

Woodstock Board of Education
Community Participation Subcommittee, Special Meeting Minutes
Community Forum on 2019-20 Education Budget
February 23, 2019 at 10:00 AM
Woodstock Middle School Cafeteria

In Attendance:

Board of Ed – Megan Bard Morse, Valerie Law, Holly Dearborn, Hans Frankhouser
Administration – Viktor Toth, Janice Thurlow

Guests: Heather Mydlarz, Jeffery Mydlarz, Donna Conover, Crystal Adams, Sonia Greene, Greg Kline, David Fortin, Pat Boyd, Dan Champagne, Jen Mayo, Phillipe Paquette, Christina Gregorzek, Nicholas Bard Stein, Tara Smock, Erin Quinney, Frank Olah, Sarah Gorgone, Dawn Morin, John Dlugosz, Jason Bruce, Joseph C. Musumeci, Karen R. Musumeci, Jennifer Griffin, Amy Favreau, Helen Selmecki, Joseph Adeletta

I. Call to order – 10:01 AM by Joan Fortin

II. Introduction: Goals of forum and budget process – Presented by Megan Bard Morse

III. Budget Presentation: Woodstock Public Schools - Presented by Viktor Toth – (*ask for presentation to be attached*)

Mr. Kline asked for clarification as to the responsibilities for the proposed Coordinator. Mr. Toth responded the coordinator would be responsible for SRBI.

Mr. Dlugosz asked for clarification of class sizes. He also asked when would the BOE be given a budget number from the BOF. Mr. Toth clarified the class size. David Fortin, a member of the BOF stated a number would not be ready till late March or early April.

Mr. Dlugosz asked if the four paraprofessionals that were not being replaced were for SPED or SRBI. Mr. Toth said they were for SPED.

Ms. Quinney questioned as to why the four paraprofessionals were not being replaced. Mr. Toth explained that they were one on one paras for special Ed students and that those requirements were no longer needed.

IV. State Legislators:

Pat Boyd and Dan Champagne spoke primarily about the proposed regionalizing of school districts coming from Hartford. Mr. Boyd felt that smaller districts will be forced to regionalize, and that the amount of school funding coming from the state may be reduced if a district did not regionalize. Mr. Boyd also felt “Regionalization” needed to be better defined. He also talked about the proposal that 25% of the teachers pensions will be charged to the towns.

Mr. Champagne felt state money for new schools or roofs would be tied to regionalization. He also encouraged citizens to write to legislators individually and to the appropriations committee.

Both Pat Boyd and Dan Champagne felt regionalization was being used to send more money to the urban school districts.

Mrs. Bard Morse said that superintendents were already investigating areas where they could share services and are discussing what a regional school district might look like.

V. Overall Questions, Answers & Comments

Other questions, Comments

Amy Favreau asked if anyone is looking at how much is saved in a regional system

Greg Kline stated about 20 years ago the local districts did discuss regionalization but the effort was abandoned due to Prop 46 constraints

John Dlugosz suggested a community meeting, to discuss regionalization.

Erin Quinny noted that the increase to the school budget for non-fixed cost was 1.6%

Frank Olah urged people to come to town meeting

John Dlugosz suggested that the town should broadcast meetings.

VI. Recap, Review & Important Budget Dates – Mrs. Bard Morse reviewed the following dates

March 5, 2019 – Board of Education budget presented to BOF

March 10, 2019 – Board of Education meeting

March 19, 2019 – Combined Budgets presented to BOF

March 28, 2019 – Board of Education Meeting

April 2, 2019 – Public Hearing BOF

April 9, 2019 – Board of Education Final presentation of budget – BOF

May 7, 2019 – Annual Town Meeting

May 9, 2019 - Board of Education Meeting

May 14, 2019 - Referendum

VII. Adjournment Valerie Law moved to adjourn, Joan Fortin second adjourn 11:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Fortin



WPS 2019-20 PROPOSED BUDGET

A group of students are sitting on the floor in a classroom, listening to a teacher standing at the front. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. The text 'INITIAL PROPOSAL' is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters on the left side of the image. Below it, in smaller, bold, black, sans-serif capital letters, is the text 'Initial budget of \$19,148,553 represents an overall 5.24% increase.' On the right side of the image, there are three white diagonal lines of varying lengths.

INITIAL PROPOSAL

Initial budget of \$19,148,553 represents an overall 5.24% increase.

