

## **Finance Committee**

Monday, January 11, 2016 7:30 PM

Finance Committee, L.P. Wilson Community Center, Board Room, 601 Matianuck Avenue, Windsor, CT 06095

1. **Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Moment of Silence**
2. **Audience to Visitors**
3. **Discussion of the 2016-2017 Budget Process and Recommendations from Board Members**
4. **Discussion on 2016-2017 Budget Assumptions**
5. **Adjournment**

## Budget Assumptions 2016 – 2017

**The charge of the Board of Education is to develop a fiscally responsible budget that meets the needs of the Windsor Public School students.**

1. We will continue our commitment to finding efficiencies within the budget.
2. **Enrollment:** 2016-2017 is projected to remain relatively flat or increase slightly.
3. **Staffing & Programs:** Decisions around staffing and program redesign or development will be driven by their potential impact on raising student achievement while honoring the commitment to be fiscally responsible.
4. **Class Size:** The Board of Education will make every attempt to honor class size guidelines.
5. **Health Insurance:** Costs are estimated to rise by approximately 5%.
6. **Contractual Obligations:** Base salaries will increase approximately 3%.
7. **Special Education:** Out-of-district tuition costs are projected to increase by 3%. The goal is to reduce the increase in costs.
8. **Utility costs (heat & electricity):** Projected to remain relatively flat. Over the past two years, the district has reduced the utility cost by over \$400,000 due to better efficiencies in our buildings.
9. **Transportation:** The district has Requested Proposals for the Regular Education Transportation Service. Costs are estimated to rise by 5%. Diesel fuel is estimated to remain at the 15-16 lock-in rate of \$2.16/gallon.
10. **Magnet School:** The tuition line item is projected to remain relatively flat. Enrollment is projected to remain flat or decrease, however, tuition rates are set by the magnet schools and not known until June.
11. **State & Federal Funding/Grants:** Educational Cost Share Funding & Excess Cost Funding is expected to remain flat or decrease for FY 16/17.
12. **Alliance Grant:** The funding from the Alliance grant is expected to be flat and 2016-2017 will be the last year for the Alliance Grant. The Board must advocate for the continuation of Alliance funding to continue for the district through the State of Connecticut and Town of Windsor. It is anticipated that Alliance funds will continue beyond 2016-2017 in the form of the Educational Cost Sharing Grant.
13. **Budget Support and Communication:** The Board of Education agrees, following the approval of the Board's budget, to support the passage of a Board budget to the Town Council and then ultimately the passage of a Windsor Town Budget to the public.