa Merrill\*  
Mr. Duncan Porter-Zuckerman\*  
(\*with notice)

**Administrators Present:**

Mrs. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent  
Mrs. Trish Temperino, Asst. Superintendent  
Mrs. Elaine Dodge, Director of Student Services  
Mr. Scott Currier, Principal ILM/HS  
Ms. Kathleen Hill, Principal ILES  
Mr. Jeremy Hillger, Principal SCS  
Mr. John Martin, Director of Technology  
Mr. Brian Swanker, Facilities Director  
Ms. Holly Vieten, Guidance Director

**Others Present:**

Public

**IV. PUBLIC INPUT**

None

**V. BUDGET WORK SESSION**

Mr. Cunningham requested an explanation for the need of six additional paraeducators that are included in the proposed budget.

Superintendent Moriarty responded that more paraeducators were needed for the current school year than were hired, in an effort to minimize the budget increase. The proposed budget includes 6.75 FTE paraeducators that are need to support students.

Lengthy discussion ensued regarding Special Education costs, student needs, factors impacting changing needs, and the legal mandates to meet student needs. Budgeting for Special Education is difficult because of how fluid the population of students can be.

Mr. Billings spoke in favor of increasing the amount annually deposited in the Special Education Expendable Trust Fund.

Mrs. Moriarty noted that if the proposed budget had not already posed an increase the recommendation for a Behavioral Specialist at ILES would have been brought forward.

Mrs. Dodge spoke in-depth regarding the need for the proposed second School Psychologist position to support the growing of number of students with multiple disabilities, provide one-on-on counseling and help support social emotional needs.

Assistant Superintendent Temperino noted that over the past four years the Special Education Budget compared to the Regular Education Budget has increased by 3%.

An in-depth discussion ensued regarding the proposed budget for Facilities. Mr. Billings commented that he supported the proposed spending; proposed spending has been cut in previous years to limit overall budget increases – a trend that will become an issue to the District in the future.

Appropriations to the Facilities Expendable Trust and the Special Education Expendable Trust have typically come from year-end fund balance. This year, no fund balance is anticipated.

Following discussion, the Board supported the recommendation to raise and appropriate \$100,000 to be placed in the Facilities Maintenance Expendable Trust; \$75,000 for the Special Education Expendable Trust; and \$20,000 in the Multifunction School Activity Bus Expendable Trust.

With the inclusion of the proposed three year ILEA Collective Bargaining Agreement and remaining Warrant Articles the Operating Budget will total \$28,356,882 and overall increase of \$1,656,094 or 6.2%

Discussion regarding the significant drop in financial support by the State over the last ten years has left the three communities responsible for paying 96% of the District appropriation.

Chairman Hanson stated the importance of the Board hearing what was left out of the proposed budget in order to reduce the increase as much as possible: Supplies with the exception of janitorial cleaning supplies were cut by 20%; the request for another Assistant Principal at ILES; a second Guidance Counselor at ILES; an overhead projector and screen for the Middle/High School Cafeteria; and Special Education Coordinator position that was previously funded with IDEA funds.

Mr. Baker questioned the need for a second Psychologist. Mrs. Dodge and Mr. Currier provided an overview of the significant need for this support for students escalating behavioral issues at all grade levels.

Board members discussed the Administration's recommendation to remove the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Experience to New York City at a cost of \$50,000 from the budget. Mrs. Moriarty reviewed the number of staff required to properly chaperone and other related costs. The suggestion was offered to develop another field experience for 8<sup>th</sup> graders that more closely aligns with the curriculum or changing the trip to occur in 11<sup>th</sup> grade.

After lengthy discussion the consensus of the Board was to include \$20,000 in the budget to fund some type of field experience.

Concern was expressed that the proposed budget funds nine new positions as enrollment is declining. It was noted that although the student population was declining the needs are more complex and increasing.

Mr. C Hanson moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to forward a proposed School District Budget of \$28,296,882; an increase of \$1,596,054 or 5.98% to the Public Budget Hearing scheduled for February 5, 2020. The vote carried 4 to 1; with Mr. Baker opposed.

**VI. PUBLIC INPUT**

None

**VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Monday, January 27, 2020 – Inter-Lakes Elementary School (Room TBA)**  
Meet & Greet Inter-Lakes Elementary School Principal Candidates – **5:30 p.m.**
- B. **Tuesday, January 28, 2020 – Inter-Lakes Middle/High School Auditorium**  
Inter-Lakes Special School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**
  - Learning Series Part 3 - Grading Practices; Reporting Learner Progress; Recognition
- C. **Thursday, January 30, 2020 – Inter-Lakes Elementary School**  
SNOW DATE For Meet & Greet Inter-Lakes Elementary Principal Candidates – **5:30 p.m.**
- D. **Wednesday, February 5, 2020**  
Inter-Lakes School Board @ Inter-Lakes High School Auditorium
  - Budget Public Hearing – **6:00 p.m.**
- E. **Wednesday, March 4, 2020**  
Inter-Lakes School Board @ Inter-Lakes High School Gymnasium
  - Annual School District Meeting – **7:00 p.m.**
- F. **Tuesday, March 10, 2020 – Town Elections / Voting**

**IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. C. Hanson moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m.  
The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Bea Lewis Wheeler  
School District Clerk