

**Board of Education Meeting
Public Hearing
Wednesday, May 5, 2021
High School Library
6:30 pm**

PRESENT: Matthew Dreher
Jason Fernau
Melissa Glastetter - Absent
Michael O'Donnell
Lillian McCarthy - via phone
Dorothy Sellers
Katie Whitemore – via phone

STAFF PRESENT: Kenneth Slentz, Superintendent of Schools
Brian Sirianni, Clerk of the Board

CALL TO ORDER

Dorothy Sellers called the public hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENTATION ON PROPOSED 2021-2022 BUDGET

Mr. Slentz highlighted the proposed budget. He reminded everyone of the District mission. He reiterated the definition of a meaningful diploma and discussed possible pathways and the requirements of each pathway to a diploma.

Mr. Slentz discussed the investment and support for students. He discussed assessments as critical. He discussed the importance of behavior and training students regarding behavior and executive function.

Mr. Slentz discussed the importance of skills, especially learning. He stated it was important for students to be proficient to be successful. He discussed the importance of common skills at the elementary level so that all students coming into the middle school will be equally prepared.

Mr. Slentz discussed the importance of student self-advocacy and mental health. He discussed the related additions to the budget.

Mr. Slentz discussed the whole school concept for middle school students. He discussed curriculum analysis. He discussed additions to the program for student success. He discussed the importance of consistency.

Mr. Slentz discussed the importance of attracting, developing, and retaining the best staff for instruction. Mr. Slentz discussed the importance of communication, the importance of balance and long-range planning.

Mr. Slentz discussed the ways the budget was designed to support students in the high school. He included information for all pathways.

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Mr. Sirianni outlined the functional components of the budget and explained the contents within each component. He gave statistical and expense information on each component. Mr. Sirianni discussed Ballston Spa's information in the context of the Suburban Council.

Mr. Sirianni shared the required 3-part budget format. He explained each of the parts and what was included in each.

Mr. Sirianni discussed the revenues for the District. He explained the tax base growth and new construction. Mr. Sirianni shared the information in context of the Suburban Council. He discussed the Global PILOT assessment schedule and its impact on the District, and discussed the Tax Levy Cap Calculation with the allowed levy compared to the actual levy.

Mr. Sirianni discussed State Aid. He stated the Foundation Aid increased for the year. He stated it was a particularly good year for our District. He stated he hoped it would continue over the next three years. He discussed additional components of State Aid and the dollar figures associated with each component. Mr. Sirianni also discussed how the revenue is distributed to the District. Mr. Sirianni broke down revenues by category and shared the changes from this budget to last year's budget. Mr. Sirianni shared the year-to-year budget increases from previous years. He discussed the changes over the past years.

Mr. Sirianni reminded everyone the vote would be on May 18, 2021. Mr. Sirianni stated the format for the vote would follow previous years. Masking, six-foot distancing and clean pen/used pen usage will be in effect. Mr. Sirianni stated the number mail in ballots would dictate when the results would be available. He stated historically there were only about 100 mailed in ballots. He stated the District was unsure of the number of mailed in ballots there would be this year. Mr. Sirianni stated all ballots need to be to the District by 5:00 the day of the vote.

Mr. Sirianni stated there would be a very low increase to a small decrease in the average taxpayer's bill. He shared where taxpayers could go to look at their previous bills.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUDGET

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Slentz thanked everyone for the work that had been done and for all the support that had been received for the budget.

MOTION BY Michael O'Donnell, seconded by Jason Fernau to adjourn at 7:11 p.m.

Ayes all

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Sirianni
Clerk of the Board