



TOWN OF WORTHINGTON

**Worthington Public Schools
Town Hall
Joint Meeting
School Committee
Finance Committee
February 11, 2015
Minutes**

Board members present: School Committee Chairman John McDonald, Maria Bebee, Debbie Carnes, Alex Lak, Amanda Brooks Clemeno, Finance Committee Chairman Joe Boudreau, Tom Wisnauckas, Alex Lak and Paul Dunlevy.

Present: Fran Gougeon and Alison Todd.

1. Call to Order: John McDonald opened the meeting at 6:41 P.M.

3. Routine Matter

3.1 Approval of past Meeting Minutes: January 5, 2015 minutes were reviewed. Amanda Brooks Clemeno made a motion to accept the minutes. Maria Bebee seconded the motion. All were in favor of accepting the minutes as amended. 0 opposed.

3.2 Correspondence: Arbor Day seedling program, bill for ads, request for a town report from the town clerk due on March 21.

3.3 Superintendent Update: Fran spoke with Chris Lynch from DESE today. Chris stated that Worthington does have an LEA number which will be activated on July 1. The state profile will include name, address and telephone number and will be filled out when data has accumulated. In the interim, all communications will be directed to the Hampshire Regional Office until the Worthington School District has staff in place. Chapter 70 will be taken care of.

4. Budget

4.1 FY Draft Budget Discussion with the Finance Committee

Fran has been working with Craig on a draft agreement that will be in effect for one year once it's voted through by HRSC. Several amendments were made to the draft budget: The Superintendent/Business Managers line was increase by \$6,700 to \$23,500 and the Professional Development line was increased from \$2,000 to \$4,000. This will increase the budget from \$908,164.00 to \$916,664.00

Craig sent a salary schedule from Southampton for us to use as a guide in considering teacher salaries. The salary range is from \$42,000 to \$54,000.

SPED student money is in the budget in case of more SPED students.

The Finance Committee needs to know the increases that are in the town budget, e.g., fringe benefits from health insurance to county retirement. When the final budget is submitted, they need to know what fringe benefits are budgeted for new employees and at what cost. Once the budget is turned in, the Finance Committee will turn it into Dick Wagner and then the Treasurer, who will tweak it further. The School Committee will meet next week to finalize a draft budget and schedule a public hearing. Unknowns are potential school choice enrollment and revenue. Parents should be told that enrolling at RH Conwell or Hampshire Regional includes transportation.

Preschool:

Plan A) The original model didn't have PreK tuition because it was going to be combined with kindergarten, which they assumed would be limited.

Plan B) Two teachers would be added and total salaries and benefits would increase by about \$100,000.00. Tuition would be charged but cannot be relied upon to cover the entire cost of the program.

The Finance Committee and the Recording Secretary left the meeting at 8:30 P.M. A variety of considerations around preschool financing were discussed in the interim.

Motion was made by Amanda Brooks-Clemeno, seconded by Debbie Carnes, to participate in School Choice during the 2015-16 school year in all grades on a space available basis with the number of available seats to be determined after May 1st. Motion passed on a vote of 5 Aye, 0 Nay.

Amanda Brooks-Clemeno informed the committee she would be submitting a letter to resign from the school committee to apply for the principal position.

The Recording Secretary re-entered the meeting at 9:50 P.M.

Present: Chairman John McDonald, Debbie Carnes, Maria Bebee, Alex Lak, and Alison Todd.

Pre-School: It was agreed to budget as originally conceived with two additional paras. John will email Sullivan, Hayes and Quinn to ask the question about the liability issue.

Budget: John will work on the spread sheet. The February 19th agenda will have one item on the agenda: Approving a draft budget for public hearing.

Next meeting: Thursday February 19 at 7:00 P.M.

Alex made a motion to adjourn at 10:10 P.M. Maria seconded the motion. All were in favor. 0 opposed.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Lemieux

Recording Secretary

edited by John McDonald, 2/23/15 and 3/17/15