

**BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING
Inter-Lakes School Board
Inter-Lakes Middle/High School Community Auditorium
1 Laker Lane, Meredith, NH
February 8, 2023**

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

School Board Chair Merrill called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECORD ROLL

Members Present:

Ms. Lisa Merrill, Chair
Mr. Charles Hanson, Secretary
Mr. Craig Baker
Mr. Howard Cunningham
Ms. Nancy Starmer
Mr. Duncan Porter-Zuckerman

Administrators Present:

Ms. Mary Moriarty, Superintendent
Ms. Elaine Dodge, Director of Student Services
Ms. Erica Pappalardo, Curriculum Coordinator
Mr. Michael Bryant, ILES Principal
Dr. Amanda Downing, ILM/HS Principal
Mr. Jeremy Hillger, SCS/ILVP Principal
Mr. Brian Swanker, Facilities Director
Ms. Holly Vieten, Guidance Director
Mr. Mark Parsons, Technology Director

Members Absent:

Mr. Mark Billings (with notice)
Mr. Paolo Cao, student
representative (with notice)

Others Present:

Mr. Jason Cornelissen, Auditorium Manager
Members of the Public (in-person & remote)

IV. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED 2023-2024 INTER-LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET

Ms. Merrill opened the Budget Public Hearing at 6:03 p.m.

Superintendent Moriarty introduced Mr. Chuck Bates, former Inter-Lakes High School business teacher and current business administrator, who has been helping to support the administrative office in Assistant Superintendent Trish Temperino's absence. She expressed appreciation for Mr. Bates' assistance, as well as for Ashley Dolloff, Cheryl Somma, and the entire administrative team for their work on the proposed budget.

Superintendent Moriarty gave a detailed presentation of the proposed 2023-2024 Operational Budget in the amount of \$30,666,251 which represents an increase of \$1,049,675 or 3.54% over the current year budget. She then reviewed Warrant Articles related to the Collective Bargaining Agreement and the Facilities Expendable Trust.

Superintendent Moriarty reviewed the enrollment report as of January 5th, noting that there are 919 total students enrolled, with 152 students receiving special education services (page 16 of Budget Packet); the function and staffing summary comparison (page 19); the special education cost comparison/distribution of costs for Special Education, noting that the primary change is increase in transportation costs (page

22); a detailed comparison of facilities costs (pages 24-25); estimated District Revenues and estimated Town Assessment for Center Harbor, Meredith and Sandwich (pages 25-27); and the line item Master Budget (pages 28-47)

Ms. Merrill opened the floor for public questions and comments regarding the proposed budget.

Mr. Jonathon James of Meredith asked if there is currently a student representative and if so, why they are not in attendance.

Superintendent Moriarty explained that Student Representative Paolo Cao is absent tonight due to other obligations.

Mr. James asked the School Board how they suggest that he explain to taxpayers as a selectman that their tax bill is going up by six hundred dollars, plus the town maintenance and county taxes.

Superintendent Moriarty noted that the decrease in the number of staff shows that the District is looking for opportunities to be able to decrease staffing expenses, which is the greatest expense and most important expense. The District has been fortunate to maintain a strong salary schedule which helps to attract and retain staff. Costs continue to increase, particularly health insurance, and 75% of the increase is out of the District's control, because it comes from the collective bargaining agreements.

Mr. James asked what the benefits package costs per person on average.

Superintendent Moriarty noted that a family plan is about \$26,000 per year, but was unsure of the average per person, and will send that information to Mr. James following the budget hearing.

Mr. James asked what percentage of dental insurance is paid by teachers.

Superintendent Moriarty said that teachers pay about 17% of the cost of dental insurance.

With no further questions or comments from the public, Ms. Merrill closed the Public Hearing at 6:56 p.m.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Tuesday, February 21, 2023

Inter-Lakes School Board @ Humiston Building Conference Room

- Regular School Board Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

B. Thursday, March 9, 2023

Inter-Lakes School Board @ ILM/HS Community Auditorium / Gymnasium

- Annual School District Meeting – **6:00 p.m.**

C. Tuesday, March 14, 2023

Town Elections/School District Officer Elections

VI. NON-PUBLIC - RSA 91-A3(c) This includes matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this Board, unless such a person requests an open meeting.

Mr. Porter-Zuckerman moved, seconded by Mr. Baker, to enter a Nonpublic Session at 6:57 p.m. The motion carried 6-0.

Ms. Starmer moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to re-enter Public Session at 7:13 p.m. The motion carried 6-0.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Porter-Zuckerman moved, seconded by Mr. Cunningham, to adjourn the meeting at 7:14 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted.

Heather Bullimore
Recording Secretary