

APPROVED OCTOBER 19, 2021

Sherborn School Committee Meeting of September 21, 2021

Members Present: Nancy Cordell
Angie Johnson
Amanda Brown
Dennis Quandt
David Kazis

Also Present: Kathleen Smith, Interim Superintendent
Beth McCoy, Assistant Superintendent
Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator

1) Call to Order

Nancy Cordell called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm via ZOOM.

2) Community Comments - none

3) Reports

- Superintendent Report - Kathleen Smith presented a District Overview including an update on the Staff Convocation, Opening Day, and the District Priorities. Additionally, MCAS results were released earlier in the day. Statewide results show critical insight into impact on student learning since beginning of pandemic. Families will receive scores after September 30th. The review and analysis of Pine Hill's results will be presented at the October meeting.
- Assistant Superintendent Report - Beth McCoy reviewed the professional development done by faculty and staff over the summer as well as highlighted the plans for the upcoming Leadership Retreat as well as professional development for the rest of the school year.
- Principal's Report - Dr. Brown highlighted recent and upcoming events at Pine Hill.
- Warrant Report

4) FY21 Budget Closeout

- Salaries - there was a positive variance of \$258,459 in salaries comprised of: 1) three educators retired post-budget resulting in savings of \$150,000; 2) three educators on leave resulting in a savings of \$180,000; 3) two additional educators were hired to cover remote learning at a cost of \$100,000; 4) additional EA support was added to cover current operations resulting in a cost of \$30,000; and 5) several other staffing changes throughout the year resulted in approximately \$30,000 of savings across multiple line items in addition to approximately \$23,000 savings in custodial services due to the vacancy in the Director of Facilities position, lower overtime needs, and no utilization of summer staff.
- Operating Expenditures - there was an overall savings in operating expenditures of \$52,837 despite a negative variance in SPED services of \$22,700. Savings were realized in transportation due to the reduction in school days and building related expenses in custodial supplies, building repair needs and utilities due to no weekend usage of the building.
- Out-of-District - Placement costs of FY21 were approximately \$50,000 less than budgeted. In addition, ACCEPT returned \$32,000 in tuition and transportation credits. These savings plus other tuition and transportation savings the year ended with a positive variance of approximately \$95,000. Circuit breaker reimbursement was 75% for FY21 with a total reimbursement of \$398,766.

APPROVED OCTOBER 19, 2021

- Summary - Approximately \$400,000 will be returned to the Town.
- Special Revenue/Revolving Funds - a summary statement of FY21 activity was provided
- COVID-19 Related Grants - Sherborn received two main grants to cover unbudgeted costs due to COVID-19. One of the grants was allocated to municipalities to be used across all operating departments. The Town of Sherborn allocated school expenses for unbudgeted technology purchases (\$60,388) and HVAC related items (\$23,879) against the municipal grant. The CARES Re-opening grants (\$225 per student, \$90,000 total) was used to cover the costs of PPE, AFC contract costs for testing access, additional facility items such as the rental of tents, additional staffing for nursing, remote learning center and educational assistants, software needs for remote learning as well as additional school supplies and had an end date of June 30, 2021. A State Coronavirus Prevention Fund grant in the amount of \$11,625 and special earmark support of \$20,833 which were both fully expended by June 30, 2021 and covered additional technology and staffing needs.
- Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief funds (ESSER) Grants - the District has received 3 ESSER grants: 1) ESSER I in the amount of \$24,869 has been allocated to cover costs associated with social emotional learning assessment tools, summer services provided to students as needed due to the hybrid school year and staffing for COVID-19 related testing protocol. 2) ESSER II in the amount of \$85,841 has been allocated for additional SEL contracted services and additional staffing positions as needed to assist with academic interventions. 3) ESSER III funds total \$170,448 and have an expenditure period through September 20, 2024. The Administration is in the process of completing the initial application for this grant which requires at least a 20% allocation to mitigating lost instructional time. In addition, it has a requirement of soliciting feedback from multiple stakeholder groups in the planning of grant activities/expenditures. A high level budget submittal for the initial application will be completed by the October 4th due date.

5) Mask Policy - second read

Angie Johnson made a motion to approve the mask policy as presented. Amanda Brown seconded.

21-13 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call

6) Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes: June 16, 2021

Amanda Brown made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Dennis Quandt seconded.

21-14 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call

7) Communications

- 2021-22 Meeting Calendar
- Subcommittee Assignments

8) Items for October 19, 2021 meeting

9) Adjournment at 7:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis