



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Finance Committee Meeting AT Tuesday, May 27, 2014

Bloomfield Board of Education 1133 Blue Hills Avenue Board Room, 1133 Blue Hills Avenue ,
Bloomfield, CT 06002

1. Call to Order
2. Consent Agenda
 - A. Review of Finance Committee Minutes: May 8, 2014 2
3. New Business
 - A. Transportation Request for Proposal Results
4. Adjournment

BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS – SPECIAL BOARD RETREAT

Finance Committee

Thursday, May 8, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

Bloomfield Board of Education

1133 Blue Hills Avenue

Board Room

Attendance: M. Williams, Chair Present
L. Mara Present
S. True Absent

Also Present: H. Frydman
J. Thompson
B. Joslyn
B. Silver
E. Pierce

1. Call to Order

M. Williams called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

2. Consent of Agenda

A motion was made by L. Mara and seconded by M. Williams to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2014 meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

3. New Business

A. Discussion of Year-End Proposals

A copy of the Bloomfield BOE Expenditure Report by Major Object was distributed to the attendees. B. Joslyn reported on the line items that will be ending the 2013-2014 fiscal year with a surplus. He specifically highlighted certified salaries, employee benefits, pupil transportation and tuition. L. Mara inquired about the communications account and B. Joslyn explained this account is comprised of expenditures such as telephone, internet and marketing. A discussion was initiated to utilize the surplus of funds to support the needs relative to the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 fiscal years. These expenditures will help reduce the impact on our future budgets; as these are projected to be challenging fiscal years.

The Year-End Expenditures 2013-2014 by Priority Report was distributed to the attendees. B. Joslyn explained how the itemized list incorporates the districts needs as relative to the 2014-2015 Fiscal Year and the 2015-2016 budget planning

process. The report also highlights how each item directly relates to one of the District's Priorities.

One item that is anticipated to receive the most scrutiny is the purchase of a box truck. B. Joslyn explained the truck is necessary to the health and safety of the students as it functions as a transportation vehicle for food to the magnet schools as well as the summer school program. L. Mara inquired if any items from the safety checklist, comprised through a safety audit following Sandy Hook, were included in the itemized list. B. Joslyn commented that some information technology, communication requests and supplies as listed under the Priority III, does support the overall safety of our students. E. Pierce added that over time the district has been upgrading the security cameras in our school to support the ability for the Bloomfield Police Department to connect in and use as a command center in the event of an emergency as part of the Security Grant received in the fall of 2013. L. Mara suggested the board follow up on the safety checklist at a future time and the members agreed.

M. Williams suggested reorganizing the document and condensing the line items. L. Mara requested to review the items as listed under Priority IV – Parent and Community Engagement and inquired if any monies would be allocated to parent engagement. She suggested incorporating programs that would help parents transition within our district schools. E. Pierce commented that funds from the Hartford Foundation Planning Grant will be used for the purpose of parent engagement. In addition, our schools have invested in the employment of School to Community Liaisons, intended to support the efforts of engaging parents and the community.

Additional items that were reviewed and discussed were the replacement of the mobile computer stations with Chromebooks and replenishing the attorney retainer fees. M. Williams referenced the need to incorporate student support programs such as anti-bullying or substance abuse programs. E. Pierce commented that our district, through the federal Elementary Counseling Grant, will be partnering with interns from local universities to provide intervention and preventive counseling services. Furthermore, we are purchasing IEP Direct, a program intended to generate individualized, educational plans for students.

A motion was made by L. Mara and seconded by M. Williams to accept the Year-End Proposal as presented and amended to the Board of Education at the Regular Meeting. The motion was passed unanimously.

4. Adjournment

At 7:50 p.m., a motion was made by M. Williams and seconded by L. Mara to adjourn. The motion was passed unanimously.

M. Williams, Chair