

**TIMBERLANE REGIONAL BUDGET COMMITTEE AND
TIMBERLANE REGIONAL BUDGET COMMITTEE/SCHOOL BOARD**

Atkinson, Danville, Plaistow, Sandown
New Hampshire

**Joint Meeting
October 8, 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 8, 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, Michael Mascola, Louis Porcelli and Lisa Withee

Board Members not in attendance

William Baldwin, Elizabeth Kosta, John Paone and Student Representative Holly Ange

Administrators Present

Richard La Salle, Superintendent of Schools
George Stokinger, Business Administrator
Nancy Danahy, Director of Human Resources
James Hughes, Director of Facilities
Scott Strainge, SIF, Humanities
Kelli Killen, Director of Elementary Education
Anthony DiBartolomeo, Director of Performing Arts Center
Angelo Fantasia, Director of Athletics
Michelle Auger, Principal of Pollard School
Nancy Hart, Principal of Danville School
Jo-Ann Georgian, Principal of Sandown North
Douglas Rolph, Principal of Sandown Central
Kathie Dayotis, Principal Atkinson Academy
Donald Woodworth, Principal of Timberlane Regional High School
Michael Hogan, Principal of Timberlane Regional Middle School

Delegations and Individuals

None

Current Business

Mr. La Salle presented an overview the of the budget process highlighting the district's goals and strategies. He noted the hard work by the staff that goes into creating a budget that is presented to the taxpayers for approval in the March elections.

He then reviewed the budget presentation process that will highlight the upcoming year and clarify changes to any line items. He read aloud the mission statement ***"The MISSION of the Timberlane Regional School District is to engage all students in challenging and relevant learning opportunities, emphasizing high aspirations and personal growth"*** and introduced the staff that work together to bring a responsible budget forward for consideration.

He informed the public that budget recommendations come in many forms including NESAC, NESDEC, CIP as well as the Strategic plan and the Crab tree report. He continued that certain opportunities have presented themselves then noted the cost of living index, staffing, contract negotiations and ARRA funds.

He explained the challenges associated with maintaining a district this size; especially when the current condition of the buildings reflect the absence of preferred maintenance over the past ten years. He clarified short, mid and long term requests

as well as the focus of the goals when considering the changes that must take place in the schools to ensure that they will remain functioning buildings that are conducive to learning. Mr. La Salle highlighted goals and objectives of the maintenance projects as well as the need for prioritizing all projects to have a plan in place to accomplish the necessary projects.

He then reported on the realignment of certain accounts and how the change will be noted within the budget.

Curriculum

Mrs. Killen and Mr. Strainge presented the curriculum and development budget for the district. They discussed professional development, conference attendance and other key issues which included language arts phase three and math for students with a need for additional support. The enrichment program, personnel changes and software needs were also reviewed.

Arts

Mr. DiBartolomeo explained that he is responsible for the Performing Arts Center as well as the district-wide art and music programs. The Performing Arts Center (PAC) offers the community high quality events and he has supported the continued growth of the drama and music program as well as daily music education for 1200 students from the middle and high school with extending music opportunities throughout the district elementary schools.

He reviewed the need for light sets and how they add important value to the education of students. He then presented information on "Smart Music" which would assist students in practicing and continue growth in the music venue. This program would be utilized by all grades and would provide a method for students to report their practice session (time and music) to the teacher for review and immediate feedback which would make this a valuable instructional tool. He then reviewed the changes in the budget noting the "Smart Music" cost of \$21,900 and the annual renewal of \$30 per student cost (700 student licenses).

Athletics

Mr. Fantasia expressed his support for the boys' junior varsity ice hockey and the girls' and boys' ski teams by requesting the school district provide financial support for ice rental and lift tickets. Currently the booster clubs have provided financial support to these teams for the rental of the ice times for practice and games as well as the ski team lift tickets for practice and ski meets. He would like to see the district show their support by assuming these costs. There was mention of asking coach that we have not had in the past.

Elementary Schools

Mrs. Killen introduced her team that included all elementary principals: Kathie Dayotis, Atkinson Academy, Michelle Auger, Pollard School, Nancy Hart, Danville School, Douglas Rolph Sandown Central and Jo-Ann Georgian Sandown North. Mrs. Killen reported that the budget was calculated on a needs basis and provides consistency to all elementary schools. She highlighted the two classrooms in each school (including Sandown North) per year that is updated by replacing all the furniture, updating supplies, etc. The process ensures that the district continue to maintain the schools in a pre-arranged scheduled so that the entire school will be updated in a timely manner. Other increases are for materials that need to be replaced each year, i.e. journals, kits, postage, etc.

