

Minutes of the Finance Committee of the Board of Education
Regional School District 14 www.ctreg.org
Monday, December 8, 2014

Start: 7:30 pm End: 8:00 pm

In attendance were: Mike Devine, George Bauer, John Chapman; also, Anna Cutaia-Leonard, Maryanne Van Aken, Charles Cosgriff, Wayne McAllister, Mike Molzon, reporter Mike Preato, and BoE clerk Deb Carlton

The committee first heard from Mr. McAllister about a computer virus this past Friday that appears to have originated in New Milford and which Paul Ciotti quickly got a handle on in Region 14.

The committee reviewed year to date expenditures through 12/4/14 and noted concerns in the area of special education; specifically, \$91,000 for daily physical therapy services for one student and a legal settlement payment of \$55,000. Mr. Bauer asked and received an answer about line 44 referring to excess costs, to be reimbursed.

The remainder of the meeting consisted of discussion around budget planning. Budgets are due from schools and departments to Mr. McAllister next week, and the schools' and Board's "wish lists" will be aligned. Mr. McAllister has had conversations with the First Selectmen about health insurance, and getting more town employees to join our plan, looking to broaden the base to lower the rates. Dr. Cutaia-Leonard summarized budget priorities at this point: continuing with technology improvements, with a line item at the current funding level and recognized work is needed both in classrooms and with training. Funding strings at the high school is important. Writing curriculum with an appropriate process – there will be an uptick in that line – and there will be a review by subject K-12. Continuing the emphasis on security is valued, and there will be an uptick on maintenance. Staffing will also be studied and she will be looking for offsets.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael Devine

Michael Devine, Chair