

Dover School Committee
Meeting of October 22, 2024

Members Present: Jeff Cassidy
 Jessica Hole
 Goli Sepehr
 Kate Cook
 Martha Castle
 Shanakawa Pereira

Also Present: Denny Conklin, Assistant Superintendent
 Dawn Fattore, Business Manager

1) Call to Order

Jeff Cassidy called the meeting to order 6:30 pm.

2) Community Comments - none.

3) PTO Update - Claire Carey gave an update on the work of the PTO.

4) Superintendent Comments - Denny Conklin provided updates on behalf of Beth McCoy and then reviewed upcoming Professional Development opportunities and curriculum development.

5) Financial Reports

- Warrant Report
- FY25 Operating Update as of October 11th
 - Salaries: the majority of salaries have been encumbered and noted variances in several items are a result of: SPED Administration - addition of .3 FTE for Pre-School Director due to current oversight needs of the in-district programs as well as the monitoring of potential SPED identified pre-school aged students; Educators, Classroom - leave of absence, .3 FTE reduction in Multi-Language Learner educator, and conversion of SEL Coach to .5 Adjustment Counselor; Educators, SPED - addition of .2 FTE Occupational Therapist for needs in the Connections Programs; and Guidance - 1.0 Adjustment Counselor.
 - Expenditures: there are two negative variances to note at this time - SPED Services represents the additional services needed for the current cohort of students including those in the Connections Program and Instructional Software is projected to be over budget based on the extension of several curriculum/assessment-based programs expanding to cover K-5.
 - Out of District: tuition encumbrances are reflected for all placements. There are currently 19 placements, one more than budgeted. The total negative variance in tuition costs is approximately \$810,000 comprised of \$630,000 from new placements and \$405,000 from changes in placements. There is also a savings of \$225,000 from students leaving and graduating early. Transportation costs are currently projected to be under budget resulting in the changes in placements. FY25 Circuit Breaker is estimated to be at least \$1.0 million so the District has the funding necessary to cover the variance at this time without requesting additional funds from the Town.
 - Capital Projects Update - the majority of the FY25 flooring project was completed over the summer. The remaining funds are for the stairwells in the 4-5 wing which will be completed during the final flooring replacement project which is on the FY26 capital

Approved 11.19.24

request plan. There are funds remaining on the FY23 Fire Control Panel Replacement project which were allocated for needed device replacements post-replacement. The need for these funds will be evaluated at the end of FY25 and returned to the Town as appropriate.

6) Discussion Items

- School Committee FY26 Budget Guidance - Dawn Fattore asked for any budgeting priorities from the committee members.

7) Action Items

- FY26-FY30 Capital Plan - the draft of the 5-year plan was provided and discussed.

Martha Castle made a motion to approve the FY26-FY30 . Jessica Hole seconded.

24-20 VOTE: 5 - 0

8) Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes: September 24, 2024 - in vote 24-18 change “Policy Manual” to “Chickering School Improvement Plan”
- FY25 Grants - IDEA-SPED 240 \$163,482; Early Child SPED 262 \$8,863; Title I \$13,062; Title II \$5,515; and Title IV \$10,000.

Martha Castle made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda with amendment. Kate Cook seconded.

24-21 VOTE: 5 - 0

9) Informational Items

- October Enrollment
- Dover Sherborn Regional School Committee minutes of September 10, 2024
- Sherborn School Committee minutes of June 4, 2024

10) Items for November 19, 2024 - FY25 Budget

11) Adjournment at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis