



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Board of Education Finance Committee Meeting AT Tuesday, March 26, 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. Conesent Agenda
 - A. Approval of Minutes - Finance Committee Special Meeting - January 25, 2024
K. Dunbar 2
3. New Business
 - A. School Security Grant Revision
K. Wallach 4
 - B. Non-Lapsing Capital Reserve Account
B. Silver and D. Greco 7
4. Adjournment
K. Dunbar



Board of Education – Special Finance Committee Meeting
Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 5:00 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 Absent

ALSO PRESENT: L. Easmon B. Silver E. Pierce
W. Guzman D. Greco J. Titelbaum
W. Shepard-Bannish

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order

K. Dunbar called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

2. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes – Finance Committee – January 10, 2024

A motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar for the Finance Committee to approve the minutes from January 10, 2024 special meeting, as presented.

The motion was passed 2-0-0.

3. Old Business

A. Discussion of the 2024-2025 Budget

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer opened discussions for the 2024-2025 proposed budget. Mr. Guzman noted there was a series of requests from January 10, 2024. The information was compiled into a document and shared with members of the committee.

The committee discussed a percentage based upon consideration of the actual current budget and contractual increases for 2024-2025. There are many fluctuations to determine an actual percentage such as tuition caps for magnet schools, health insurance and legislative funding. Information was discussed regarding education cost sharing and Choice Grant legislative changes.

Mrs. Wendy Shepard-Bannish, Director of Student Support Services shared a presentation regarding rising cost for Special Education services. She noted this is not an anomaly for Bloomfield as many town budgets are being impacted throughout Connecticut. The highest referral rate in Bloomfield is from the Birth – 3



demographic. There is an increase of students with high medical needs. In addition, Bloomfield also has a high number of students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) moving in and out of the district. She noted that 44% of students who are outplaced came into the district with an existing IEP.

She noted the area with highest anticipated cost avoidance in the future is the transition program for students who are ages 18 to 22. The law requires the district to support students up to the age 22.

Some other drivers of the budget include health insurance costs. It was noted that current projections will not be in until mid to late February.

Mr. Domenico Greco, Director of Accounting, pointed out the increase to operations and maintenance from the previous year. They are anticipating a 17.41% increase due to projects that need to be addressed. The Alliance Construction grant stopped several years ago and is no longer funding Alliance districts.

It was also noted that the cost of Kelly subs and Delta T is approximately \$229,000.

Ms. Elisa Pierce, District Grants Specialist and Mr. Greco reviewed the facilities trend analysis which calculates past data to project budget costs for electrical, water, fuel and other utilities. The district is a member of a consortium for diesel fuel.

Ms. Pierce shared information regarding projections for student enrollment, including class size and magnet school costs for 2024-2025.

The Finance Committee requested additional information on the magnet school costs/enrollment versus other districts of a similar size to Bloomfield. Discussion ensued regarding why Bloomfield families are opting for magnet schools.

A Finance Committee members inquired about Minimum Budget Requirement (MBR) which prohibits districts from budgeting less for education than the previous year.

A third meeting was scheduled by the committee for Thursday, February 1, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

4. Adjournment

At 6:24 p.m., a motion was made by T. Mack-Mohammed and seconded by K. Dunbar to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously 2-0-0.

K. Dunbar, Committee Chair

Districtwide Security Camera Upgrade State Grant & Capital Improvement Project

Background:

2021 Identified need to improve security camera system throughout the district. Primarily upgrading old analog cameras and adding new interior and exterior cameras where they never existed.

Timeline:

- November 19, 2021 submitted CIP request to Town Manager
 - Total project estimate \$ 563,500 for FY 23

- December 9, 2022 Submitted CIP request to Town Manager
 - Total project estimate \$ 570,000 funded over 3 years.
(FY 24 \$ 190,000, FY 25 \$ 190,000 & FY 26 \$ 190,000)

- February 1, 2023 Governor announces new round of school security grants
 - Grants are available for public and nonpublic K-12 schools and eligible childcare centers or preschools. A total of \$15 million has been allocated across both programs under this funding round. Since 2013, more than \$88 million has been allocated to these programs.