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- A photograph of children boarding a school bus, overlaid with a semi-transparent orange filter. The bus has the number '005' and 'CAP. 7' visible on its side. A child in the foreground wears a shirt with 'WOODSTOCK' printed on it. The scene is set outdoors with trees in the background.
- ▶ Staffing
 - ▶ Health Insurance
 - ▶ Woodstock Academy
 - ▶ Transportation

SIGNIFICANT INCREASES

CLASS SIZE

18-19				19-20			
	Sudents	Classes	Class Size		Sudents	Classes	Class Size
PK	32	2	16	PK	32	2	16
K	77	4	19	K	77	4	19
1	87	4	22	1	77	4	19
2	75	4	19	2	87	4	22
3	79	4	20	3	75	4	19
4	86	4	22	4	79	4	20
5	98	4	25	5	86	4	22
6	99	4	25	6	98	5	20
7	87	5	17	7	99	5	20
8	123	5	25	8	87	5	17

Reinstate a 6th Grade Teacher to address large class size. \$61,391

Reinstate Part/Time Curriculum Coordinator. \$23,625

Reinstate full time Music Teacher at Elementary School. \$36,66

Introduce a Part/Time Assistant Principal at Middle School. \$23,625

Reinstate partial funding for Middle School athletics. \$30,843

Reinstate .5 Custodian \$14,316

Contractual Obligations. \$ 140,483

Not filling 4 Paraprofessional vacancies budget reduction of \$111,239

STAFFING

- ▶ Tuition increase of 3.65% for a total of \$218,517
- ▶ Enrollment increase of 4 students for \$55,572
- ▶ 18/19 Budget Reduction \$71,785
- ▶ Total increase of \$345,874

WOODSTOCK ACADEMY

CT PARTNERSHIP HEALTH INSURANCE INCREASE \$313,428

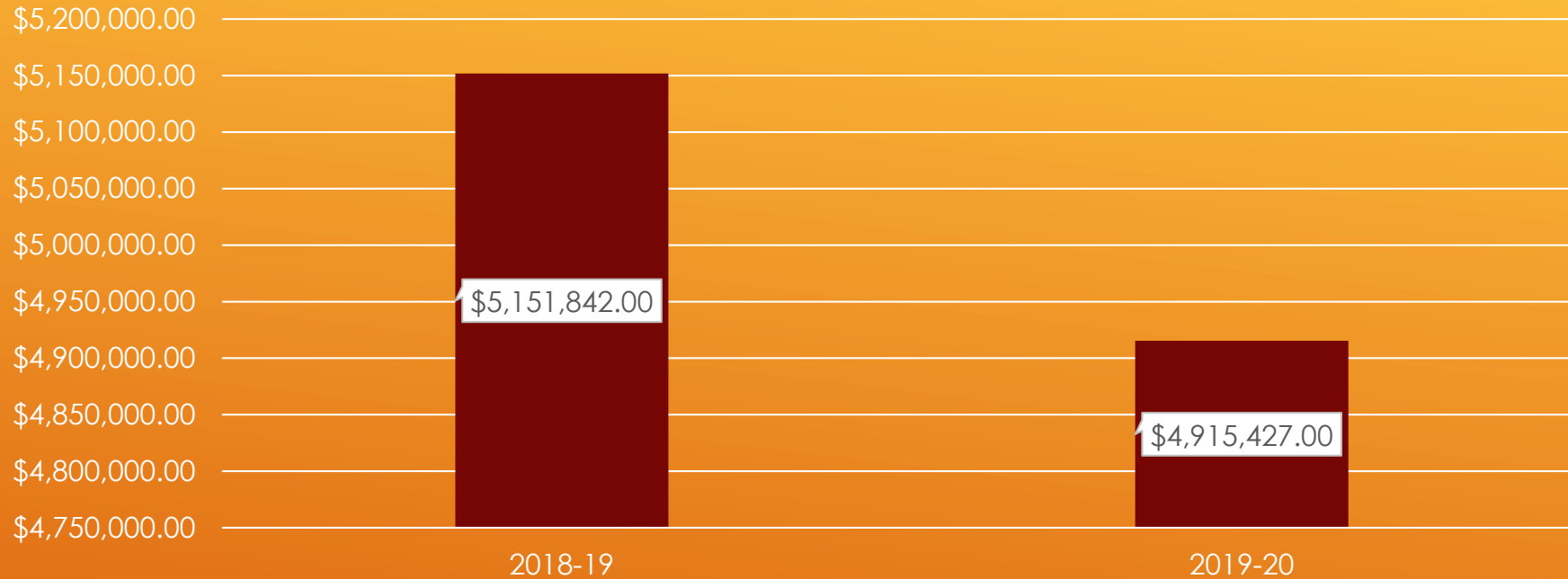
Portion due to budget reductions \$112,739

