



Budget & Finance Subcommittee Meeting

March 28, 2018 5:00 PM
Board Meeting Room
Administrative Offices
137-B Glenwood Road
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 5:01 PM:

Present Board Members:

Erica Gelven
Peter Giannotti
Sandy Luke
Lois Ruggiero
Kimberly Russo

1. Call to Order

Discussion:

Administrators present were Superintendent O'Donnell, Assistant Superintendent Famiglietti, and Business Manager Dickey. One member of the public was in attendance.

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance

2. Discussion Related to Budget

Discussion:

Board Chair Gelven stated the purpose of the meeting which was to discuss priority items related to the budget as well as transportation contract update.

Board Member Ruggiero asked a clarifying question about tuition the district pays to magnet schools and whether or not the district can put a cap on the number of students who can attend. The superintendent answered that generally the district cannot refuse enrollment however she would seek clarification on whether or not we can cap the number of students.

Superintendent O'Donnell stated that administrators are looking to find reductions in their operating budgets, including after-school enrichment programs; however, in order to find the savings necessary for a \$300,000 cut, the reductions would most likely need to come from staffing.

Board members discussed various programming cuts to offset the reduction in the proposed budget. The Board discussed areas including elementary world language, health and physical education, administrative positions, athletics, and after-school activities.

Board Member Russo asked what would be the consequences of increasing the minimum class sizes at the high school and the impact on the ability to offer electives.

Board Member Luke asked about the PSAT exam and whether or not it should be under consideration for reduction.

Board Member Ruggiero asked for information regarding next year's utilities projections.

Superintendent O'Donnell invited Board members to send further clarifying questions to her and Board Chair Gelven.

Board Chair Gelven thanked Board members for their participation in this conversation.

3. Transportation Contract

Discussion:

Business Manager Dickey gave an update on the negotiations with the company who submitted their bid for the district's transportation contract. She stated that the negotiations are ongoing and is hoping that by early next week there would be more to report.

Board member Giannotti asked if there was any savings as a result of reexamining the routes based on software analysis. Board member Russo asked about whether or not there are limits on the amount of time students can spend on the bus.

4. General Updates

Discussion:

Board Members set Wednesday, April 4, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. as a follow-up date for a subcommittee meeting.

5. Adjournment

Discussion:

Meeting Adjourned at 6:03 pm

Respectfully submitted by M. Famiglietti