

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

**BUDGET WORKSHOP
February 28, 2022**

- Members Present: Kathleen Lynch, Margaret Colligan, Katherine Rossi-Snook, Dawn Hedberg, Robert Strauss, and Karina Montalvo
- Others Present: Dr. Brian Doelger, Superintendent; Jacqueline Dunning, District Clerk; Julie Lane of the Shelter Island Report; and 0 faculty/staff/ student and 0 community resident/other
- Absent: Tracy McCarthy; Jennifer Rylott, Assistant Superintendent; Deborah Vecchio, District Treasurer; Luca Martinez, Student Liaison

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by President Colligan, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Robert Strauss 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

Dr. Brian Doelger welcomed everyone to the 2022-2023 Budget Workshop and explained that tonight’s presentation will provide a whole picture of the proposed budget. Topics presented by Dr. Doelger at this meeting were as follows.

- Budget Formation Process
- Accomplishments
- District Administration Budget Goals
- What’s New – Increases
- What’s New – Decreases
- Budget as Presented Thus Far
- Revenue Overview
- #1 Anticipated Revenue Budget with Maximum Possible Tax Levy Increase (1.47%)
- #2 Anticipated Revenue Budget with Maximum Possible Tax Levy Increase (0%)
- #3 Anticipated Revenue Budget with Maximum Possible Tax Levy Increase (1.10%)
- Appropriated Fund Balance History
- Budget Next Steps

Dr. Doelger also reviewed the schedule of the dates and topics for the remaining 2021-2022 school budget meetings. The schedule is as follows.

- March 14, 2022 – Budget Overview and Adjustments
- April 11, 2022 – Budget Adoption by the Board of Education
- May 9, 2022 – Budget Hearing at Board of Education Meeting
- May 17, 2022 – Budget Vote, 12:00 pm – 9:00 pm, School Gymnasium

At this time, Dr. Doelger opened the floor to questions. Robert Strauss asked Dr. Doelger to explain appropriated fund balance. Dr. Doelger explained that this is money in the current budget that wasn’t used and can be assigned to the following year’s budget. Dr. Doelger further explained that any monies not put towards the following year’s budget would then go into reserves.

Next, Dr. Doelger went through the line-by-line budget and provided an explanation for specific lines that increased significantly. In closing, Dr. Doelger again opened the floor to questions of which there were none.

Visitor Questions & Comments – None

Call to Order

Mission Statement

Budget Workshop

Visitor Questions

Before adjourning the meeting, there was a piece of business that needed to be addressed. Dr. Doelger explained that over the last few days, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommended that the mask requirement be lifted and then a few days later, New York State Governor, Kathy Hochul lifted the mask mandate in schools effective March 2, 2022. As the district's current re-opening plan calls for universal masking, the Board of Education discussed the idea of following Governor Hochul's guidance. President Colligan asked if there were any COVID cases in school. Dr. Doelger replied that there were cases, but no one who had been in school recently as the last week was Mid-Winter Break. Dr. Doelger explained that there has been a downward trend in the number of cases.

At this time, President Colligan presented the following resolution.

WHEREAS, on or about November 24, 2021, the New York State Department of Health adopted emergency regulation, 10 NYCRR 2.60, which provides, among other things, that indoor masking may be required under certain circumstances, as determined by the Commissioner of Health based on COVID-19 incidence and prevalence, as well as any other public health and/or clinical risk factors related to COVID-19 disease spread; and

WHEREAS, on or about December 10, 2021, Acting Commissioner of Health Mary T. Bassett, M.D., M.P.H. issued "Commissioner's Determination on Indoor Masking Pursuant to 10 NYCRR 2.60" which, among other things, required "universal masking of teachers, staff, students and visitors to P-12 schools over age two and able to medically tolerate a face covering/mask and regardless of vaccination status"; and

WHEREAS, 10 NYCRR 2.60 was set to expire on February 21, 2022, but was extended through March 2, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Education wishes to memorialize that ordinarily it would be the Board's policy that each Shelter Island Union Free School District teacher, student, staff member and/or visitor generally has the individual discretion to determine whether they will wear a face-covering while on District property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District hereby declares that, effective upon the expiration of 10 NYCRR 2.60 on March 2, 2022, or effective upon its earlier repeal or vacatur, and provided no other law, rule regulation, decision and/or order is subsequently enacted, adopted and/or issued requiring face coverings in P-12 schools, it shall be the policy of the Board of Education that each Shelter Island Union Free School District teacher, student, staff member and/or visitor will have the individual discretion to determine whether they will wear a face-covering while on District property.

Kathleen Lynch made a motion to accept the lifting of universal masking resolution and Robert Strauss seconded the motion.

Before voting on the resolution, Katherine Rossi-Snook stated that she had gone through many different emotions about lifting the mask mandate as she just recently had to isolate with her child due to COVID. That being said, Ms. Rossi-Snook shared that the District has always followed the guidance of the State of New York so why should it stop now.

At this time, President Colligan asked for all those in favor of passing the resolution to lift the mask mandate. The six (6) members present voted in favor of lifting the mask mandate in school and zero (0) members voted against it.

Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Kathleen Lynch, seconded by Katherine Rossi-Snook, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried unanimously

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.


Jacqueline Dunning - District Clerk

The next meeting of the Board of Education of the Shelter Island Union Free School District is Monday, March 14, 2022, at 6:00 pm.