

Blackstone Valley Vocational Regional School District

Budget Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2024

Members in Attendance

Joseph Hall of Bellingham
Edward Cray of Mendon
Joseph Broderick of Blackstone
Gerald Finn of Millville
Tyler Bartlett of Upton
Jacquenette Raad, Assistant Business Manager

Dr. Michael F. Fitzpatrick, Superintendent-Director
Anthony Steele, Asst. Superintendent-Principal
Christopher Pilla, District Treasurer
Nicole Ferguson, Business Manager
Jaime Patriarca, Assistant Business Manager

Members Absent

None

Guests in Attendance

Michele Denise, Vocational Coordinator

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 p.m. by Mr. Hall in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

Approval of minutes from prior meeting

Mrs. Ferguson informed the committee members that minutes from the prior meeting on December 12, 2024 are forthcoming.

Agenda items

Mrs. Ferguson opened the meeting by following up on two inquiries from a prior meeting. The first presentation was for anticipated health insurance adjustments, which included a 2.5% decrease to Harvard Pilgrim rates, and a 6% increase to the Group Insurance Commission (GIC) rates. The second presentation was the count and percentage of how many teachers will be in each step and level on the salary schedule for FY26. A brief discussion ensued regarding both items presented. Mr. Finn requested a summary of the last 3 fiscal year's budget to actual expense be available at a future meeting.

In closing, Mrs. Ferguson directed attention to the Budget Summary for items reviewed to date which showed a preliminary increase of 7.79% from FY2025. At this juncture, the percentage increase reflects initial department requests that will be further evaluated after all requests have been presented. Recommendations will be developed to balance the budget with anticipated revenues at a later date. The next scheduled meeting is set for January 2, 2024 at 4:30 in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

Areas for follow-up:

- Mr. Finn requested a summary of the last 3 fiscal year's budget to actual expense
- Mr. Pilla will reach out to UniBank for consideration of changing credit card machine vendors

Adjournment

Motion: to adjourn made by Mr. Pilla at 5:20 p.m.; seconded by Mr. Finn; voted and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted by,
Jacquenette Raad, Recording Secretary