School Committee Minutes

Bromfield School Teacher’s Lounge

Wednesday, December 7, 2016

5:00 p.m.

Members attending: SusanMary Redinger, Mary Traphagen, Nancy Lancellotti, Jon Green, Patty Wenger, Peter Rowe, and Linda Dwight. Absent: Maureen Babcock.

SusanMary Redinger called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

SusanMary Redinger read the vision statement.

**Budget Review**

School Business Manager, Peter Rowe, reviewed the changes to the offsets in order to bring the budget to an overall increase of 2.46% which is about a 1% decrease from the initial Draft #1 budget.

**Facilities/Maintenance** - Mark Force explained that the Facilities/Maintenance salary budget is down by $320,844 due in large part to the transfer of custodial salaries to contracted services. In addition the overtime budget is down by $8,000 because we have contracted for snow removal. The non-salary expenses increased due in large part to the transfer of custodial services to Durkin Company, the addition of a contract for snow removal, the replacement of a domestic hot water heater at HES and on-going unforeseen HVAC repairs/issues due to aging buildings.

**Pupil Services** – Dr. Harrington explained that the Pupil Services budget increased overall by $124,286. The salaries have increased by $15,422. There was a significant savings due to the elimination of a nurse/van monitor that is no longer required. There was a significant increase due to making the Ell teacher full time. Formerly the teacher was half-time, however, DESE requirements for services and our increase in students who are more limited in English proficiency necessitate the increase in time by a licensed ESL teacher. There is a non-salary expenses increased of 9.43% which was due in large part to an increase in Collaborative tuitions.

The increase in the small capital line is a request to order stand up desks for a middle school classroom.

**Central Office** - Dr. Dwight explained that the Central Office budget increased overall by $50,978 which is a 6.27% increase over last year. The most significant increase is due to the bus contract which increased by $49,707 due to the new contract.

Dr. Dwight and the Committee discussed the Revolving Account budgets which were Athletics, School Lunch, Bridges and Community Education.

The Committee agreed to fund the $21K Athletic account deficit using Devens funds.

The Committee had discussion and decided to fund the HES Long term Substitute for FY18 to maintain class size.

The Committee had discussion around School Choice and decided to maintain the $310,000 School Choice off-set. They will make a decision in March or April as to whether or not they will be open slots for School Choice for the 2017-2018 school year.

The Committee will present the budget as is with the caveat that the Committee could apply an additional off-set from the Devens fund toward any additional increase created by contract negotiations.

Patty Wenger made the motion and Mary Traphagen seconded to vote to present the FY18 budget to the Finance Committee as amended.

VOTE 5/0

SusanMary Redinger seconded by Patty Wenger adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Mary Zadroga