

**BRISTOL WARREN REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE BUDGET
FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE HYBRID MEETING
MINUTES**

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

A meeting of the Bristol Warren Regional School Budget & Facilities Subcommittee was held on Wednesday, January 19, 2022. Subcommittee Chairperson Sheila Ellsworth called the meeting to order at approximately 6:10 p.m.

Present: Subcommittee: Sheila Ellsworth, Chairperson; and Tara Thibaudeau; Nicky Piper. **School Committee and Administration:** Marjorie McBride, Carly Reich, Victor Cabral; Ana C. Riley, Superintendent; Diane Sanna, Ph. D., Assistant Superintendent; Thomas Wood, Director of Facilities; Anthony Ferrucci, Chief Financial Officer; Rose O'Connor, IT Director; Diana Campbell, Recording Secretary

I. DISCUSSION AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Approval of the Minutes of June 16, 2021 and December 8, 2021 meetings

MOTION: Ms. Thibaudeau made a motion to approve the Minutes of June 16, 2021 and December 8, 2021; 2nd by Ms. Piper. The motion was approved unanimously.

B. FY22 Capital/Facility Projects

- Capital/Facility Project Status
- KMS Gymnasium Floor

Capital/Facility Projects was tabled to later in the meeting.

C. 2022 Budget Subcommittee Meeting Schedule - FYI

Corrections were made to the Meeting Schedule. February and March meetings are planned for February 10 and March 23.

D. Reynolds Building Move Update

Chairperson Ellsworth thanked the Administration and staff for all the work that went into the successful move from Oliver to the Reynolds Building. She stated that the building looks great. Mr. Wood reported that there are still some outstanding items to address at Oliver, but he expects that the Administration will be out of there within the next 10 days.

B. FY22 Capital/Facility Projects

Ms. Ellsworth went back to Item B. FY22 Capital/Facilities Projects. Mr. Wood reviewed the information provided in his report.

- **Capital/Facility Project Status**

Security Cameras: Mr. Wood reported that there was only one bid for security cameras and it was over budget. He will consult with the architect for recommendations.

KMS HVAC Systems and Guiteras Roof Replacement projects will go out to bid on January 27th. He explained that there is a 12-month lead time on roof replacements and that costs are higher than a year ago.

Andrews Concrete repairs will go out to bid on February 8.

Hugh Cole Pavement project is waiting for approvals and review.

Hugh Cole Bathroom renovation and Roof Replacement are still in the Design phase.

Ms. McBride reminded the Subcommittee that the Hugh Cole road was not originally for public use. She suggested re-looking at the project because it's a major change.

Ms. Ellsworth asked if the projects need to go before the Building Committee. Superintendent Riley responded that they are still covered under the previous 5-year plan.

Superintendent Riley asked if the District needed to continue its plans for putting AC in libraries if the libraries could potentially be included as needing renovation in the next 5-year plan. Ms. McBride responded that the AC was originally planned to avoid moldy books due to the air quality in the libraries. Assistant Superintendent Sanna also pointed out that the libraries are used during the summer for summer school and for professional development.

Superintendent Riley announced that there will be a 5-year assessment done in June. She proposes that the District wait to see if there will be a recommendation for major renovations. If approved, the District could qualify for Housing Aid for AC that would be included in the renovation plans.

Chairperson Ellsworth confirmed that the Subcommittee will be reviewing the 5-year Assessment. She suggested looking at other projects to see if they should be included.

- **KMS Gymnasium Floor**

Mr. Wood reported that the KMS Gymnasium Floor was refinished over the holiday break. Chairperson Ellsworth stated that she had heard from parents that were pleased with the quality of the work that was done.

E. Grant Proposals

- ESSER 3

Superintendent Riley stated that she has reviewed the ESSER 3 application amendment. Some of the changes she proposed were:

- Shift Year 1 spending to Year 2, to align better when the actual spending happened.
- Reduce the funds for Interventionists and increase the funds for the classroom support. She stated that she wants more focus on all the students in the classroom instead of targeting specific small groups.
- Move funds from Year 2 to Year 3, so that the Data can be applied where it's needed.
- For Summer programs, she proposed increasing pay for teachers working in the Summer. She is looking to provide 5 weeks of instruction for the Summer program, offering academics in the morning and "camp" in the afternoon.
- Adding MTSS Coordinators as a temporary support. She explained that coaching teachers now helps to build up the support for teaching and learning and gives teachers the skills they need for when the funds are no longer there to support them.

Superintendent Riley will resubmit the ESSER 3 application amendment to the Committee.

Chairperson Ellsworth asked about community involvement. Superintendent Riley responded that public school committee meetings meet the criteria for community involvement. She will provide a narrative to the Committee on the 24th to explain her proposal; details will be provided later.

Ms. Piper asked about Social Workers at the Middle School. Superintendent Riley asked about the purpose of the Social Workers at the middle school and added that a Social Worker was added for the high school.

Superintendent Riley explained that she is looking where the data supports what is being proposed to assess that what is implemented is working.

Ms. Thibaudeau noted that the School Resource Officer (SRO) was removed. Superintendent Riley explained that there will be an SRO in the Budget for next year.

Superintendent Riley continued, stating that she will approach Roger Williams University (RWU) to encourage them to provide grad students enrolled in the Education Program as substitutes. Ms. Thibaudeau asked if the increase in pay for substitutes has made it easier to find substitutes. Superintendent Riley noted that the rate of pay for substitutes is still low, but she will investigate the impact of the recent raise in pay rate

on the ability of the District to find qualified substitutes.

F. FY21 Annual Audit Update

Mr. Ferrucci provided an update on the Audit. He reported that there were a few open items that were requested by the Auditor. These have been provided and he expects to have the audit report by February 10, in time for the next subcommittee meeting. He noted that the Auditor General approved the request for an extension. There were some issues going back to 2020 and 2019, requiring a look back to track the issues and that is taking some time.

G. Standardize Monthly Financial Reports

- Grant Financial Report

In general, Mr. Ferrucci stated that there was nothing new to report. At the March update, he will provide an update on any revisions that were needed and data that will help with planning for next year.

He noted that he added Donation funds to the report. He added that not all grant funds are in the system. Some major grant funds require financial reports in order to be reimbursed. He reported that the District was about 2 months in arrears on some of these reports. He expects to have reports completed and caught up to date by February 1.

- Cash Disbursements

Mr. Ferrucci explained that Cash Disbursements reports are on-line. There were no questions from the committee.

H. Bids / Proposals Review

- Security Updates

Bids for the Security Updates were received on January 14th. The bid proposal was for \$1.9m. The price has gone up due to increases in labor costs and materials.

Ms. McBride explained that RIDE will cover the wiring, but the District will have to pay for the cameras. \$1.6m is eligible for reimbursement at 72%. Ms. McBride asked for the breakdown of the cost by building. She would like to see a deeper analysis before finalizing a proposal. She would like to see a more solid plan. Superintendent Riley offered to find some help to provide a review and to help with prioritizing the security requirements. Mr. Ferrucci offered to look into the RIDE reimbursement and the Pay/Go opportunity that might be available.

II. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Thibaudeau; 2nd by Ms. Piper, at 7:33 PM. All approved the motion. Chairperson Ellsworth adjourned the meeting at 7:33 pm.

Sheila Ellsworth, Chair
Budget/Facilities Subcommittee

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