



Board of Education Regular Meeting

January 29, 2018 7:30 PM
Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137-B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 7:30 PM:

Present Board Members:

Todd Pozefsky
Lois Ruggiero
Erica Gelven
Peter Giannotti
Sandra Luke
Kimberly Russo

Absent Board Members:

Doug Traynor

1. Opening Exercises

1.A. Roll call

Discussion:

Also in attendance were Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Marco Famiglietti, and Student Representatives Olivia Silver and Brett Martin.

Business Manager Carolyn Dickey and Student Representative Kayla Pellegrini were not present.

1.B. Pledge of Allegiance

Discussion:

All stood for the Pledge.

2. Public participation/recognition

Discussion:

The Chair opened the floor to public participation. Several members of a TAG (Talented and Gifted) parents group (Heather Moore, Meredith Adler, and Karin Gosselink) spoke in favor of hiring a part-time TAG coordinator to provide a continuum of differentiated services across the district.

3. Minutes - Approval - Regular Meeting of January 2, 2018

Discussion:

The motion was tabled until the next Board meeting.

Motion Withdrawn: To approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 2, 2018, was withdrawn by Lois Ruggiero.

4. Proposed 2018-2019 Budget

Discussion:

M. O'Donnell distributed copies of her PowerPoint presentation, the Proposed Budget 2018-19, and a budget workbook. She provided a history of the budgeting process, described the content of the packets, and discussed the feedback sessions and actions taken that support that feedback.

Though the focus of the presentation centered on the operating budget, the Superintendent provided snapshots of the Capital Budget (\$476,500 increase) and Debt Service (\$668,103 increase).

She talked about the four major forces driving the budget, staffing/salaries, employee benefits, transportation, and tuition costs.

Adjustments to programs and staffing are proposed in the budget to coincide with declines in enrollment.

Savings in health insurance costs are being realized and should continue to improve through staff participation in a high deductible plan, although final numbers will not be set until April 2018.

Transportation costs are anticipated to increase by 18.51% (\$252,494) but RFPs are currently being accepted for student transportation services. Consolidating services with other districts is being discussed, as is decreasing the number of buses utilized.

Despite a projected decrease in tuition for Vo-Ag/Magnet schools, tuition for special education is anticipated to drive the budget up by \$220,026, a 21.59% increase.

In all, the current proposed operations budget for 2018-19 indicates an increase of 3.48% or \$1,119,969. The Superintendent shared that the proposed budget is based on the needs and goals of the district, aligns with the district's mission, and is sensitive to the fiscal climate. She thanked her team of administrators, business office and central office staff, as well as the Board for their commitment and dedication.

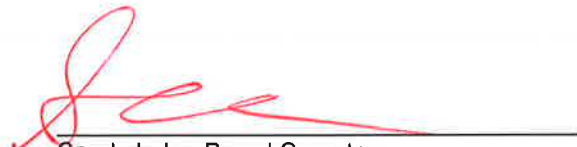
The Board had questions and suggestions regarding transportation, special education tuition, health insurance, and proposed cuts to staff. S. Luke requested a breakdown of athletic participation. The Board thanked administration for their hard work, diligence, and objectivity, and expressed the Board's commitment to doing the same.

5. Adjournment

Motion Passed: To adjourn at 8:55 p.m. passed with a motion by Lois Ruggiero and a second by Peter Giannotti.

6 Yeas - 0 Nays.

Doug Traynor	Absent
Todd Pozefsky	Yes
Lois Ruggiero	Yes
Erica Gelven	Yes
Peter Giannotti	Yes
Sandra Luke	Yes
Kimberly Russo	Yes



Sandy Luke, Board Secretary



Allison Friday, Board Recorder