



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE
SPECIAL MEETING

Board of Education Finance Committee Special Meeting AT Thursday, January 25, 2024

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

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order
K. Dunbar
2. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes - Finance Committee Special Meeting - January 10, 2024 2
K. Dunbar
3. Old Business
 - A. Discussion of the 2024-2025 Budget
W. Guzman, E. Pierce and D. Greco
4. Adjournment
K. Dunbar



Board of Education – Special Finance Committee Meeting
Wednesday, January 10, 2024 at 6:00 PM
Bloomfield Board of Education, Board Room
1133 Blue Hills Avenue
Bloomfield, CT 06002

ATTENDANCE: K. Dunbar, Chair Present
T. Mack-Mohammed Present
L. Simone Present

ALSO PRESENT: W. Guzman E. Pierce D. Greco
B. Silver L. Easmon

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

K. Dunbar called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

2. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Finance Committee – October 24, 2023

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by L. Simone for the Finance Committee to approve the meeting minutes from October 24, 2023, as presented.

K. Dunbar	Aye
T. Mack-Mohammed	Abstain
L. Simone	Abstain

The motion was passed 1-0-2.

3. New Business

A. Discussion of the 2024-2025 Budget

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer presented the 2024-2025 budget timeline. Mr. Guzman noted that the presentation date of the FY 24/25 budget to the Town Council has been set for Thursday, March 14, 2024. He also proposed to the Finance Committee consider changing the presentation of the budget to the Board of Education from the regular meeting on February 13, 2024 to a special meeting on February 20, 2024.

Mr. Guzman shared the Major Object 2023-2024 report with the members. This document shows that the major accounts total approximately 91.13% of the total budget.



These major accounts are:

- 01 Certified Salaries
- 02 Non-Certified Salaries
- 03 Employee Benefits
- 05 Pupil Transportation
- 08 Tuition

Mr. Guzman noted a resolution made by the Town Council recommended a 0.5% increase for the Board of Education 2024-2025 fiscal budget. At this time, the Business Office can project costs for some areas of the 24/25 budget such as bargaining unit contract salaries. Projections for current contracts was provided.

For major object 03 – Employee Benefits it was noted that Brown and Brown is the consultant for the Board of Education and Town of Bloomfield. The district is self-insured.

The Finance Committee raised questions relative to the district’s participation in the CIGNA plan versus the State Partnership Program (SPP), the services covered through the current CIGNA plan, services available to reduce costly claims and data available regarding claim drivers.

Mr. Guzman also highlighted the anticipated costs for major object 05 – Transportation. He noted based on the current contracts with Haven (for Special Education) and Dattco, the increase for 2024 -2025 is about \$127,000.

The Finance Committee inquired about buses running at full capacity and if the capacity has returned to “normal” since COVID restrictions were lifted.

Major object 08 – Tuition includes out-of-district placements with both public and private tuitions. It was noted that currently there are 43 out-placements at an average cost of \$93,000 per student (not including bus transportation). Mr. Guzman further discussed the magnet school tuition being capped and the impact on budgeting for the 24/25 budget.

The committee members requested additional information regarding how residency is verified in Bloomfield and if there is regular review of out-of-district placements.

Elisa Pierce, District Grants Specialist and Domenic Greco, Director of Accounting also provided information relative to contracted services and grants.

It was asked what constitutes contracted services and Mr. Greco noted the majority of this account pays the district’s substitutes through Kelly Services (Substitute Teachers) and Delta T (Instructional Assistants) but also include contract service for items such as our printers.



L. Simone inquired about the use of ESSER funds. E. Pierce noted that the ESSER grant funds did pay for the new curriculum for Bridges, Maneuvering the Middle and Open Court.

E. Pierce also noted that sections of the budget can be released to the Finance Committee as they are developed.

L. Easmon also noted more partnership with the Town of Bloomfield in relation to the budget.

It was decided that the changes to the budget timeline will be as follows:

- February 13, 2024 (regular meeting) Public Comment on the Budget
- February 20, 2024 (special meeting) Presentation of the Budget to the Board
- February 29, 2024 (special meeting) Board Deliberations on the Budget

4. Adjournment

At 7:32 p.m., a motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by L. Simone to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously 3-0-0.

K. Dunbar, Committee Chair