

DRAFT

Date: December 6, 2023

Place: Zoom

Present: Cody Kittle (chair)

Michael Joseph Mercanti

Kathleen Stowe

Laura Kostin

Dr. Toni Jones, Superintendent

Mr. Blaize Levitan, COO

Patrick Lai, Financial Analyst

Karen Hirsch

Additional: various Zoom attendees

The meeting was called to order at 1:33 PM

Discussion Item:

Mr. Kittle made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 15th meeting. Ms. Stowe seconded. Minutes were approved 3-0 (Mr. Mercanti had not joined yet).

Mr. Levitan began with a review of the BET budget guidelines compared to Dr. Jones proposed budget. Mr. Lai gave a detailed review of teacher salaries by tenure. Mr. Levitan provided an overview of different proposals to decrease the budget gap.

Mr. Mercanti joined the meeting at 2:00pm.

Mr. Levitan provided a review of the proposal to change the Pre-K ratio and class size. Mr. Kittle made a motion to adopt a budget assumption based on guidelines of max class size of 17 students and an adjustment of SPED student ratio to 50-60%. Ms. Stowe seconded. This passed 3-1, with Ms. Kostin as a No.

Mr. Levitan then provided analysis on a reduction in ALP hours for science, a normalization of ALP hours to pre-Covid levels. Mr. Kittle made a motion to approve Mr. Levitan's recommendation. Mr. Mercanti seconded. This failed with a 2-2 vote, with Ms. Stowe and Ms. Kostin voting No.

Mr. Levitan then gave an overview of the summer school program and a proposal to increase summer school fees. Mr. Kittle made a motion to approve Mr. Levitan's recommendation. Ms. Stowe seconded. This passed with a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Levitan then provided a review of using ARP funds for curriculum investment. Mr. Kittle made a motion to approve. Ms. Stowe seconded. This was approved 4-0.

Mr. Levitan then provided a review of a proposal to reduce physical education instructional hours. Mr. Kittle made a motion to adopt the proposal. Mr. Mercanti seconded. This passed 2-1-1, with Ms. Kostin voting no and Ms. Stowe abstaining.

Mr. Levitan then provided a review of reducing world language program. Mr. Kittle made a motion to approve his proposal. Ms. Stowe seconded. This was approved 4-0.

At 2:56 Ms. Kostin left the meeting, but indicated she would be abstaining from next vote.

Mr. Levitan and Dr. Jones gave a review of a budget proposal related to changing GHS schedule. Mr. Kittle made a motion to approve. Mr. Mercanti seconded. This passed 3-0-1, with Ms. Kostin abstaining in absentia.

At 3:00pm, Mr. Mercanti made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Kittle seconded. Approved 3-0.