

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD  
WINCHESTER SCHOOL LIBRARY  
OCTOBER 28, 2013**

Board Members Present: T. Croteau, E. Jackson, B. McGrath, J. Cardinale, R. Horton arrived at 6:47 pm.  
Administration Present: J. Lewis, L. Schmidt, P. Bigelow, D. Chamberlain

T. Croteau called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm. for the purpose of working on the budget.

E. Jackson advised the Town budget is going very quickly. The Ambulance and Library portions are left and are scheduled for 11/7.

The Budget Committee wants to see the school's completed budget by 11/25.

After discussion, the Board agreed to meet at the following times to work on the budget:

11/5 at 5:30 pm. to 7:30 pm.

11/7 at 6:30 pm. – regular Board meeting; will work on budget.

11/14 at 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

11/21 at 5:30 pm., a small part of the meeting will be to discuss Board business and the remainder will be dedicated to the budget.

J. Lewis advised today they received an e-mail regarding the DOE25. L. Schmidt advised there was one bullet finding; not to say they couldn't find more, but she has already made the correction and sent it back. Two years ago there were three pages of bullet items and last year one and a half pages. Now the tax bills can go out earlier, as far as the school is concerned.

The Board thanked L. Schmidt for her hard work.

The Board reviewed the budget and asked questions.

B. McGrath asked about grant funded positions. How long have we had an In-District Coordinator and how long has it been grant funded?

L. Schmidt explained it is a single year grant; renewed each year. They were told they can no longer use grant funds for that position. They have had the position for several years.

B. McGrath asked if they need to keep the position or could we eliminate it?

J. Lewis advised that person does all the IEP's, supervises the para's, etc.

P. Bigelow – It is basically a Special Ed Administrator.

J. Lewis advised they need the position; we would be out of compliance and hit with fines, otherwise. That person also applies for Medicaid funding.

B. McGrath also asked about the Curriculum Coordinator.

J. Lewis – Dee Salonen was working in that position part-time. We are going to the Common Core; need to get scores up, etc. so the position went to full time

B. McGrath asked does it need to be full time once they establish the curriculum or could it be a part-time position?

J. Lewis – Coordinating the lower grades is a full time job in itself; need to monitor things.

P. Bigelow met with KSC; there are ongoing changes all the time, i.e., professional development, etc.

J. Lewis advised they have already seen gains; scores reflect it.

B. McGrath – Maybe the position could be part time.

J. Lewis feels it would be wonderful if they could do that, but he doesn't see it for next year.

Sue Rice has been told by staff members that the position is invaluable.

P. Bigelow – We look at school data all the time; she goes to all those meetings.

J. Lewis thinks any teacher would agree, it's worth having a full-time person in that position.

L. Schmidt will try to have a clean report and laptop for the next meeting.

R. Horton arrived at 6:47 pm.

Speech person – L. Schmidt advised she budgeted on the high side for that position. If we have to contract with an outside company, the cost will be higher. They are having trouble finding someone.

L. Schmidt explained the Federal Government advises what the grant amount will be each year. She will ask M. Braley about calculation of the grants. The amount is set, but there is some fluctuation.

Audit line – L. Schmidt thinks the columns were shifted backward. She will check on that.

E. Jackson asked about the Superintendent's salary; there is nothing there.

L. Schmidt – it was moved to line 179 - School Administration salaries.

T. Croteau asked if it can be moved back.

J. Lewis – yes.

T.Croteau – Advised it would be more transparent. Costs should be separate for the Superintendent and the SAU.

J. Lewis advised he just received a survey from the State regarding salaries, what is competitive, etc. He will send it to the Board.

J. Cardinale suggested putting a stop sign by Swan/Parker Streets to slow people down.

B. McGrath feels they sold the crossing guard to the voters saying there was a safety issue at Mr. Mikes. Now that the crossing guard has been moved, is the position needed? Feels if we get a stop sign, probably won't need the position.

P. Bigelow feels for the small amount we pay him, well worth it for what he does for our kids.

J. Lewis feels it would be a disaster to take it out and say, but we saved \$3,000.

E. Jackson asked about line 234 - Software Technology; why was that line cut in half?

R. Horton advised there is a lot of software on the cloud now.

R. Horton feels with an \$11.2 million dollar budget we need to find a way to be creative. When we add transportation, KHS tuition, etc., we could be at an \$11,500,000 or \$11,600,000 million dollar budget. He wants everyone to be aware of that.

J. Lewis received a call from Monadnock. He will set up a meeting with them.

For the next meeting L. Schmidt will bring an update of the numbers and the KHS Study Committee will have met with Monadnock.

E. Jackson doesn't think the Furniture line - 217 should be zero for 2012/2013.

L. Schmidt will check on that.

**R. Horton MOVED to go into non-public session under RSA91-A:II 3(a) at 7:28 pm; SECONDED by: E. Jackson, B. McGrath – yes, R. Horton – yes, J.Cardinale – yes, T. Croteau – yes, E. Jackson – yes; MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins  
School Board Secretary