**Budget Advisory Team**
Meeting Minutes

*February 24, 2016*

*Present:* Sandy Anzalone, Thomas Murphy, Dan Braunscheidel, Michael Byrnes, Jack Cuddihy, Marisa Fallacaro, Jennifer Horschel, Kathy Klopp, Lucinda Karstedt, David Martin, Paul Shephard, Donald Sutfin

*Next meeting:* Wednesday, March 2, 2016, 5:45 p.m., Jr./Sr. High School Cafeteria

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## I. Called to Order 5:50 p.m.

## II. Budget Advisory Team Meeting

### *A. Thomas Murphy announced that the topics for the meeting would be the Athletic Department and Technology Department*

### *B. Athletic Department – Marisa Fallacaro*

- Ms. Fallacaro briefly discussed the benefits of what athletics teaches, which includes opportunities to develop loyalty, school spirit, teamwork, hard work, discipline, sacrifice, leadership, sportsmanship and lifetime appreciation for the arts, sports and a healthy lifestyle.
- Eden offered 49 teams in 2015-2016 – two 7-8-9 teams, 12 modified, 10 JV and 25 Varsity. Four of the teams were privately funded – Fall JV cheerleading, both boys & girls lacrosse and modified wrestling. Former students are participating at Division I, II and III colleges in girls volleyball, softball, wrestling, football, both boys and girls lacrosse, girls swimming and diving, girls soccer, girls tennis, field hockey, girls track and girls basketball. Several athletes have already committed to colleges for the fall of 2016 in both boys and girls volleyball, softball, baseball, boys lacrosse and swimming and diving. In the fall of 2015, nine out of ten Varsity teams earned Scholar Athlete Team awards. Eight of the top ten Class of 2015 graduating seniors were athletes, including the Valedictorian and the Salutatorian.
- In the fall of 2015, 47.7% of our students participated in a sport, which included 25 teams. In the winter of 2015-2016, 24% of Eden students participated in a sport, which included 13 teams.
- For 2016-2017, Ms. Fallacaro is not requesting any money in her budget for equipment or periodicals. She is requesting a total of $107,063 for her budget, which is to include $47,000 for officials, $12,362 for supplies, $6,000 for reconditioning, $9,701 for conference and travel, $12,000 for memberships, and $20,000 for a trainer.
- The proposal shows a slight increase in security costs for additional personnel at contests to assure safety of our students, fans, opponents and buildings. It also accounts for a slight increase in the areas of salaries and the cost of equipment. The proposal includes restoring Varsity football, JV field hockey, and girls JV soccer teams. Team roster sizes will be monitored. Any team that had a roster that was too small would have their season cancelled. Some sports may be able to have a 7-8-9 program. Others may be able to merge. Decisions will be made in June for the fall, October for the winter, and January for the spring, unless an emergency occurs.
- The proposal is less than a 5% increase from last year, keeping in line with the rest of the presentations.
- Some requests have been made by students, coaches, parents and board members to consider adding some sports. Should the district find itself in a stable financial situation, one, some or all of these may be considered: both boys and girls modified lacrosse teams (which are funded by the All-Sports Booster Club), both boys and girls modified track teams, and fall JV cheerleading. All of these were cut three years ago due to the budget,

not low participation. Also to be considered, restoring the extracurricular late run and adding a co-ed rifle team for the winter season.

- Mr. Shephard asked what it would take to add those sports back. Ms. Fallacaro responded that boys and girls modified lacrosse would be about $10,000 total and track and cheerleading would be about $10,000 combined. Lacrosse would require more officials; the cheerleading stipend is about $2,500, and three additional buses for away meets would be about $800. Restoring the daily late run with two buses would be about $20,000. Should the late run be restored, the philosophy of which level practices first may have to be changed. A rifle team is estimated at $15,000 for the first year. The students would use air rifles; however, they cannot transport them on a bus. Adding this as a sport may bring in a different group of students who are not currently in sports. Other requests have been for gymnastics, in-door track and hockey. It might be possible to share a rifle team with North Collins.

### *C. Technology Department – Mrs. Karstedt*

- There is a new process in the Instructional Technology Plan required by NYSED. The plan was changed from a five-year plan to a three-year plan. With the SMART School Bond, it is now an annual plan in a questionnaire format. There are more pieces involved. The current three-year plan is good until June 30th, but the new annual plan is also for this year.
- The Technology Department covers everybody from PK-12, all teachers and anyone who uses technology.
- The computer hardware line (2630) is shown separately from the AV line, although Technology took over the AV line in 2008. AV hardware would be things like projectors. Computer hardware would be servers and things. There is one server that needs to be replaced/recycled this year. There is a recycle/replacement schedule. The State used to allow us to do that anytime. Now the requirement is to do a five-year recycle/replacement. It is a concern, because mandatory computer testing is coming in 2018. This year, we are looking to pilot to see how our systems, teachers, and students will do.
- Keeping up with a six-year rotation has been difficult. Mrs. Karstedt thanked the Board for the additional funds of $127,000 at the end of the last budget year. The money was used to purchase a mobile lab and 27 SMART Boards. Currently, 55 teachers have SMART Boards in their room all the time.
- Regarding the increase in the instructional software line, we get $14.98 per student. The District buys annual subscriptions, rather than much of the software. Three or four years ago, Mrs. Karstedt saw that money needed to be allocated to maintain these programs.
- Mrs. Anzalone noted that it would be difficult to propose anything else in this budget that we cannot support. We do not have the infrastructure to support anything not wireless or any more hardware.
- There was a Capital Project Meeting today with a gentleman from BOCES. He commented that our current WIFI was second hand from another district in 2005. We obtained pieces from other districts that were being thrown out. Our equipment has reached end of life, and we can no longer get support for it.
- Mr. Cuddihy asked if money in the equipment line would be used only for replacing things and not for acquiring additional equipment. Mr. Murphy stated that equipment purchases will be discussed next time. The staffing piece will also be looked at.

## III. Meeting Adjourned at 6:26 p.m.