Projected 8% increase in contribution cost \$200,689

TRANSPORTATION

- ▶ Fuel Costs \$28,866
- ▶ Dattco increase \$60,562

ECS REDUCTION



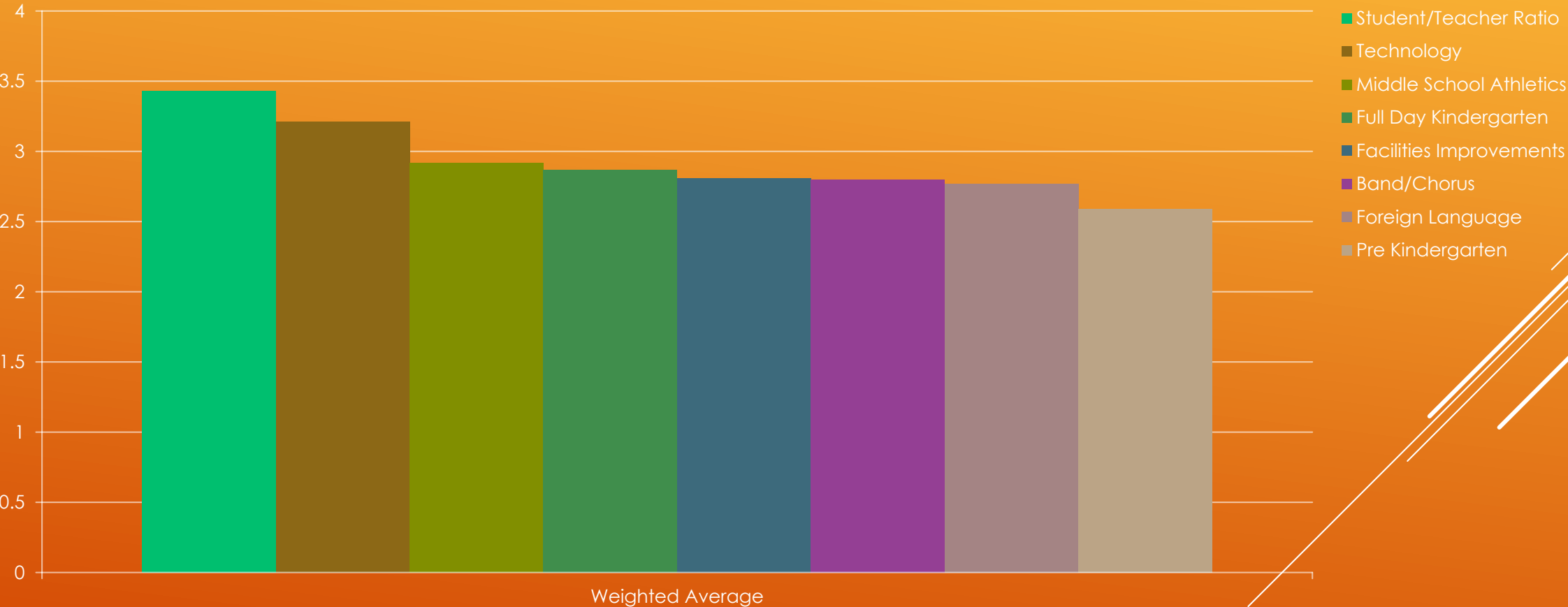
GOVERNOR'S BUDGET PROPOSES A REDUCTION
OF \$236,415 IN STATE EDUCATION FUNDING

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- ▶ Governor's Budget also proposes that towns pick up a portion of public school teacher pensions.
 - ▶ 2019-2020 proposal is an additional cost to the town of \$48,729.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

COMMUNITY BUDGET SURVEY -167 RESPONSES

If funds were available, please prioritize the following categories which you would like to see continued and/or improved in the district?



- ▶ Thursday, February 28, Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
- ▶ Tuesday, March 5, Board of Finance Meeting 7:00 PM, Education Budget
- ▶ Tuesday, March 14, Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
- ▶ Thursday, March 19, Board of Finance Meeting 7:00 PM Combined Budgets
- ▶ Thursday, March 28, Board of Education Meeting 7:00 PM
- ▶ Tuesday April 2, Board of Finance Meeting 7:00 PM, Public Hearing
- ▶ Tuesday April 9, Board of Finance Meeting 7:00 PM, Final Budget
- ▶ Tuesday, May 7, Annual Town Meeting 7:00 PM
- ▶ Thursday, May 9, 2019, Board of Education Meeting
- ▶ Tuesday May 14, Budget Referendum

IMPORTANT DATES IN THE BUDGET PROCESS

- ▶ This initial budget is a 5.24% increase
- ▶ 1.90% of that increase is Woodstock Academy's tuition increase
- ▶ 1.69% of that increase is Health insurance
- ▶ All other accounts are 1.65%

SUMMARY