

Board of Education Regular Meeting  
Suffield Middle School Room B116  
April 18, 2022  
6:00 p.m.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m.

Present: Board members Tracy Cloyd, Melissa Finnigan, Glenn Gazdik, James Mol and Maureen Sattan; and Superintendent Timothy Van Tasel, Assistant Superintendent Michelle Zawawi and Business Manager Bill Hoff

Absent: Terry Antrum, Jamie Drzyzga, Brian Fry, Scott Lingenfelter

Executive Session

Superintendent Van Tasel informed the Board that the planned Executive Session needed to be postponed to a later date.

Open Session/Discussion Items

- No action was taken regarding the student disciplinary hearing, as the executive session was postponed.
- Discussion on the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget.

Chair Sattan gave an update regarding the Board of Finance deliberations on the BOE budget proposal. The BOF voted to reduce the BOE budget proposal by \$250,000. Chair Sattan noted that a revision on the health insurance estimate, from 10% to 6%, will account for \$165,000 of it. The timeline for town approval and formal BOE approval in May was discussed.

Business Manager Hoff highlighted other changes to our current projection for fiscal year 2023. Additional expected expenditures totaling approximately \$146,000 were identified. Funding to cover these expenses will need to be contemplated by the Board after the budget has been approved at the town meeting. The additional expenditures stemmed from anticipated salary changes and contractual obligations.

Board members discussed where to make possible budget reductions if the BOF proposed budget is approved at the annual Town Meeting. These cuts may have implications on programming. The district administration and building principals answered questions related to possible reductions to staff.

Board members had a discussion of the BOE budgeting process in general and discussed opportunities to streamline, including having a dedicated budget retreat early in the process.

Adjournment

Gazdik moved and Mol seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. All members voted in favor.

*Minutes are subject to approval at the regular meeting of May 2, 2022.*

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Sattan  
Board Chair