

**SHELTER ISLAND UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**BUDGET WORKSHOP
March 4, 2019**

Members Present: Thomas Graffagnino, Kathleen Lynch, Linda Eklund, Mark Kanarvogel, Tracy McCarthy and Jason Lones
Others Present: Dr. Christine Finn, Superintendent; Jennifer Rylott, Academic Administrator; Linda Haas, School District Business Leader; Todd Gulluscio, Director of Athletics, Physical Education, Health, Wellness & Personnel; Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer; 0 faculty/staff/ student and 2 community resident/other
Absent: Kathleen Lynch, Board Member; Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk; Nicholas Labrozzi, Student Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by President Graffagnino, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tracy McCarthy read the following Shelter Island School Mission Statement – Engage, Explore, Empower:

We want our students to cherish our small Island community while applying and expanding their learning about, understanding of, and engagement with the wider world. To do this, they must be: ethical and moral individuals; respectful and responsible communicators; creative and analytical thinkers; knowledgeable and literate readers, writers, mathematicians and scientists; participants in and audiences for art, drama, music, athletics, and other artistic, cultural, and social activities; skilled and successful workers and consumers; and committed and active citizens.

Budget Workshop

President Graffagnino opened the meeting by reminding everyone that the 2019-2020 budget is still a work in progress and must be finalized in time for adoption at the April 16, 2019 meeting.

Linda Haas, School District Business Leader explained that the proposed budget is currently \$12,208,377.21, which includes \$55,000 for the possible bus purchase. Ms. Haas then explained that the allowable tax levy is \$10,606,652.80 and this means reductions must be made to stay within the 2% tax cap. Ms. Haas suggested trimming a few areas that would be painless. These areas included – transfer to capital, instructional salary adjustments, special education-other public school, private school transportation, TRS adjustment, and art supplies.

Dr. Finn added additional items that could also be adjusted or removed. These items included – removing the purchase of a bus, removing the Elementary Chairperson stipend, trimming projects and equipment, trimming materials and supplies, reducing the number of additional cameras, and reducing transportation costs by eliminating some of the field trips. At this time, there was a discussion about the projects that are anticipated to be funded by Assemblyman Thiele which includes new lockers in the lower hallway. Dr. Finn pointed out that the monies must still be budgeted for because they must first be spent and then reimbursed by Mr. Thiele. Dr. Finn also reminded everyone that if the purchase of the bus is removed from the budget it will affect the tax levy.

As they reviewed the budget line by line, the members of the Board of Education inquired about several different items. An important item to specifically note, Ms. Eklund asked why the Social Worker schedule is increasing from .80 FTE to 1.0 FTE. Dr. Finn explained that New York State now mandates that all students in grades PK-12 to have access to mental health services and this change will help to satisfy said mandate.

Mr. Graffagnino inquired about whether or not we would be moving forward with the purchase of a bus and Dr. Finn replied that this has not yet been decided.

Visitor Questions

Mr. Craig Wood, a parent of a Shelter Island School student and the town’s tax assessor, asked if the purchase of window film and additional cameras was necessary based on the high cost. Dr. Finn explained that the window film would strengthen the windows creating a delay for an intruder trying to gain access to the building. This delay would give the building occupants more time to react before the intruder is actually in the building. Dr. Finn also stated that the additional cameras are necessary as we currently have blind spots in the building. Mr. Wood asked if there are any grants available for such items and Dr. Finn replied that grants have been written, but none have been awarded. Mr. Wood also asked if there was a needs and risk assessment done at the school, to which Dr. Finn replied that there was indeed such an assessment and these safety measures were strongly suggested in the report.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mark Kanarvogel, seconded by Linda Eklund, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

Call to Order

Mission Statement

Budget Workshop

Visitor Questions

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Deborah Vecchio - District Clerk Pro Tem

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, March 11, 2019, at 6:00 pm, in the Conference Room.

*Adjournment
(continued)*