ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Meeting Minutes

PLACE: Meeting held via Zoom **DATE:** 24 March 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.

2. Public Comments.

There were no comments at this time.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the 2021-2022 budget.

Mr. Bshara turned the meeting over to Ms. Cegan. She guided the committee through the entire budget. She explained increases and decreases. She explained where some salary budgets needed individual adjusting. She said the book the committee was given shows all adjustments, most being decreases. Ms. Cegan said there were a few where the budgeted amount was lower than the actual salary. She discussed the line items in detail, saying adjustments will be made to Middle School staff when sixth grade moves. Mr. Phipps asked about the reduction of aides at this school. The committee agreed this will also change when sixth grade moves. Mr. Phipps asked what the increase in purchase services was. Ms. Cegan told him it will be for student recognition, National Honor Society, and welcoming students' materials. Ms. Cegan said there was a teacher added at the elementary level, as well as the principal salary moving to 100% of salary. She explained any increases to the committee. Ms. Cegan explained changes in staff due to turnover. Mr. Phipps said there will be a need for Social Workers to be added. Ms. Cegan said this should come out of the COVID Grant. The committee went through the budget page by page discussing changes. Ms. Cegan pointed out an increase with the paraprofessional union. She said some employees were added when the outsourced agency was cut. Superintendent DiBacco told the Board the Special Education Department has changed their service delivery and the ongoing professional development has benefited the students. Mr. Bshara asked about unemployment. Ms. Cegan said because these times are so unstable and unemployment benefits have been extended, she increased the budget. The committee discussed the transportation budget, the breakdown of health insurance costs, the auditing budget, curriculum changes, maintenance and IT. Discussion about all budgets being effected by COVID, and ways to improve moving forward took place. The committee said the mayor has discussed to fully fund the budget. Mr. Bshara thanked Ms. Cegan for her detailed report, saying he appreciates how clear she made it for everyone. He said he was good with the budget. Mr. Phipps agreed.

MOTION: To forward the proposed budget to the full Board.

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

MR. VINNY SCARLATA				
		2	0	0

4. Adjournment

MOTION: To adjourn meeting at 7:10p.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

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Recording Secretary

Date 3/27/2021