

**Brandywine School District**  
**District Finance Committee**

Minutes of the Meeting of June 9, 2021

Members Present: James Hanby (Chair Person), Chuck Landry, John Skrobot III,  
Matt Auerbach, Jack Vinokur, Victor Ferzetti,

Members Absent: Susan Koski, Chris Milionis, Kristin Pidgeon-Board  
Member Alternate

Other District Representatives Present: Jason Hale, Chief Financial Officer, Angie Thomas,  
Manager of Finance

**Deleted:** Business Specialist

Members of the Public: Willie Pollins, Kim Stock

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Hanby at 5:07 P.M.

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I. Approval of Minutes – May 12, 2021 Meeting

The minutes of the May 12, 2021 meeting were introduced for review and approval.

A motion to approve the minutes as amended was introduced by Mr. Landry; seconded by Mr. Vinokur. Approved unanimously.

II. May 31, 2021 Financial Report

The May 31, 2021 financial report set was introduced for review. Dr. Hale led the committee through the reports including the 2022 Preliminary Budget, a Bond Resolution and the Tax Rate Warrant for FY 2022.

a. Revenue Report

The district has received almost 99.8% of local revenue. The district will receive over 100% on the Current Expense Tax. The Senior Tax Credit has come in and will be on next month's report.

Dr. Hale commented the interest rate was zero percent for the first time in seven or eight years.

Dr. Hale stated that the one-time Unit Count funding of \$750,000 will not carryover to next fiscal year but has helped with the June 30th carry forward balance.

b. Operating Unit Expenditure Report

Dr. Hale stated there is one more week for expenditures to be processed.

c. Cash Flow

The projected carryover balance for June 30, 2021 is \$12 million.

A motion to approve the May 31, 2021 Financial Report was introduced by Mr. Auerbach; seconded by Mr. Landry.

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Deleted: Discussion about where interest funds are allocated.¶  
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III. Preliminary Operating Budget FY 2022

Dr. Hale introduced the Preliminary FY 22 budget for informational purposes only. It will be presented for approval in July.

The Executive Summary is not included in the Preliminary Budget because there are too many unknowns for it to be completed.

We do know that we have the ESSR II & ESSR III funds, the application was approved. Dr. Hale and Angie Thomas will deconstruct the grant and determine how it will be budgeted. Final must be approved by DDOE. Final FY22 Budget will have a more detail on these funds.

Unit counts will happen in September this year. The District at this time estimates the Budget Revenue at a projection of 99.5% of the FY21 budget. This is based on a projected enrollment. "Roll up" happens at the end of June; which shows the movement of students to the next grade and strongly helps with the projected enrollment. The state will make any necessary adjustments to the personnel cost if there is a larger number in the Unit count.

There will be a decrease in the interest for FY 22.

The State of Delaware must increase the Opportunity Grant funding due to the settlement with ACLU for EL Students and Students living in poverty. It will be an increase about \$600,000 over last year.

The Distant Learning Grant is going away but the Special Education funding will not be decreasing.

The Brandywine School District is part of the Tax Pool. Brandywine, Colonial, Christina and Red Clay school districts are in the same Tax Pool. Brandywine is 20.7% of the Tax Pool of the calculated Property Tax. This should adjust yearly but has been locked in since 2012.

The document shows ESSR I & ESSR II. Dr. Hale will correct it to read ESSR II & ESSR III.

Conservative estimate of \$10.5 million FY22 carry forward balance.

All other budgets remain the same with no cuts or reductions at the building or department level. Once the enrollment process is completed building budgets will be adjusted accordingly.

IV. Tax Warrant FY 2022

There is no change to the Tax Rate for FY 2022. The rate will remain the same at \$2.5385 per \$100.00. It is anticipated that the rate will stay the same in FY 2022.

A motion to approve the FY 2022 Tax Warrant was introduced by Mr. Landry; seconded by Mr. Auerbach. Approved unanimously.

V. Bond Resolution

Dr. Hale's screen froze and Mr. Hanby began to explain the Bond Anticipation process. Mr. Hanby explained that the Bond Anticipation became the Bond for the continuing portion of the Capital Referendum that was approved in May of 2016. Dr. Hale rejoined the meeting.

Dr. Hale continued that a Bond is Brandywine agreeing to pay the interest from when we receive the funds until they sell the Bond. The State of Delaware sells Bonds once a year based on the anticipated Bond rate of 2.1%. They sold the Bond on April 28, 2021 at an interest rate of 1.67% which is the best rate seen in some time. We are asking that the Board approve the close of the Anticipation Note in lieu of the 20-year Bond of \$2.2 million final allocation funding for projects for Claymont and Brandywine Market Pressure from last year. Once approved by the Board it will be sent to the Department of Justice for their approval.

The actual form that was sent to the members reads 1.37% but should be 1.67%. Dr. Hale stated he will make the correction.

A motion to approve the FY 2022 Tax Warrant was introduced by Mr. Auerbach; seconded by Mr. Landry. Approved unanimously once Dr. Hale makes the correction on the form.

VI. Board Meeting Follow Up

IV. Other Business

There was a public comment from Mr. Pollins asking about the students keeping their Chromebooks for the summer and the damages that could occur. Dr. Hale replied that this was discussed and it was decided that to collect all the Chromebooks and then redistribute them in the fall could be more costly than the students just keeping them and bringing them back in the fall. Students who will not be attending in the fall have been asked to return them. Mr. Skrobot asked if there is an accounting of the Chromebook damage and loss claims that have been filed and could a cost analysis report be presented to the Committee. Dr. Hale stated yes there could be and he will put the report together.

Mr. Hanby mentioned that we are to begin meeting in person in September but also allowing the option of attending on ZOOM.

Next DFC Meeting will be on July 14, 2021.

A motion to adjourn was introduced by Mr. Skrobot; seconded by Mr. Auerbach. Approved unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 P.M.

This meeting was held via Zoom because of the Coronavirus Pandemic.  
Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Lurty, Senior Administrative Assistant