

Sherborn School Committee
Meeting of September 19, 2023

Members Present: Dennis Quandt
Amanda Brown
Kristen Aberle
Christine Walsh
Rebecca Hammond

Also Present: Beth McCoy, Superintendent
Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent
Dawn Fattore, Business Administrator

1) Call to Order

Dennis Quandt called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm in the Sherborn Town Hall.

2) Community Comments - Richard Robinson spoke in favor of installing AC at Pine Hill and gave some advice given what he learned while getting AC installed at DSMS.

3) Reports

- Superintendent Report - Beth McCoy presented a brief update from her office and thanked all who worked hard to ensure a smooth opening to the school year.
- Pine Hill Ari Quality/Cooling Strategies - with the recent three-day heat wave of high 80's and low 90's, freestanding air cooler units were brought in to cool the library wing, auditorium, and hallways. However, the units could not keep up with the temperature and humidity levels resulting in one early release day and one "hybrid day" that included utilizing spaces at the Sherborn Library for two grade levels. Given the continued humidity levels, these units have been kept onsite. The rental cost will be approximately \$10,000 and is being assessed to the Building Rental Fund. The Administration is in discussions to request an engineering study to provide viable options for cooling strategies at Pine Hill. In addition, the Administration is looking into expanding the scope of the Space Needs Audit at the Region to determine the future needs of the Pine Hill School building given its aging structures. An update including more detailed information will be provided at the October meeting.
- Assistant Superintendent Report - Denny Conklin provided an update on the Math Curriculum pilot program.
- Principal's Report - Dr. Brown highlighted the opening of school and upcoming events at Pine Hill.
- Warrant Report

4) FY23 Budget Closeout

- Salaries - the year ended with a \$27,195 positive variance resulting primarily from net savings from post-FY23 budget staffing changes.
- Expenditures - there was a small negative variance of \$1,663 for FY23.
- Out-of-District - tuition and transportation costs were \$311,450 over budget as of June 30th. At Sherborn's Annual Town Meeting on April 25th, it was voted to transfer \$50,000 from the SPED Stabilization Fund and approve additional appropriations of \$250,000 to cover the unfunded OOD tuition costs. The negative variance resulted from unanticipated placements as well as changes in placements that resulted in higher costs.
- Summary of Results - net deficit of \$285,917 which was covered by the \$300,000 of additional appropriations approved by the Town leave \$14,083 of unused appropriations.

5) Pine Hill School Improvement Plan: second read - there were no significant changes made from the last reading.

Christine Walsh made a motion to approve the Pine Hill School Improvement Plan. Becca Hammond seconded.

23-10 VOTE: 5 - 0

Approved 10/17/2023

6) Consent Agenda

- Approval of Minutes: June 6, 2023 - correct misspellings as noted

*Christine Walsh made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Amanda Brown seconded.
23-11 VOTE: 5 - 0.*

7) Communications

- 2023-24 Meeting Calendar
- Subcommittee Assignments
- Dover Sherborn Regional Committee minutes of June 6, 2023
- Dover School Committee Minutes May 15, 2023

8) Items for October 17, 2023 meeting

9) Adjournment at 6:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis