

GREATER LOWELL TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL

FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE MEETING

Minutes of February 7, 2020 Meeting

Sub-Committee Members Present: Mr. Bahou, Mr. Gitschier, Mr. Sheehan, Mr. Giggey (5:13 p.m. arrival)

Others Present: Interim Superintendent-Director Jill Davis, School Business Administrator Michael Knight, Mr. LeMay (Remote Participant), Interim Asst. Superintendent/Principal Michael Barton, Recording Secretary

Meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m.

Sub-Committee roll call: Present – Mr. Bahou, Mr. Gitschier, Mr. Sheehan, Mr. Giggey (5:13 p.m. arrival)

Chairman Bahou read aloud regulation 940 CMR 29.10 regarding Remote Participation adopted by the Greater Lowell Technical School Committee April 17, 2014, Committeeman LeMay will be participating at tonight's meeting remotely due to geographic distance.

Chairman Bahou stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss the FY21 budget.

Interim Superintendent Davis began by updating the subcommittee on the recent approval of the Student Opportunity Act by the Massachusetts House and Senate and Governor. The bill provides an infusion of \$1.5 billion into schools over a 7-year period and is aimed at tackling inequity, specifically for school districts with higher percentages of low-income students, English language learners and Special Education. The revised foundation formula reflects an increased per pupil expenditure for the % of ELL, SPED and low income students, resulting in an increase of \$2,175,384 in Chapter 70 funds.

Interim Superintendent Davis also informed the subcommittee that there is a recommended minimum Chapter 70 funds requirement to be spent toward the Student Opportunity Act (1.2 million). With this additional funding, districts are required to provide 3 year plans with measurable targets and goals for closing the achievement gap.

The preliminary FY21 total budget would be \$49,377,974, which is a 5% increase over FY20.

Operating Budget	45,488,315
Transportation	2,372,131
Debt Service	1,417,528
OPEB	100,000

The preliminary FY21 Budget assessment would be:

Min. Contribution	14,281,422
Transportation	803,649
Debt Service	<u>1,417,528</u>
Total	16,502,599

Interim Superintendent Davis reviewed some notable expenditure changes which include Health/Dental Insurance, Retirement System Assessment, and SOA Related items.

Interim Superintendent Davis reviewed the proposed budget priorities. Instructional, technical, and academic spending led the budget expenditure increase, which was expected due to the additional funding through the Student Opportunity Act.

Interim Superintendent Davis began to review the proposed personnel expenditures funded through the SOA. Due to time constraints, the subcommittee has requested another meeting to finish the proposed budget discussion.

The next Finance Sub-Committee meeting will be held on February 20, 2020 @ 5:30 p.m.

MOTION: by Mr. Bahou, seconded by Mr. Giggey to adjourn at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4 Yes, 0 Absent

Respectfully submitted,

Colette Edmonds
Recording Secretary