Funded through State Bonds through DESPP/DEMHS

2023 School Security Competitive
Grant Program (Round 6) sub grant award

Department of Emergency Services & Public Protection
Division of Emergency Management & Homeland Security

- March 15, 2023 presented BOE CIP requests to the Town Council

- April 5th, 2023 submitted security grant application to the State

**Districtwide Security Camera Upgrade
State Grant & Capital Improvement Project**

Building	Replace Existing Old and/or Failed Analog Cameras		Provide New Exterior Digital Cameras for Additional Monitoring		
	Interior	Exterior	Interior	Exterior	Visitor Entrance Video Intercoms
Bloomfield High School	45	1	8	8	3
Bloomfield High School Agriscience Building	5			3	1
Carmen Arace Intermediate and Middle School	37		6	8	2
Global Experience Magnet School	15		4	4	1
Laurel Elementary School	7	1	2	4	1
Metacomet Elementary School	7	2	2	4	1
Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School	7	4		4	3
	123	8	22	35	12

Total Project Budget:

BHS	CAS	GEMS	LES	MES	WECMS	TOTAL
\$178,200	\$141,550	\$57,780	\$49,950	\$49,950	\$64,650	\$542,080

State Grant Summary:

	BHS	CAS	GEMS	LES	MES	WECMS
Total Project Budget:	\$178,200.00	\$141,550.00	\$57,780.00	\$49,950.00	\$49,950.00	\$64,650.00
Reimbursement Rate:	50.00%	50.00%	50.00%	50.00%	50.00%	50.00%
State Share:	\$ 89,100.00	\$ 70,775.00	\$ 28,890.00	\$ 24,975.00	\$ 24,975.00	\$ 32,325.00

Total Project Budget, all schools

Reimbursement Rate (%)

Enter % here from DAS table

State Share, if Awarded

**Districtwide Security Camera Upgrade
State Grant & Capital Improvement Project**

- May 1, 2023 Town Council set FY 24 budget including \$ 95,000 for camera upgrade in CIP funds based on the following grant submission.

Total project budget: \$ 542,080

50% State match: \$ 271,040

Local match: \$ 271,040

- September 27, 2023 received Notice of Grant Award only for Bloomfield High School for \$ 178,200.

2023 School Security Grant

School Name	Total Project Budget	State Share	Local Match
Bloomfield High School	\$ 178,200.00	\$ 89,100.00	\$ 89,100.00
TOTAL:	\$ 178,200.00	\$ 89,100.00	\$ 89,100.00
Town Council FY 2024 Capital Improvement Funds (CIP):			\$ 95,000.00
Balance from BoE 1% Set Aside Account (BoE Capital Non-Lapsing):			\$ (5,900.00)

- March 8, 2024 received Notice of Grant Award Revised for Bloomfield High School for \$ 178,200 and additionally for Carmen Arace School for \$ 141,550.

2023 School Security Grant

School Name	Total Project Budget	State Share	Local Match
Bloomfield High School	\$ 178,200.00	\$ 89,100.00	\$ 89,100.00
Carmen Arace School	\$ 141,550.00	\$ 70,775.00	\$ 70,775.00
TOTAL:	\$ 319,750.00	\$ 159,875.00	\$ 159,875.00
Town Council FY 2024 Capital Improvement Funds (CIP):			\$ 95,000.00
Balance from BoE 1% Set Aside Account (BoE Capital Non-Lapsing):			\$ 64,875.00

Bloomfield Public Schools



Non-Lapsing Capital Reserve Account

History & Current Balance



Non-Lapsing Capital Reserve Account

Legislation

Effective July 1, 2010



Non-Lapsing Capital Reserve Account

Legislation

Effective July 1, 2010

Sec. 10-248a. **Unexpended education funds account.**

1. Allows for the creation of an unexpended education funds account
2. Municipalities can deposit unexpended funds from the prior fiscal year's education budget into this account
3. The deposited amount cannot exceed two percent of the total budgeted appropriation for education for the prior fiscal year
4. Expenditures from this account must be used solely for educational purposes
5. Local boards of education must authorize each expenditure from the account

Bloomfield Town Council Resolution:

ESTABLISHMENT OF NON-LAPSING ACCOUNT IN ACCORDANCE WITH CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTE 10-248a

WHEREAS, Connecticut General Statute 10-248a permits towns to establish a non-lapsing account from unexpected funds from the prior year from the budgeted appropriation for education provided such amount does not exceed 1 (one) per cent of the total budgeted appropriation for education for such prior fiscal year and

WHEREAS, The Bloomfield Board of Education is proposing establishment of such non-lapsing account to be used for capital expenditures to be financed from unexpended funds in an amount equal to 1% of this 2011-12 budgeted appropriations

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Bloomfield Town Council, as fiscal authority for the Town authorizes the non-lapsing account to be used for capital expenditures and to establish within Town's Capital Non-Recurring fund an account in accordance with Connecticut General Statute 10-248a.

Bloomfield Town Council

Non-Lapsing Capital Reserve Account

Non-Lapsing Capital Reserve Account History

As of March 22, 2024:

Total Contributions	\$2,215,000.00
Total Expenditures	\$1,830,739.85
Available Balance	\$384,260.15

Thank you