

**'TIMBERLANE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**2019-2020 Budget Season
December 12, 2019
7:00 PM**

Call to Order

Chairman Mascola called this December 12, 2019 meeting of the Timberlane Regional School District Budget Committee to order at 7:02PM with the roll call.

Roll Call

Present: Peter Bealo, Brian Boyle, Alan David, Julie Hammond, John Hughes, Michael Mascola, Todd McCormick, David Gerns, and Phil Sherwood. Cathy Gorman joined the meeting via telephone at 7:10pm.

Not in Attendance: None.

Administrators Present: Geoff Dowd, CFO/Business Administrator

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Mascola led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Correspondence:

There was no correspondence discussed.

Delegations and Individuals:

There were no delegations and individuals

New Business: (7:06PM)

Proposed Budgets

Pupil Personnel and Student Services – Susan Rasicot, Director of Pupil, Personnel, and Special Education presented both budgets.

Proposed Budgets:

- Student Services Budget was presented at \$3,405,464 which is \$829,229 over the current year budget of \$2,576,235.
- Factors include the following:
 - Contracted Services for a School Psychologist.
 - Outplacement of students due to safety concerns/student integration back to school setting.
 - Implementation of Compass Behavior System which includes hiring of additional staff - six full time Registered Behavior Technicians, one behaviorist and one part time Social worker.

MOTION AND VOTE: Motion to allow Cathy Gorman to join the meeting telephonically, made by Mr. Bealo; second by Mr. Boyle. The motion passed 8-0-0.

The General discussion ensued. Cathy Gorman was able to hear.

Proposed Budgets:

Special Education for the 2020-21 School Year was presented at \$2,285,321.00 which is \$283,232.00 over the current year budget of \$2,002,089.00.

Factors include the following:

- Decrease in student transportation due to an Increase in shared rides which decreases the cost of bus per student.
- The need for vision and speech services which will be provided by the Compass Behavior group.
- The need to provide Chrome books for students with sight and vision impairments for in district and out of district students.

Professional Learning and Curriculum – Sandra Allaire presented both budgets. General discussion ensued Professional learning for the 2020-21 school year was presented at \$197,004.00 with no increase or decrease to the current year budget of \$197,004,00. There are shifts in that budget that represent a need for an increase in professional development and professional learning that connect with the strategic plan.

Factors include the following:

- Decrease due to transitioning away from the curriculum development and into an implementation phase which brings about needs for professional development for Para-educators and Professional Staff.
- Decrease in spending trend with Professional Contracting Services by having in house training.
- Anticipated forecast of projected cost for needs of out of district Professional services.
- Increase need for professional development services for professional staff and para educators.
- Decrease in Title Two funding which supports professional learning and development.

Curriculum – General discussion ensured Curriculum for the 2020-21 school year was presented at \$323,912.07 which represents a decrease of (-\$49,393.74) under the current year budget of \$373,305.81. This is due to the need of supplies connected to elementary and secondary curriculum.

Factors include the following:

- Spending trend analysis and projection of a decreased need for textbooks and the increased need of on-line software programs and blended learning.
- Decrease in secondary curriculum due to spending trend analysis of fees.
- Achieve 3000 is no longer being used and district transitioned to NEWSOLA.

Facilities – Operations Geoff Dowd presented both budgets. General discussion ensured Operations for the 2020-21 school year was presented at \$878,005.00 which is \$137,000.00 over the current year budget of \$741,005.00.

Factors include the following:

- Increase in facility operations, run rate is higher with anticipated projects in district.
- Water- PFOA standards
- Options to explore tapping into public water supplies.

- Discussion about removing snow safely.
- Increase in general repairs due to aging facilities.
- Maintenance and repair on alarm systems.
- Custodial repairs run rate on the higher end.

Facilities -Projects General discussion ensued Projects for the 2020-21 school year was presented at \$2,000,000.00 which is \$969,000.00 over the current year budget of \$1,031,000.00. General allocation between two sites based on SB goal of 2 million.

Factors include the following:

- Proposed projects are field seating along soccer field, Safety netting along fields. (soccer/Lacrosse JV Field). Capital improvement plan to replace/repair windows for high school.
- Welcomed and introduced Gary Paradis the new Facilities Director to answer any questions.
- Discussed replacement/repairs of windows to create better learning environment for students.
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Julie Hammond questioned where placement of netting in which Gary replied near the JV baseball field.

Review of Operating budget – Geoff Dowd Presented. General discussion for the 2020-21 school year was presented at \$75,088,627 which is \$1,759,951.00 over the current year budget of \$73,328,676.00.

Factors include the following:

- Increase in regular education budget
- Special education budget increases due to private education and other professional services.
- Participation in programs at Salem and Pinkerton High School
- Athletics increase due to supplies and equipment
- Student activities- Teacher and specialist salaries
- Summer School no change
- Health services Increase due to equipment and salaries that align with union.
- Community service no change but need to keep on as a line item if needed in future.
- Guidance increase due largely to salaries.
- Psychological services increased due to unique outside professional services.
- Audio Visual Replacing of equipment
- School Board increase related to withdrawal committee transition services.
- Contracted Medicaid service concerns with funding.
- Custodial Salary due to placement of higher skill step.
- Equipment discussion focused on capital improvement.
- Security Services increased due to replacement of equipment
- Insurance line decreased
- Workers comp increase was questioned Geoff Dowd noted, “that placement of RBT’s can go along way with keeping staff safe and help students get the best experience they can on campus.”
- Default budget \$72,620,557.07 discussed - Peter Bealo stated, “not in our jurisdiction how they get to number.”
- Brian Boyle gave a quick synopsis of the default budget stating a decrease is due to Bonds and the Increase due to contractual services.

- Discussed default budget
- Discussed Capital improvement plans
- Question to Gary Paradis referencing Atkinson Academy Boiler

Peter Bealo requested another meeting to further discuss default budget - surveyed room and asked what availability committee members could meet next week. Conclusion: Board will meet Monday December 16, 2019 at 7:30. Geoff Dowd attending another meeting at that time but will try to attend later and expressed his concerns about looking for cuts in budget in such a short turnaround time.

Revenue Budget 2020 -2021

- Not too many changes to summer, evening division and regular day tuition.
- Special Education Tuition another school district coming into our district not sure we can count on that.
- State Revenue increase due to the education grant line item awarded to Sandown
- Building aid is off because of bonds.
- Kindergarten aide no longer qualify for education aide.
- Catastrophic aid not sure of outcome will confirm numbers.
- Medicaid audit review stated too generous with funding. Concerned about sustainability.

In closing Revenue Budget will continue to be reviewed and updated until finalized.

Julie Hammond questioned, "If there is a staff member to research what types of Federal or State grants that may be available to be pursued?" Geoff Dowd replied and discussed the filling of the role Business Operations Coordinator.

Continued discussion about building aid becoming available and funding.

Budget Committee Future Dates:

Peter Bealo commented on Direct Assessment increase of two million and thanked administration who were asked to trim their budget backwards and he Thanked them.

Motion to adjourn at 9:25 all in favor, "Yes"

Budget Committee Future Dates:

December 16, 2019 - 7:30PM at the SAU

December 26, 2019 – 7:00 PM at the SAU

January 24, 2020 – 7:00 PM at the SAU

Motion and VOTE: Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25pm, made by Mr. Bealo. The motion passed unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Geoffrey Dowd
Recording Secretary Pro-tem

The meeting can be viewed by following this link: <https://vimeo.com/379861405>