

Approved February 9, 2021

Sherborn School Committee
Meeting of December 14, 2020

Members Present: Angie Johnson
Megan Page
Mike Fitzgerald

Also Present: Dr. Andrew Keough, Superintendent
Beth McCoy, Assistant Superintendent
Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator

1) Call to Order

Ms. Johnson called the virtual meeting to order at 6:30 pm and read the following into the record: Good evening. This Open Meeting of the Sherborn School Committee is being conducted remotely consistent with Governor Baker's Executive Order of March 12, 2020, due to the current State of Emergency in the Commonwealth due to the outbreak of the "COVID-19 Virus."

In order to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19, we have been advised and directed by the Commonwealth to suspend public gatherings, and as such, the Governor's Order suspends the requirement of the Open Meeting Law to have all meetings in a publicly accessible physical location. Further, all members of public bodies are allowed and encouraged to participate remotely.

For this meeting, the Sherborn School Committee is convening via Zoom App, as posted. Information on how to join our School Committee mtgs and mtg agendas were posted on the Dover Sherborn District Website and on the town calendars.

Please note that this meeting is being recorded, and that some attendees are participating by video conference. Accordingly, please be aware that others may be able to see you, so please take care not to "screen share" your computer. Anything you broadcast may be captured by the recording.

Community comments are an opportunity for members of the community to be heard. We respectfully request that you please make your comments brief (2-3 minutes) and that you move the discussion forward by adding new information. Please try to avoid repeating points that have already been made.

Community comments are an opportunity for us to listen to members of the community. It is not a forum for answering questions or engaging in a debate. Once the public comment section of the meeting has been concluded, we will move on to other business and unsolicited comments from the community will no longer be permitted. This is standard operating procedure in school committee meetings across our 3 school districts.

2) Community Comments - none

3) Reports

- Principal's Report - Dr. Brown highlighted recent and upcoming events at Pine Hill.
- Warrant Report

4) FY21 Monthly Financial Report - as of November 30th.

- Salaries - the majority of salaries have been encumbered. Unbudgeted activity to date includes: three educators retired post-budget resulting in savings in Teachers, Classroom, & Guidance of \$150,000; two educators on leave resulting in a savings of \$100,000; two additional educators have been hired to cover remote learning at a cost of \$100,000; and one additional EA has been hired for regular education with the costs through year-end being covered by the CARES Grant.

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- Operating Expenditures - there are no variances to report this early in the fiscal year. Initial projections have been encumbered for utilities and the regular education transportation encumbrance reflects the contract amendment savings approved at last week's Joint meeting.
- Out-of-District - Placement costs for FY21 have been encumbered.
- CARES Re-opening Grant - \$85,000 in expenses were covered by the Town of Sherborn CARES Grant which has allowed staffing expenditures to be charged to the Pine Hill Re-opening Grant.

5) Proposed FY22 Operating Budget - the budget was developed using the following assumptions: 1) regular school operations (in-person, 5-days a week) with level enrollment; 2) compliance with Town budget guidance; 3) alignment with District's Strategic Plan; and 4) acute awareness of potential post-COVID 19 State budget financial constraints. Key budget drivers include:

*Payroll and related benefits represent approx 87% of the operating budget with key budget drivers being: contractual agreement increase of 2% across all bargaining units in addition to step and land increases for educators ranging from 4-13%; one classroom section added to operating budget (funded with revolving funds in FY21 budget); and staffing changes and retirements,

*Continued trend budgeting for all other operating accounts,

*In-District student enrollment - projecting approx 400 students and 20 classroom sections with class size range 18-22, and

*Out-of-District student enrollment - projecting 9 placements in FY22 (vs 11 in FY21)

Overall the operating budget totals \$7,101,569, an increase of \$105,035 or 1.5% with:

*In-district operating budget increase of \$61,735 or 0.97% (vs \$175,377 or 2.84% in FY21)

*Out-of-District operating budget increase of \$43,300 or 6.8% (vs \$427,663 decrease in FY21). The decline in in OOD placements has a corresponding decrease in circuit breaker reimbursement. The FY22 budget includes \$150,000 of circuit breaker vs \$325,000 in FY21.

Mike Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the FY22 Budget as presented. Megan Page seconded.

20-17 VOTE: 3 - 0

6) Proposed FY22 Capital - The FY22 capital projects include classroom casework totaling \$30,000. FY23 projects total \$990,000, the bulk of which is the roof replacement (\$875,000).

Mike Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the FY22 Capital Budget as presented. Megan Page seconded.

20-18 VOTE: 3 - 0

7) Tuition: Pre-K and Non-Resident - a 2% increase was proposed: 3-day rate - \$5,830 and 5-day rate - \$10,310

Megan Page made a motion approve the Pre-K tuition as presented. Mike Fitzgerald seconded.

20-19 VOTE: 3 - 0

8) ACED FY22 Recommendations - The ACED recommends that the 4 Curriculum Leader positions be changed to 6 Professional Learning Community Leaders. The ratio will stay the same resulting in an increase of \$7,557.

Megan Page made a motion to approve the ACED recommendations as presented. Mike Fitzgerald seconded.

20-20 VOTE: 3 - 0

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9) Policy: Class Size, First Read - the changes to the policy were presented. Class sizes are recommended to be 18-23 across all grades at Pine Hill. A final vote on the policy will be taken at the next meeting.

10) Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes: October 13, 2020
Mike Fitzgerald made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Megan Page seconded.
20-21 VOTE: 5 - 0 via roll call

11) Communications

- Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee minutes of November 2, 2020
- Dover School Committee minutes of September 29, 2020

12) Items for February 9, 2021 meeting

13) Adjournment at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis