

FAYETTE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

Budget Workshop Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 28, 2019 - 6:30 P.M. - FCS Library

1. **Call To Order** – Chairlady Wilcox called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

1.1 Pledge of Allegiance

1.2 Roll Call – Present: Matt Charland, Rachael Holland and Elaine Wilcox. Other attendees: Mark Robinson, Brett ?, Jim Wright, Joel Swim, Crystal Rose, and Supt. Joe Mattos.

2. **Budget Workshop**

2.1 Discussion of Draft #4 of the 9/20 Fayette School Department Budget

Supt Mattos explained to the school committee that he did not make any changes in account amounts (\$) from Budget Draft #3 to Budget Draft #4. However, Budget Draft #4 does have some additional written descriptions for some budget lines.

Budget materials that were shared and discussed with the school committee included:

- *Budget Draft #4 of the 19/20 Budget comparing 17/18, 18/19, and 19/20 budget expenses;*
- *A summary of budget information for budget drafts #1, #2, #3 and #4.*
- *18/19 and 19/20 budget Cost Center comparisons showing increases in each cost center. There were significant increases in Regular Instruction (\$88,501) and Special Education (\$85,979).*
- *“Budget Driver” info showing 19/20 budget increases in salaries (\$60,421), Health Insurance benefits (\$22,116), and tuition for grades 6-12 students (\$105,025). Supt Mattos pointed out that these increases total \$187,562, make up 92% of the increase in the 19/20 budget, which is projected at \$207,582.*
- *A breakdown in tuition costs for grades 6-8 and 9-12 at public and private schools.*
- *Summary of revenues and expenses comparing the 17/18 budget, 18/19 budget, and proposed 19/20 budget and costs to the Fayette Taxpayer. Budget #4 would increase the cost of education to Fayette taxpayers by \$161,993, an 8.1% increase over the 18/19 budget.*

Supt Mattos also discussed with the school committee information regarding possible increases (student tuition, special education services, etc.) and decreases (savings in health insurance, using grant funds, etc.) in the next draft of the school budget. He also discussed possible adjustments that would use other revenue sources for balancing the budget. These sources included the Education Capital Reserve Fund (\$118,539) and the Unexpended Fund Balance Funds (\$64,948).

Several questions and issues were raised by Budget Committee members and discussed by the school committee and Supt Mattos. These questions included:

- What impact will current contract negotiations have on 19/20 budget and budget approval timeline?
- Can funds be saved by operating FCS’s school breakfast and lunch program?
- What progress has been made in discussing tuition/IVF rates with private schools?
- When will final budget #s be available for costs such as health insurance costs, fuel, and contract salaries?

- Can more detailed information be provided regarding costs and job responsibilities for some specific staff positions?

It was recommended that a new budget timeline be established to insure that all budget information is accurate and up to date. The following budget timeline was established:

- April 11 Regular Board Meeting – The school committee will make adjustments to Budget Draft #4 based on the list of recommendations provided by Supt Mattos.
- April 28 Budget Workshop – School committee will make adjustments to the 19/20 Fayette School Department Budget.
- April 29 Town of Fayette Public Hearing on Town/School Budget
- May 2 Budget Workshop - School committee makes final budget adjustments and approves the 19/20 Fayette School Department Budget.

3. **Other Business**

3.1 None

4. **Executive Session**

4.1 Motion by Matt Charland and seconded by Rachael Holland to go into Executive Session as per 1 M.R.S.A 405 (6)(D) for the purpose of discussing Fayette Education Association contract negotiations. (8:10 pm)

Fayette School Committee returned to regular meeting at 8:25 pm. There were no motions or further discussions.

5. **Adjournment**

Without objection, Chairlady Wilcox declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

