

Seymour Board of Education
FINANCE COMMITTEE AGENDA
June 20, 2023
Seymour Middle School
6:30 pm

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Chris Champagne
Beth Nesteriak
OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools
Salvatore Bucci, Business Manager
Alana Zhingri, Interim Board Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Champagne called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:38 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment provides the opportunity for the public to make a comment. It is not a dialogue between the Board and the public. Based upon what is heard during Public Comment, the Board may choose to add a topic to the agenda. If questions are posed that the Chairman is able to answer, those questions may be addressed under the Chairman's Comments portion of the agenda. The Board will not discuss personnel matters. Comments should be respectful and no longer than 3 minutes in length so that all who wish to comment may have the opportunity to do so. All public wanting to comment will need to state their name and address for the record prior to addressing the Board.

None.

III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Financial Management Summary – June 5, 2023

Mr. Bucci stated as an end-of-year wrap up, we are where we want to be. There were some fluctuations throughout the year, most of which he has been projecting for some time. Some relate to interim vacancies and ESSER2 grants. We were able to utilize those grants through June 30, 2023. It allowed us to cover the \$400,000 overage for tuition and transportation for out of district students. We were awaiting final payment from the state, and the three tier model resulted in us receiving \$50,000 less in funding. There was a fixed pool, and not just Seymour, but many districts reported significant increase in Special Education outplacements. We got \$669,000. In regard to the non-certified staff category, he gave most credit to Mr. Conners. He was able to effectively minimize a lot of custodial overtime this year. Dr. Compton emphasized last year there was a lot of overtime due to COVID and all of the cleaning. Regarding employee benefits, Mr. Bucci stated we came out with a positive variance of about \$172,000. \$155,000 of it related to employees who elected to opt out of our plans or where we had vacancies during the year. Regarding professional services, Mr. Bucci said we had the same situation as the non-certified staff, but we were able to utilize a couple IDEA grants to offload some of supplemental costs in professional services, which is broken into a few categories such as legal fees, ACES opted contract, which this year had a significant increase. Not expecting that for next school year. These grants are all expiring at the end of June and there are no ESSER funds going forward. For facilities, Dr. Bucci mentioned during the winter break, there was an incident in the high school where one of the radiators burst, and \$30,000 was used to restore glycol in system. For energy, Mr. Bucci said we are tracking very well with usage this year because climate has been milder. Slightly offset by increase in propane fuel. For next year, a lower rate has also been negotiated for our propane. Mr. Bucci mentioned we were able to augment what was in the budget for some athletic supplies. Mr. Bucci stated he was trying to balance the budget as best he could, putting placeholders in for anticipated expenditures that we expect to come in. He stressed we will not go over budget. In the technology area, there was one overage of a 2019 bond payment that we weren't aware of until last summer when we agreed to take on the extra \$75,000 in costs related to that bond payment which caused an overage in the account. We plan to

continue on a 5 year Chromebook rotation plan. Google obsolescence policy is that they run for five years then shut down. All together we were able to overcome a lot. There has been some talk and possible movement on the state raising the pool of funds, and MERF rate reduction for next year. Next year will be a tighter situation as the same funds will not be available next year. As he did in last summer's meeting, Mr. Bucci wants to bring a reallocation of the budget that the Board can vote on. In the next meeting, he would like to bring what that allocation can be. Dr. Compton supported that.

MOTION: (Ms. Nesteriak/sec., Mr. Champagne) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the June 5, 2023 Financial Management Summary

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Nesteriak MOTION PASSES: 2-0-0

IV. REPORTS

A. Chairman's Report
None

B. Superintendent's Report

Dr. Compton stated she was glad we were able to get some things done. She was also very pleased we were able to support the weight room, and purchased some long needed track equipment. She stated we've been very conservative, spent our money wisely and are trying to do what's best for kids.

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Ms. Nesteriak/sec., Mr. Champagne) to adjourn

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Ms. Nesteriak

MOTION PASSES: 2-0-0

The meeting adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

YouTube Link (June 20, 2023)

https://youtube.com/live/e-VgqLT5O_M?feature=share