

ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Minutes

PLACE: Meeting held via Zoom **DATE:** 17 February 2021 **TIME:** 6:00 P.M.
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: Rich Bshara, chair

1. OPENING
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Roll Call

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE
MR. RICH BSHARA	X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS	X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA		X	
TOTAL	2	1	

Also attending; Superintendent DiBacco, Assistant Superintendent Bergin, Ms. JoAnn Cegan. From ACES; Mr. Tim Howes and Mr. Chuck Petruccione.

2. Public Comments.

There were no comments at this time.

3. Preview and possible action regarding the following items;

A. Update on the 2020-21 Budget

Discussion: Mr. Bshara asked Ms. Joann Cegan to speak on this line item. Ms. Cegan said she has been reviewing for salaries, projections, encumbrances, and other expenses. She told the committee there should be a surplus at the end of the year due to many COVID issues. Ms. Cegan said many things can happen, but she is hoping for very small changes. Ms. Cegan said her reports also includes net of Special Education budget. She said she will be more comfortable giving out numbers and amounts after winter utility bills have been paid.

B. Review of the Insurance Collaborative/Reserve for 2020-21 and discussion of the projection for the 2021-22 year.

Discussion: Mr. Petruccione presented a claims review package to the committee and spoke about their monthly meetings. He said the ACES collaborative as a whole has been doing very well this year. He showed the key line items the committee should be paying attention to, pointing out the positive results for costs. He said changes will always happen, depending on staff. Mr. Petruccione said what they are seeing is exactly what should be showing, after the changes to the contract last year. He said the higher deductible caused a significant shift and will show the cost line being well below what was expected. He reviewed that data that makes up the slide presentation, as well as the prescription rebate that was put in place. Mr. Petruccione said there will be an approximate \$75,000 rebate this year for the new prescription plan. He said this will go directly into the reserve account. He said COVID helped for the reduced amount of claims and has resulted in such great numbers. Mr. Petruccione finished up reviewing the presentation, noting how low claims have been.

He also showed the projection for the coming year as requested. He said this \$4.6 million figures is approximately \$100,000 above the current year. He said as of right now \$1.9 million in the reserve fund is very good. Mr. said to protect on bad claim years the average would be between 15-20% of claims. He said he is requesting a 2.4% increase in insurance premiums. Mr. Bshara asked if there is a number of how many members have met their deductible or are close. Mr. said he can get this number to use as a benchmark.

The committee thanked Mr.

C. Review of the Proposed Budget for the 2021-22 year.

Discussion: Mr. Bshara asked Ms. Cegan to review. Ms. Cegan reviewed the proposed budget for the 2021-22 school year. She went over the budget by location for each school, including all requests, salaries, and expenses. She told the Board, the reports are drafts, and will continue to be edited. Ms. Cegan said the approximate increase will be 3.2%. She asked the committee members to take a look at the reports. Mr. Phipps asked if there are any increases that should be noted. Ms. Cegan said the middle school is requesting a physical education teacher as well as secretary position due to the sixth grade relocation. Superintendent DiBacco said right now there has not been any large additions, it is maintaining the buildings as they are. Mr. Bshara said the expenses should start getting back to a normal spending budget, without COVID and all the grants that were given. Superintendent DiBacco agreed and said we haven't had regular spending in over a year.

There were no other comments or concerns.

4. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn meeting at 7:25p.m.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. RICH BSHARA		X		
MR. CHRIS PHIPPS	1	X		
MR. VINNY SCARLATA				
		2	0	0

Respectfully submitted,

Cassie Venson

Cassie Venson

Recording Secretary

Date 2/21/2021