

**Finance Committee Meeting Notes
Crescent Lake School
November 15, 2022 6:00pm**

Present:

GWRSB Finance Committee: Jack Widmer – Team Leader, Brodie Deshaies, Stefanie King
Administration: Superintendent Caroline Arakelian, Business Administrator Kathy O’Blenes, Guy Donnelly, Kathleen Tetreault, Kerry Hunt, Patricia Morrissey, Brian Beaverstock, Tracey Rose

Other: Tom Bickford

Not Present: Committee Member – Jim Pittman

Subject Matter

Budget Request for Fiscal Year 2024 – General Fund

Budget Overview/Discussion

- Mr. Donnelly presented the proposed budget for Kingswood Regional High School with an increase of 4.05%. Mr. Donnelly stated that requests were made that would impact and benefit the students directly. Some equipment that is forty years old is in need of replacement. A number of Promethean boards are needed for the Math Department, and the music department needs a new maple drum set and 6-8 guitars. The Athletics department is experiencing increased participation, which results in more teams and requires more officials and athletic uniforms are replaced each year on a three-year rotation schedule. A Science lab classroom, which remained unfinished after the renovation, is in need of equipment and workbooks are needed for math and sciences. Mr. Donnelly answered questions from the committee.
- Ms. Tetreault presented the proposed budget for Lakes Region Technology Center with an increase of 4.57%. Ms. Tetreault explained that her budget requests are focused on expanding programming and purchasing program materials to help students grow and learn. Equipment must also be maintained, long-term maintenance must be performed, and infrastructure must be upgraded in order to keep up with industry standards. Ms. Tetreault answered questions from the committee.
- Ms. Hunt presented the proposed budget for Kingswood Regional Middle School with an increase of 1.10%. Ms. Hunt explained that her budget requests also focus on those items that will directly impact students. Some furniture and laptops need to be replaced. She is requesting that a General Education Paraprofessional be hired to provide student support services such as hall monitoring and lunch room proctoring. Ms. Hunt answered questions from the committee.
- Ms. Morrissey presented the proposed budget for Effingham Elementary School with an increase of 5.67%. Ms. Morrissey is requesting an increase from a partial to a full time counselor position and funds for literacy support. The internet/telephone expense increase was discussed, as well as the solar panel power. Ms. Morrissey answered questions from the committee.

- Mr. Beaverstock presented the proposed budget for Crescent Lake School with an increase of 1.56%. Mr. Beaverstock is projecting smaller enrollment for the 23-24 school year due to a large 6th grade class leaving the school, reducing the number of classrooms from 11 to 9. Increased budgets for health services, snow removal, building service agreements and telephone expenses were discussed. Mr. Beaverstock answered questions from the committee.
- Ms. Rose presented the proposed budget for Carpenter School with an increase of 1.23%. Ms. Rose announced that in 2025 the building will celebrate its 100th year. She also discussed the increases in health services, water and sewer, snow removal and repairs and maintenance expenses. The school is in need of some laptop replacements as well as some minor, but essential, repairs. Ms. Rose answered questions from the committee.

Mr. Widmer thanked the administrators for their presentations and said we will be back tomorrow evening at 6:00 pm for the elementary principals to present their budgets.

Adjournment: 8:20 pm

Recorded by,



Kathy Lagace

School Board Secretary

Approved by School Board: **12/5/2022**