

Finance Committee
10/19/2020

Board members present: Bill Overbay, Anna Sessa, Ben Ford, Jen Flaster, (20:15) Bryce Sammel
Others: Sherry Sousa, Dan Fitzpatrick, Bob Crean

19:38 Meeting called to order

Addend: budget for remote learning needs

Discussion on budget pie chart

- “assessments” (17%) includes paraeducators and a few other items
- assume 15% increase in healthcare costs to be prudent
 - other towns doing similar
 - HRA (health reimbursement account/arrangement saved us \$76k
- assume 2.5% increase for salaries
- discuss raise in tuition of approx. 100 students
 - *needs to be set in/around November and needs to be warned

Priorities for coming years if net gain:

- B&G
 - maintenance/catch up on maintenance of all campuses
 - has fallen by the wayside in years past, need to catch up
 - Prosper Valley
 - to get ~90 kids back into school:
 - \$140-150k for HVAC, some flooring, staff, nurse, admin...(bare bones)
 - \$140+k for carpeting in classrooms
 - \$? gym and kitchen flooring
 - having Castleton teach there still a possibility for incoming funds
- Elementary Spanish
- Staff salaries
- add to “reserve fund”
 - can only be used for staff salaries and B&G
- move grant funded positions to district funded

- request for Dan to assess several surplus situations and their tax implications
 - CLA (common level of appraisal) will affect the tax rates far more than school budgeting

Food Service Program

- discussion on status of presentation given other budget items
- clearly enough interest in program to have board-wide presentation and discussion
- Bill Overbay to head this presentation with Gretchen and Anna to assist

Strategic Plan

- discussion on NESDEC (New England School Development Council)
 - can provide 10-year prediction on student population fluctuations
 - year 1 - \$700
 - year 2 - \$1050
 - year 3 \$1375
- resulting numbers will help board/committees plan projects, outreach efforts, etc. despite current COVID unknowns
- unanimously voted to continue discussion/move forward with NESDEC

20:58 Motion to adjourn (Sessa), unanimous in support, meeting adjourned