

Regional School District No. 17
Board of Education
Finance/Facilities Subcommittee
Meeting Agenda
Chair: Peter Sonski

A meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Finance/Facilities Subcommittee was held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 4:30 PM in Room A116 located at HK High School.

Subcommittee Members Present: Peter Sonski (Chair), Prem Aithal, Jennifer Favalora, Suzanne Sack (remote)

Other Attendees: Kate Anderson (Selectwoman, Haddam-remote), Superintendent Jeffrey Wihbey, Director John Mercier, Director David Solin, Brianna Hill (remote), Jeff Wyszynski (Tecton-remote), Antonia Ciaverella (Tecton-remote), Justin Hopkins (Tecton-remote)

Subcommittee Members Absent: Shawna Goldfarb, Hamish MacPhail

1. Call to Order/Opening of the Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by Peter Sonski (Chair).

2. District Master Plan update from Tecton

Tecton representatives reported on the first public presentation session and provided observations for next steps. Among the observations and public comments were:

- The District should share replacement costs for the “right” size facilities based on current enrollment and state grant standards.
- RSD 17 should update its facilities assessment to factor current inflation. The District should project bonding costs at benchmark levels (e.g. \$80m, \$100m, and \$120m). It should be included in a summary of existing debt service.
- The District should maximize communications outreach to be transparent as well as to garner public feedback. A District survey will be distributed soon.
- A logistics plan should be developed to minimize impact on instruction and essential services/facilities during any construction phase.

3. Approval of Previous Minutes

The Minutes from the April 18, 2023 meeting were accepted without changes.

4. HKHS Energy LED Project Update

The HKHS lighting upgrade assessments are complete, however the incentives are less than received on earlier projects at HKIMS, BES, and KES. While completed projects are netting savings better than projected, the HKHS payback duration is estimated at 9.5 years. Committee members deemed this too long a period given the potential for major changes/improvements to the building.

5. BES Portables Roof Repair Update

The roof repairs to the BES portable units are complete.

6. ECHMC Discussion

The ECHMC Board positions need to be filled with two representatives of RSD 17. Committee members asked Director Solin to inquire whether a BOE member could serve in that capacity and whether alternate or proxy provisions existed in ECHMC bylaws.

7. Financial Review

Director Solin presented an update on the year-end projections, including a proposal to use revenue from the CT Excess Cost grant (ECG). The estimates have improved to \$300,000 being available to transfer to the capital fund with the amount expected to climb still more.

8. Excess Cost Revenues Review

The committee discussed this as part of the financial review. No additional report.

9. Year End Balance Expenditure

The committee discussed this as part of the financial review. No additional report.

10. Finance End of Year Process

The committee discussed with Director Solin the end of the year process.

11. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM.