

**WINCHESTER SCHOOL BOARD  
BUDGET MEETING -WINCHESTER LIBRARY  
NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

School Board Members Present: K. Bazan, T. Croteau, L. Picard, H. Griffus

Absent: S. Thompson

Administration Present: J. Lewis, E. Jackson, M. Duprey, V. Carey

K. Bazan called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

J. Lewis advised he was tasked with finding out how much the moderators in other town's receive. He doesn't have that information yet.

After discussion, the Board agreed to schedule the Deliberative Session for Thursday 2/9/17 at 7:00pm. The Board will meet before in the Library at 6:30 pm. and will also meet after the Deliberative Session.

K. Bazan will let the Budget Committee know when the School's Deliberative Session will be held.

K. Bazan asked J. Lewis to check with the attorney as soon as possible to be sure he is available.

Will also discuss the moderator stipend as a full Board and send the moderator a letter.

**Line 5 - Teacher Salaries Regular Ed:**

Line increased by \$38,824 for Health Teacher, PT Language \$19,412 and one Elementary Teacher with salary only, at \$36,498.

J. Lewis explained the Health Teacher would not just deal with physical health, but mental health, too. It is at the top of the list as to what is needed.

November 29<sup>th</sup> meeting with area Superintendents as to how to share resources.

K. Bazan feels a language teacher is a key component to preparing kids for high school. Otherwise they are behind.

J. Lewis advised we are probably looking at two second grades instead of three teachers. Fifty four kids in soon-to-be fourth grade. Need three teachers in the fourth grade. Need to move on getting a teacher.

K. Bazan feels it is important that the public knows it is not just 25 kids in a class, but also teachers and aides, 30 people in a class at all times.

J. Lewis – Not an ideal learning situation.

K. Bazan advised they tried bigger classes. Not necessarily impressed with it.

The School population is 440; held steady from last year. There was only one preschool last year.

L. Picard is afraid that the Foreign Language position will get cut; need a Health and Elementary teacher.

T. Croteau had to leave the meeting at 6:30 pm.

**Line 9 – Health Benefits Teachers:**

E. Jackson advised they received an 8.6% estimate for Health Insurance. Can add that in, but it is only an estimate.

E. Jackson advised currently in Regular Ed \$472,157.70 is the new estimate; 85.15% of today's insurance cost plus 8.6% increase.

**Line 13 – Keene HS Regular Tuitions:**

New figure for Regular Ed is \$13,802 for 38 students and Special Ed is \$31,199 for 14 students.

J. Lewis - It was voted on at the meeting. The increase will be \$414 increase for Regular Ed.

J. Lewis will check to see how many are graduating.

E. Jackson will take the final figures from the bill for next year's Freshmen class.

**Line 14 – Alt Ed Tuition:**

The Board proposed \$10,000 to that line for eight Penn Foster applications at \$1,250 each.

J. Lewis advised will be prudent.

**Line 28 – Changed Line Title to Field Trips:**

**Nature's Classroom:**

Want to send both 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The cost is \$288.00 per student; the school would budget \$200.00 per student.

K. Bazan remembers lengthy conversations regarding commitment from students for the additional cost.

Want them to go, but wanted fundraising for this trip.

V. Carey would like the trip in the Fall, but are uncertain when it will be.

L. Picard – Current fifth and sixth grades could do fundraising.

V. Carey feels it is good for kids to participate.

**Line 29 - Supplies Science:**

V. Carey – Teachers really want some training for best practices. Need some professional time and then would be ready to work with their kids. Monies have not been used the way they would like them used.

K. Bazan feels they should introduce kids to the Science Lab.

**Line 36 - Supplies General Expenses:**

K. Bazan feels they need to encourage the staff to use the line. Don't want to hear there is no money.

E. Jackson purchased a lot of supplies in July when the companies were getting rid of things.

V. Carey will call Tom O'Connor in Hinsdale regarding Foreign Language teacher costs.

K. Bazan is concerned about the Keene tuition number. Need Regular Ed and Special Ed numbers and the difference between this year and next. In December want to be able to show the Budget Committee that number is increasing. Don't have to have an accurate number tonight, but need as accurate a number as possible for the Budget Committee. He wants to present to the Budget Committee the increase in figures that are contractual, numbers we can't control. He wants them broken out separately, just the totals.

L. Picard asked if there was any word from Keene with more details on the AREA?

J. Lewis e-mailed Robb Malay, today; hasn't heard back.

K. Bazan - Need to make sure to discuss it at the KHS meeting tomorrow.

L. Picard asked about aides; how do you determine you need two more?

V. Carey advised it is one more, currently.

**Line 6:**

Two students are served by an aide under a 504 Plan and there could be one additional possibly.

Teacher insurance – what do they pay?

E. Jackson advised 15% of one plan and 7% on another.

General supplies – E. Jackson explained Amy through the Town goes to Cosco and similar places and gets supplies dirt cheap. E. Jackson did set up a Staples account. Advised actually, supplies are mostly cheaper at Wal-Mart.

Fundraising for field trips; even if we did Nature’s Classroom early in the year; could fundraise afterward.

J. Lewis feels it is harder to pitch that after the fact.

**Next Agenda:**

The next Budget meeting will be held on 11/21 at 6:00 pm.

The primary focus will be the 1200 lines; Special Ed and the Athletic Budget.

J. Lewis advised their might be updated information on something else, as well.

L. Picard asked how far they have made it through.

J. Lewis advised they will probably need a couple more meetings with the Board.

After discussion, the Board agreed that the December 1<sup>st</sup> Board meeting will only include a budget component and will begin at 6:00 pm. The next budget meeting after that will be on 12/6 at 6:00 pm.

V. Carey does have the Technology piece to come to the Board on December 1<sup>st</sup>.

**K. Bazan MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 7:30pm; SECONDED by: L. Picard, VOTED: 5-0, MOTION PASSED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Peggy Higgins  
School Board Secretary