

Minutes of the Finance Committee of the Board of Education  
Regional School District 14 [www.ctreg.org](http://www.ctreg.org)  
Monday, November 10, 2014

Start: 7:07 pm End: 7:39 pm

In attendance were Chair Mike Devine, Janet Morgan, and George Bauer; also, Anna Cutaia-Leonard, Maryanne Van Aken, Carol Ann Brown, Wayne McAllister, and BoE clerk Deb Carlton

The committee first reviewed financial reporting of the school lunch program, and was pleased to see a positive change in the status of that program. Asked for an explanation of the turnaround, Mr. McAllister indicated we are doing better on expenses.

The committee reviewed at length the 2015-16 budget calendar.

Mr. McAllister pointed out there will be more activities with administrators leading up to the budget referendum than in the past.

Dr. Cutaia-Leonard noted an early opportunity for administrators to have a voice in budget preparation on November 12<sup>th</sup>; materials will be provided to them on the 17<sup>th</sup>, school and department budgets will be submitted to the DF/O on December 12<sup>th</sup>, and each administrator will have face to face budget reviews on January 7-8<sup>th</sup>. By January 14<sup>th</sup> we will be able to see what makes it to the final budget, she said.

Mr. Bauer confirmed that November 18<sup>th</sup> will begin the BoE discussion of budget priorities. Mr. Devine suggested that be the only real item on that night's agenda. Dr. Cutaia-Leonard confirmed it would be. The only other anticipated items are a R14's Finest, and the executive session with Atty. Mark Sommaruga.

Other opportunities for BoE input were identified as March 2, 9, 11, and 23.

Mr. Devine would also like the chance to understand in more detail the concept of team teaching at WMS. He would like to be able to hear about how it works prior to beginning discussion of budgets.

Ms. Morgan suggested perhaps at the next F.E.T. meeting, but it was agreed the full board needs to understand it.

Ms. Van Aken suggested waiting until further into the process.

Dr. Cutaia-Leonard stressed that the structure of the middle school team teaching is geared toward the needs of the young adolescent population served. It is much different from our generation's junior high.

The committee also discussed lining up dates to meet with key community groups. The Woodbury Lions Club holds a dinner meeting in March and the Board will hope to be invited to speak at that meeting. Similarly, the Bethlehem Lions and other such organizations will be contacted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Devine

Michael Devine, Chair