

**Conneaut School District Finance/Budget Committee
March 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

The meeting of the Finance/Budget Committee was called to order at 5:30 pm on March 1, 2023, in the ASA meeting room. Present for the meeting were Directors Adam Horne, Jamie Hornstein and Dorothy Luckock, and Superintendent Jarrin Sperry. Newly hired Business Manager Christine Krankota was excused due to another commitment. One member of the public was also present.

- It is noted that all supporting budget documents are on Agenda Manager under Budget/Finance Committee
- Maintenance Budget – Frank Kimmel reviewed his 23/24 budget requests. The following were noted:
 - #2620 Operations he is discontinuing the GESA M&V; Increases in 431&432 are due to Elevator Contracts; the Lynn Summers property lawn care was added; minor increase in costs for security due to Graduation; and installation of additional football scoreboard ad panel. It is noted that in other areas of the budget will show the revenue generated from “ad sales” to offset this.
 - His contract has a significant increase with a large portion due to contract updates for custodial contractors. They bid low when negotiated prior to Covid and are unable to keep workers therefore increases necessary.
- Technology budget – Rick Kelly reviewed the document and will provide his larger spreadsheet at a later date. His budget is listed with a \$4 increase.
 - His focus in 23/24 and 24/25 will be moving from Window 10 to Windows 11.
 - Backup strategies and planning ahead for 24/25 will be revise Wi-Fi – which has 80-85% e-rate but an 18 month process
 - That will also be a “double Chromebook” cycle year.
- Business Office Budget – Jarrin reported that he and Christine did a review and are comfortable reducing the line item for costs associated with the annual audit as well as tax services (based on actuals)
 - In addition, a reduction in Tech supplies/software. This budget showed a reduction of \$18,614.
- Substitutes – Jarrin reported on using ESS versus Kelly Services – while acknowledging that it may not always be 100% coverage, they have done leaps and bounds better than Kelly and having a local contact person is helpful. Therefore there is savings in the proposed budget in regards to additional pay to existing staff when they cover a class and miss their plan period, etc. This budget shows a decrease of \$37,123.
- Overall Budget Update – As the draft stands at this point it shows a shortfall of \$1,269,877 and by backing out the stimulus monies a deficit of \$2,182,917.
 - Noted not included yet are the Cyber Academy budget (approx. \$17,000) and not all Title I and Title IIA – both revenue and expenditures.
- Budget Savings Tracker update – Jamie led the review and update of the items on the budget savings tracker document.
 - Minimum class size was discussed – clarification was determined to ensure that an elective was not being offered with too few students.

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- Third Psychologist – Susy Dressel reported that this was still needed for the coming year. The district currently has 411 students with IEP and 22 with 504 plans. This is 24% of our total population. Mental health needs continue to increase, and they are focusing on areas noted in the PAYS survey. In addition, she reminded us that the district has to meet PDE deadlines for testing timelines.
- The next regularly scheduled meeting is scheduled for Weds. April 5, 2023, at 5:30 pm. At that time, we wish to review the building budgets. It was discussed and determined to not hold any additional meetings in March, giving Christine more time on the budget. At the April 5 meeting it will be reviewed if any additional April meetings will be held.


Dorothy Luckock, Board President


Christine Krankota, Board Secretary