

Timberlane Regional School District Budget Committee
Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, and Sandown

Regular Meeting
December 13, 2012
7:00 p.m.

30 Greenough Road
Plaistow, New Hampshire
03865

1. Call to Order:

Mrs. O'Neil called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call: Present: Ms. Rochford (arrived 8:05 pm), Mrs. O'Neil Chair, Mr. Francoeur, Mr. Weymouth (arrived 7:25 pm), Mrs. Rothwell, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Lisi and Mr. Barczak. Absent: Mr. Spero. Also present were Mr. Stokinger, Business Administrator and Dr. Metzler, Superintendent of Schools.

3. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Lisi made a motion and was seconded by Mrs. Rothwell to approve the minutes of December 3, 2012 with amendments.
Vote: Five in Favor, one abstain, Mrs. Rothwell.

5. Correspondence: Mrs. O'Neil reported an email was received from Mrs. Caruso requesting information that needed to be addressed by the School Board. Mrs. Green did bring up topics related to that email, in an email of her own, which will be addressed later in the meeting.

6. Delegations and Individuals: None.

7. Unfinished Business: Mr. Stokinger responded to Mrs. Green's email regarding the Athletic Trainers contract stating he was told they had gone out to bid within the past few years however; as Mr. Collins stated to Mrs. Caruso by email, there is no documented evidence of that bid process. The rate increase and double coverage by the Athletic Trainers explained the increase of 8.2%. The larger professional services contracts have been posted on the Budget Committee SharePoint site. Other professional services contracts do not meet the bidding requirement individually. Dr. Metzler reported that he directed Mr. Stokinger and Mr. Fantasia to send the Athletic Trainer contract out to bid this coming spring, not because we aren't happy with the current provider's services, but out of respect to the bidding process. Mr. Barczak agreed the bidding process is best practice for purchasing professional services.

Mr. Stokinger reviewed other types of professional services the school district uses. Dr. Metzler reported reviewing the professional services in the Budget and trying to bring back in house any services we have the staff and/or expertise, such as the YEES program. Mr. Stokinger reported additional professional services covered in the proposed Budget such as the SRO for \$61,000, specialized legal services, specialists for individual student

services such as speech therapists, professional development workshops and IT technical support.

Mr. Stokinger also explained that we don't necessarily go with the low bidders when we do go out to bid because there have been times when it has not worked out well using the lowest bidder. Dr. Metzler stated even the smaller items we do not overpay. We talk daily about different cost items and if there is a less expensive option. Mr. Stokinger reported we sometimes collaborate with other school districts to save money or use in house staff to provide professional development.

Mr. Stokinger addressed additional questions that were emailed. Dr. Wilson also provided some background information regarding special education requirements. Dr. Wilson reported there are two students who require a nurse during transportation.

Mrs. Green questioned why some programs are funded under multiple account numbers? Mrs. O'Neil explained the accounting requirements can cause changes to where the expenses are charged all the time. It is dynamic and there are always reductions in one line that may cause an increase in another line. YEES is split because there are both regular ed and special ed students who are serviced by this program. Mr. Stokinger reminded everyone the YEES program was originally funded with a grant which has since ended leaving the entire cost in the general fund. The YEES contract posted on the SharePoint website is a per student, per day cost for two different time periods.

8. New Business: Mr. Stokinger stated upon additional review of the 2013-2014 Budget by Administration, they didn't produce any additional savings except for the \$1900 which was declined at the last school board meeting. We are currently at 1.98% increase over the current year budget. NHRS plus Health Insurance comes to a 1.3 million increase which means we are actually at a slight decrease except for those two items. Mr. Barczak stated he feels that we are on the edge of cutting programs if we continue to ask for additional cuts. Dr. Metzler stated that he reviewed the Budget and found that additional cuts would cause measurable damage.

Mr. Francoeur made a motion and was seconded by Mrs. Lisi to move the proposed budget of \$64,272,418 to the public hearing.

Vote: Unanimous.

9. Reports of Committees:
 - a. Mrs. Green stated she is circulating a private citizens' petition relative to the SAU budget. Mrs. O'Neil attended the HS concerts on Sunday and really liked the new format. She highly recommends anyone who hasn't seen our musicians perform to attend.
 - b. Mr. Barczak reported the next school board meeting will be held at Sandown Central.
10. Other Business: Mr. Stokinger reported his goal is to report to the School Board next week the Revenue Budget and the Default Budget. The TTA contract will be voted on by the School Board also since the TTA Union has already ratified it. Mrs. Green asked

about the Default Budget would work if voted in. Mr. Stokinger stated that if the Default is higher they can spend however they want. If it is lower than the District would have to live within its means. The Default is not last year's Budget. It is last years adjusted by contractual obligations and reduced by one time purchases. So the bond interest will decrease the Default but the NHRS and Health insurance increases will be added. The Surplus for 6/30/2012 is just under \$2 million dollars which is returned to the taxpayers by requesting less funding the following year. The surplus was made up of \$62,000 in excess revenue and the remainder is unspent budget. Mrs. O'Neil stated \$2 million is only 3% of the Budget and isn't that bad considering how early we are required to make the budget and what a mild winter we had last year. Mrs. Green requested a list of major codes be supplied that factored into the surplus during the next budget season.

11. Future Agenda and Dates: Mrs. Rothwell made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Francoeur to cancel the 12/27/2012 budget meeting. Vote: Unanimous.
The TRSD Public Hearing will be held at the PAC at 7 pm on Thursday January 10, 2013. (Snow date is January 11, 2013).

With no further business to come before the committee, Mrs. Lisi made a motion and was seconded by Mr. Weymouth to adjourn at 8:10 pm.
Vote: Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kathy Smith
Recording Secretary
Approved January 10, 2013