

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD  
WINCHESTER SCHOOL LIBRARY  
NOVEMBER 17, 2014**

Board Members Present: J. Cardinale, T. Croteau, E. Jackson, R. Horton, **K. Bazan arrived at 6:38 pm.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:09 pm. by Chair, R. Horton for a budget work session.

E. Jackson talked to Harvey Sieran. He advised he doesn't handle the Capital Reserve, but said typically companies charge one fee no matter what is in the account. They will need to check with Sharon.

The Board went through the budget and asked questions.

T. Croteau asked about Reading Improvement.

Val Carey reviewed Books and Printed Materials. Advised they were purchasing a lot of program consumables. She explained as they are making the shift to the Common Core, there are less workbook pages and more hands on work, so there is less money in those lines.

R. Horton asked if we are saving or spending more somewhere else.

Val Carey advised maybe a little of both.

R. Horton asked Val Carey to review lines 11-31 under Curriculum Materials.

R. Horton asked if all courses are Common Core aligned. Advised last year in the sixth grade some things didn't get done before the students moved on to the seventh grade.

Val Carey explained there is some scaffolding that needs to be done in each grade. Teachers are saddled with identifying that students are ready for the topic being taught for Common Core. There is a lot of going back, before going forward. For a little while we are in a position of playing catch-up.

E. Jackson has been hearing that requests are not granted because there is no money in the budget, but there is \$3,000 left.

Val Carey advised there are no requests that are not being granted.

Val Carey – If people need books they can put in a request for them so they can get what they need. Advised they do tell people to look within the building first.

T. Croteau – Want to get away from teachers spending their own money.

J. Cardinale thinks with books, field trips, etc. teachers are under the assumption there is no money. They have to overcome that somehow.

Val Carey thinks \$5,500 for field trips is a lot of money. She compared that to \$4,000 in Math. She thinks there are other ways to accomplish what field trips do. She doesn't want teachers to take field trips just for the sake of taking them.

The Board agreed.

Val Carey thinks they can do field trips for less than \$5,500.

T. Croteau explained part of the money was put there so students don't need to fundraise; this would cover it.

R. Horton advised it is a little frustrating to put money in and hear there isn't any money.

Administration needs to let staff know it is available. Feels Val Carey should advise what field trips are available that align with the curriculum.

Val Carey advised sometimes people take field trips, but get extreme discounts or trips for free. She does see what R. Horton is saying and can talk to the staff.

R. Horton would like a breakdown of field trips and their cost so they can take it to the Budget Committee.

**K. Bazan arrived at 6:38 pm.**

Val Carey advised she can do a survey at the next staff meeting. She is happy to talk with the staff about field trips and do some strategic planning.

R. Horton advised it doesn't look like they are investing as much in Science as in Music.

Val Carey advised they have materials in the building that weren't utilized before; receive free materials as well.

R. Horton – As long as it is not Science teachers holding back on the ordering.

T. Croteau asked about renting instruments. Maybe the School could pay the rental fees; doesn't know what the cost would be.

T. Croteau asked Val Carey to ask Mr. Skrocki what the cost would be.

Val Carey advised they could do a survey.

The Board agreed.

Val Carey will talk to Rob and he can talk to Ellis Music.

The Board will go back and discuss this again when they receive the number from the Music teacher.

**Line 143 – Supplies, Curriculum Development:**

Val Carey feels if they can take assessments that others have tried and used, it can save us time. We would pay a small fee on-line for an assessment that can be tweaked. She discussed putting money in each grade, with the exception of Pre-K for on-line purchases of supplies.

**T. Croteau asked about Line 145 – Conference and Travel CD:**

R. Horton feels it is good to invest in our teachers to attend conferences for professional development.

Val Carey advised there is not a line item for her to attend conferences for professional development.

There are two lines; one for anyone in the Union to use on a first-come-first-served basis for reimbursement and one to attend conferences/seminars.

R. Horton asked if the District can choose the seminars or does it have to be the Union?

Val Carey advised the staff is pretty good about attending workshops, etc. that are held here. Try to get information on what they are looking for. They can use monies out of professional development to attend seminars/conferences.

L. Schmidt advised she received the tuition rates from Keene for next year; they went down in Regular Ed, from \$13,081 to \$12,504 and Special Ed from \$29,000 to \$26,130. Enrollment is going up to 184 – 139 Regular Ed students and 45 Special Ed. There are three 13-yr. students. The figure does not reflect changes and corrections expected in the second half bill.

T. Croteau – Have we taken into consideration Wedgewood with empty apartments? Is there any way to calculate people who will move in; what would we do then?

E. Jackson – Need to keep in mind Vermont Yankee.

J. Lewis advised the current eighth grade has a high Special Ed rate.

T. Croteau advised he doesn't want to be caught off guard. Renovations are being done at Wedgewood and then people will move back.

J. Lewis – We were ready; could have handled 450.

J. Cardinale – In this building we think we can handle it, but what if we pick up more Regular Ed and Special Ed students?

T. Croteau - Should we add in a couple of additional students?

J. Lewis advised they will say we are padding the budget.

R. Horton thinks it is a way to continue to sell the idea of putting money in that SPED acct.

T. Croteau advised we want to be prepared.

The Board agreed to budget for two more Regular Ed students. We will need to explain to the Budget Committee right up-front.

After discussion, the Board agreed they will ask the Budget Committee and advise they are considering an additional number of students. L. Schmidt will add a note to that line item in the budget for the Budget Committee advising the Board strongly recommends adding two more Regular Ed students.

R. Horton asked what they currently pay for Summer School staff.

L. Schmidt advised \$20.00 for teachers and \$10.00 for paras. She is recommending \$25.00 and \$15.00.

R. Horton advised he supports that.

T. Croteau – What if we pay teachers \$25.00 and paras \$13.00?

After discussion, **R. Horton MOVED to pay \$25.00 to teachers and \$15.00 to paras for anything outside their contract; VOTED: 2-3 (E. Jackson, J. Cardinale, T. Croteau - no), MOTION FAILED.**

**E. Jackson moved for the Kindergarten and Summer School teachers to receive their Regular pay and nurses and paras receive \$15.00 per hour; SECONDED by: J. Cardinale, VOTED: 3-2, MOTION PASSED.**

**J. Cardinale Moved to go into non-public session under RSA91-A: 3 II (c) at 7:49pm; SECONDED BY: E. Jackson, K. Bazan – yes, T. Croteau – yes, R. Horton – yes, E. Jackson – yes, J. Cardinale – yes, MOTION PASSED.**

**J. Cardinale Moved to leave non-public session at 8:10 pm. SECONDED BY: E. Jackson, K. Bazan – yes, T. Croteau – yes, R. Horton – yes, E. Jackson – yes, J. Cardinale – yes, MOTION PASSED.**

J. Cardinale asked if we have ordered the salad bar yet. Do we have a new basketball hoop?

J. Lewis – Not yet.

R. Horton advised in non-public session the Board discussed negotiation information.

**K. Bazan MOVED to seal the non-public minutes; SECONDED by: E. Jackson, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

The next Board meeting is Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup> and Keene will be here. The Board will review the budget after the regular School Board meeting. The Board agreed to meet on Tuesday, 11/25 at 5:30pm. to work on the budget.

**K. Bazan MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:11 pm; SECONDED by: J. Cardinale, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins  
School Board Secretary

