

Timberlane Regional School District Budget Committee

Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, and Sandown

Regular Meeting
December 3, 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: Mr. Spero, Ms. Rochford, Mrs. O'Neil Chair, Mr. Francoeur, Mr. Weymouth, Mrs. Green, Mrs. Lisi and Mr. Barczak Absent: Mrs. Rothwell. Also present were Dr. Metzler, Superintendent and Mr. Stokinger, Business Administrator.

3. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

4. Approval of minutes: Mr. Francoeur made a motion and was seconded by Ms. Rochford to approve the minutes of November 20, 2012 as presented.

Vote: 5 in favor, Mr. Spero and Mrs. Green abstained.

5. Correspondence:

An email was received from Mrs. Caruso but she is looking for information regarding the Athletic Trainer which needs to come from the School Board. Mrs. O'Neil stated Mrs. Green's emailed questions will be addressed later during this meeting.

6. Delegations and Individuals: Mr. Stokinger requested to clarify, for the record from the last meeting, that he misspoke and stated the TTA members did get a step increase when in actuality they did not get a step increase this year.

7. Unfinished Business: Mrs. Green stated reviewing her questions one at a time would be very helpful. Mr. Stokinger wanted to go through them along with his handout. Mrs. Green asked about the increase in the 320 to 340 object codes since 2011. Mr. Stokinger stated the YEES program is driving a large part of that increase. The YEES was originally Grant funded and now it has been in the General Fund a few years and has increased quite a bit. Additional increases in the proposed 2014 320-340 object codes, relate to the new law which states any student from our District who attends a Charter School and requires IEP Services, we are obligated to provide those services. For example if they need speech therapy then we must hire a person or agency to provide those services. 1200-330 was described by Mr. Stokinger as having very little discretionary funds but is used to cover for IEP services. Mr. Stokinger explained that Charter Schools are different from Private Schools (for example St. Mary's Catholic School not SPED private schools)and the new legislation only requires us to provide IEP Services for students in Charter Schools. 1200-330 has increased from \$372k to \$522k. Another example of services we would be required to provide would be if a nurse is required to ride with a fragile student during transportation to and from school. Mrs. Lisi explained that the IEP services are also for students' ages 3 years to 21 years that have an IEP. Dr. Metzler stated that when students move into our District with, for example, transportation services, the costs rise exceptionally fast. Mr. Stokinger referred back to the October presentations which stated the increases are related to Charter Schools, Nurses and Vision services. Additionally the YEES program is in the 320 object code. YEES is not mandated by the State but we do have to do something about Truancy and at risk students. Dr. Metzler explained the

YEES program has been on his radar since September when he realized how cost prohibitive this program has become and has been discussing with Dr. Wilson what our options are, regarding these services to the District. Mrs. Green questioned the benefits of the SERESC dues (\$14k). Mr. Stokinger stated there are a number of services provided by SERESC which we get a substantial discount because we are a member. Dr. Metzler stated SERESC also provides quite a bit of professional development in addition to other services. In the 2013 Budget, there was an increase for Adventurelore for the Freshmen Academy at the HS. Dr. Metzler stated a presentation will be given at an upcoming School Board meeting regarding the details and results of the Freshmen Academy. Dr. Metzler was very impressed by the Adventurelore Program as he attended the Freshmen Academy participation.

Mr. Francoeur noted that we are down \$270 in the 330 object code in Draft #3. Dr. Metzler stated a whole program has been removed in Draft 3 and we will get there later in the meeting.

Mrs. Green questioned what "Employee accommodations" mean. Mr. Stokinger stated we did in Draft 3 remove \$2500 to level fund it and an example would be wireless telephones so the employees are safe in performing their job. Sometimes Primex comes in to review our ergonomics etc.

8. New Business: Mr. Stokinger presented Draft 3 which may answer many of the questions that were coming up. Draft 3 is now at \$ 64,277,782 which is 1.99% over the current year Budget. Mr. Stokinger reviewed the changes made since Draft 2 was presented. Dr. Metzler had recommended increasing the School Board stipends and had made the adjustment in the proposed Budget, to be presented at the next School Board on December 6, 2012. The Budget Committee is two meetings ahead of the School Board in review of the proposed Budget. Mrs. Lisi stated she knows that some of the School Board members actually donate their stipends back to a program that was short funded. The other changes since Draft 2 were cutting an additional Teacher and an additional Speech position along with the associated fringe. Removing the YEES program and hiring 1-2 in house staff members plus benefits to provide those services.

Mr. Barczak noted that without counting the NHRS we are at a .6% increase over the current year Budget which he believes is reasonable.

Mrs. Green questioned the hiring of additional staff at the HS when we have already seen the addition of an Administrator at the HS. Dr. Metzler briefly described his vision for reorganizing the administration at the HS. There was a brief conversation regarding the new administrative model for the HS.

Mr. Francoeur asked some procedural questions regarding when the proposed Budget is actually approved by the Budget Committee.

Mrs. Green asked about unspent funds that have been budgeted and what happens with those funds. Mr. Stokinger explained it becomes part of the surplus which is used to reduce what is requested from the taxpayers.

Mr. Stokinger described an example of unexpected expense, as the well at the Atkinson Academy failed this past Friday and the casing and pump had to be replaced on Saturday at a cost of \$4500.

Mr. Francoeur asked about the amount of money included in the budget to account for the fiscal cliff if the federal government does not get their financial house in order in time. Mr. Stokinger stated he

moved two positions from the federal grant into the general fund. It does not affect the bottom line however it does affect who we ask the money from.

9. Reports of Committees

Ms. Rochford and Mrs. O'Neil reported attending the MS PTSA senior tea which is always popular and a big success. Mr. Barczak reported being impressed with his tour of the Pollard School and the wonderful job done by the staff.

10. Other Business

No other business.

11. Future Agenda and Dates: Next meeting is on Thursday December 13, 2012.

Motion was made by Ms. Rochford and seconded by Mr. Francoeur to adjourn at 8:32 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Smith

Recording Secretary

Approved 12/13/2012