Mrs. Killen reviewed each school and noted that due to enrollment Danville will need to add a fifth grade class. Mrs. Hart has inquired with other schools within the district for extra materials to control costs for this project. Sandown North will begin replacing classrooms on a schedule now that it is ten years old.

Secondary Schools

Mr. Woodworth provided details of stage two of the renovations to the labs which will allow the students to design and bring the project through the fabrication stage to completion. This will allow the honing of the students mathematics and physics skills at the same time. The design for this space is in line with the Lavallee Brensinger design for future growth potential. He also would like to have the bathrooms in the 100 and 300 halls upgraded. The driver's education program will require a new vehicle and the Nova Net Read 180 program will need an additional 180 licenses for the struggles students in the evening division.. The final budget markers are stage three of the locker replacements and updating the intercom system for security and privacy so all students and staff can hear the announcements. Long term goals of program development were discussed.

Mr. Hogan talked about the NESDEC report in reference to the library area. He would like to renovate this area that is currently an open concept space that does not allow students to study undistributed. By redesigning the area students would be able to study with fewer distractions. He would like to supplement the transportation cost for the individual grade field trips that are encouraged to occur yearly. Grade six attends Camp Lincoln, grade seven participates in the Ferry Beach project and grade eight attends a holiday play in mid to late December. Fund raisers help students that are in need of financial

assistance to attend the trips. Mr. Hogan was pleased to present an overall reduction in his budget of approximately \$1,400. He thanked the public for their support of the new traffic pattern at the high and middle schools.

Mr. La Salle outlined session two of the budget process that will be held at the PAC on October 22 at 7:00 pm. He also would be glad to provide information to anyone that required clarification on the budget information. Please contact Mrs. Belcher at the SAU office to inquire.

Having no further discussion the public session of the joint budget meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The budget committee meeting resumes at 8:31 pm.

Minutes

The budget committee reviewed the public meeting minutes of the September 10, 2009 meeting.

Motion: Mrs. O'Neil motioned to approve the public meeting minutes of the September 10, 2009 meeting with corrections, Mr. Mascola seconded. With no further discussion, the motion passed unanimously (6-0).

Correspondence

Mr. Stoking reported that he received an email resignations from Mr. Paul D'Amore. Mr. D'Amore noted his inability to attend meetings until after December 2009 as the reason for his resignation from the budget committee. Mrs. Lisa Lambert also resigned from the committee. That means two Sandown members have resigned as well as the Plaistow member leaving six members on the budget committee.

Reports of Committee

None

Unfinished Business

Mr. Mullen inquired if we have a legal quorum and Mr. Stoking confirm that four members equal a legal quorum. Mr. Stoking asked each member to update their email addresses and please notify the SAU office if you are arriving late to a meeting or will not be able to attend.

Mr. Stoking reported that he has posted the open positions in Sandown and Plaistow. Due to this recent change in the membership of the budget committee, Mr. Balanoff will assume the representation from the budget committee to the Facilities and Safety committees.

New Business

Mr. Balanoff inquired if the renovations proposed this evening would be in a warrant article or included in the budget. Mr. Stoking clarified the high school renovations are in the operating budget at this time. Mr. Mullen inquired if the furniture for the high school can be included in a renovation warrant article. Mr. Stoking replied that the monies for both furniture and renovations can be put into a warrant article.

Mr. Mullen asked if a capital reserve fund could be set up for the school replacement furniture project. Mr. Stoking informed him that a separate special purpose fund could be established.

Other Business

Ms. Rochford inquired regarding the Sandown Central project. Mrs. O'Neil and Mr. Stoking clarified that the decision has not been made as yet to include it on a warrant article.

They then reviewed the section of the ballot that would state if the budget committee recommended or if they did not recommended the budget with the vote count of each member.

Mrs. O'Neil inquired if the chair of the budget committee was creating the agenda. Mr. Stoking stated that he puts the agenda together. Mr. Balanoff addresses any special items for the agenda. Mr. Stoking then provides the information to Mrs. Morgan at the SAU office who creates the agenda.

Future Agenda

The next meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2009 at the PAC to begin at 7:00 PM.

With no further business before the board, Mr. Balanoff, Chair adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Danahy
School Board Clerk
Director of Human Resources
Approved October 22, 2009