

MINUTES



Addison Central School District

Finance Committee

Committee Meeting

Monday, December 18, 2023, 8:30 am - 9:30 am

208 Charles Avenue, Middlebury VT

ACSD District Vision and Mission

OUR VISION

Our vision is for all ACSD students to reach their full learning potential, have a sense of belonging in our schools, and enrich our community and the communities where they live in the future.

OUR MISSION

Our mission is to provide high-quality, equitable, and varied learning environments that inspire a passion for learning and growth among our students.

A. Call to Order Upon Reaching a Quorum Meeting called to order at 8:35 AM

B. Introductions: Board Members, Administrators and Staff

Present: James Malcolm, Steve Orzech, Ellen Whelan-Wuest, Jason Chance [on zoom until

9am] Assistant Superintendent Nicole Carter, Director of Finance and Operations Matt Corrente, Mary Heather Noble [guest from communications comm]

C. Public Comment - Agenda Items None

D. Approve the Minutes of 12/6/2023

Minutes approved for 12/6/2023 meeting with one addition ; Ellen Whelan-Wuest was not present and should be listed as absent E. Committee Discussion:

1. Financial Strategy to Ensure Budget Approval - with Communications and Engagement Committee

Mary Heather Noble relayed to finance comm recommendations from communications comm as to possible efforts to educate the public about the budget in this very difficult year. ie; 1-2 page high-level document to note all the major issues ,many new to this time. ie; the absolute importance of remaining under the 10% increase per student threshold. ie: the major effects both for this

transition year and future years of ACTs 173 and 127{special ed and weighting of students].ie: possibility of a recorded message to be easily available to the public.ie: an in person and zoom presentation prior to the annual meeting budget hearing.ie :a list of FAQs that could be added to by the public and answered in a public manner.ie: a site on the website easily reached with budget info. MH noble was thanked by the committee and she left the meeting.

2. Communicating and Presenting the ACSD FY25 Budget

A long discussion {Jason Chance left at 9am} regarding a financial strategy to use in explaining the budget . [detailed record is available on zoom recording of this meeting].The very difficult conundrum of trying to honestly budget for pending ongoing negotiations. The potential use of education fund balance if deficit spending occurs after negotiations settlement - no decisions were made . At the 1/8/2023 ACSD board meeting a preliminary budget will be presented to be approved by the board on 1/22/2023 meeting.

F. Public Comment - Any Topic No public comment

G. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 9:50 AM

Respectfully submitted,
James Malcolm

*Public Comment Guidelines:

Public comments are encouraged and welcome at each regular board meeting during the period designated for public comment. Comments are limited to three minutes per person. Citizens will be called to make their statement by the board chair. Public comments regarding personnel, students or legal matters will not be heard by the Board.