

**TIMBERLANE REGIONAL BUDGET COMMITTEE AND
TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD**
Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, Sandown
New Hampshire

Joint Meeting
October 22, 2009
7:00 PM

Performing Arts Center
40 Greenough Road
Plaistow, NH

Call to Order

Charles Balanoff, Chairperson of the TRSD Budget Committee called this October 22, 2009 joint meeting of the Timberlane Regional Budget Committee and School Board to order at 7:00 pm. Roll call was taken.

Budget Committee Members Present

Charles Balanoff, Hardave Dhaliwal, Len Mullen, George Murray, Michelle O'Neil, and Catherine Rochford

Board Members Present

Lori Aubrey, Arlene Champey, Robert Collins, Elizabeth Kosta, Michael Mascola, John Paone, Louis Porcelli and Lisa Withee

Board Members not in attendance

William Baldwin and Student Representative Holly Ange

Administrators Present

Richard La Salle, Superintendent of Schools
George Stokinger, Business Administrator
Kathy Smith, Assistant Business Administrator
Nancy Danahy, Director of Human Resources
Edwina Lovett, Director of Pupil Personnel
Elizabeth Rincon, Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel
John Holland, Director of Technology
Linda Heuer, Technology Coordinator
James Hughes, Director of Facilities

Delegations and Individuals

None

Current Business

Mr. La Salle presented an overview of the budget categories as well as an organizational chart of the SAU office. He then outlined the budget drivers that affect the 2010-2011 proposed budget.

Pupil Personnel and Special Education Services

He introduced Edwina Lovett, Director of Pupil Personnel and Elizabeth Rincon, Assistant Director of Pupil Personnel who outlined the services provided by Pupil Personnel which included special education, guidance, school health and psychological services as well as speech pathology, special services administration and special transportation. She outlined the large staff that makes up Pupil Personnel and their expertise. The administration of special services supports the entire school population and provides ongoing professional development and consultation.

Mrs. Lovett reported that Pupil Personnel Services generate revenue through entitlements. They are discretionary grants, Medicaid to schools and catastrophic aid which is anticipated to generate \$1,850,000.

Mrs. Rincon reported the literacy programs near-term goals include decreasing the percentage of students reading below proficient by 10% and reducing the number of specific learning disabilities. The NH Responds Grant is a five-year grant through the Department of Education that provides training to teacher and district Literacy Specialists with instruction in research-based interventions and intensive remedial instruction. She outlined the long-term goals of improving literacy, continuing to lower the

special education identification rates, improving student achievement and decreasing the number of students in out-of-district placements.

Mrs. Lovett then presented the budget re-alignment of accounts for improved accounting practices. She reviewed the medical equipment utilized by the nursing staff and organized a program to replace outdated equipment on a regular basis. She noted the increase in the transportation costs and explained the need to transport specific students to places that no other student is being transported to, including from surrounding districts.

Business Services

Mr. Holland and Mr. Stokinger presented information regarding the current software systems including BudgetSense, financial management, Power School, student information services and the cost to keep these programs running. Mr. Stokinger reported that the Department of Labor audited the 2008-2009 payroll records for the district. In response to that audit a time management system is proposed in the 2010-2011 budget. It would automate the employee time collection process to ensure that the payroll process is in compliance with labor laws. The increase in cost of the new equipment would be approximately \$42,000 with a \$9,800 annual maintenance fee.

Technology

Mr. Holland and Mrs. Heuer presented the technology budget and noted the key initiatives which include a managed wireless system at the Middle and Pollard schools with a single-point system management, automated access point hand-off and easy guest access set-up. They would also like to see the distance learning upgraded and other projects including additional laptop computers for math carts, student response systems for middle school and a video hard disc recorder. Mr. Holland then reviewed each line item of the technology budget.

Human Resources

Mrs. Danahy and Mr. La Salle presented the insurance guaranteed maximum rate (GMR) information for the 2010-2011 budget which included at GMR set at 22.3%. This rates means the medical insurance costs will not increase more than 22.3% overall. This rate will be re-visited in May 2010 and will be set with the actual percentage of change at that time. Mr. La Salle explained the district was disappointed with this GMR and would see alterative solutions.

Facilities

Mr. Hughes presented Facilities' accomplishments which included the Energy Star awards. He outlined the key facilities issues including long term goals that consist of site development of the athletic fields, continued energy program as well as other facilities projects. He outlined the budget drivers and noted the need for improvement on the Danville access and entry roads, and the paving project at Pollard. He outlined building renovations and improvements that should be completed including phase III of the high school locker project, a glass wall installed at the middle school, a natural gas emergency generator install at the SAU office building and re-roofing of the 1912 building roof at Pollard school.

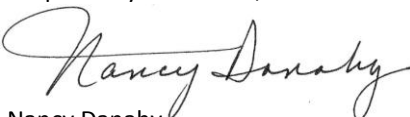
Mr. La Salle addressed the facilities project list noting that long term goals cost are approximately \$6 million and near term goals are at \$2.7 million. Near to immediate costs are at \$1.8 million. The district needs to take a strategic look at addressing this project list effectively.

Proposed Warrant Articles

Mr. La Salle noted that the proposed warrant articles could include the TTA negotiations, with additional articles being the Atkinson Academy kitchen and High School renovations.

Having no further discussion the public session of the joint budget meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk
Director of Human Resources