

Approved 4-6-16

BOARD OF FINANCE
Minutes
Meeting with Board of Education
March 8, 2016

- I. CALL TO ORDER** - Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman R. Sulich
Members present: R. Sulich, R. Droesch, L. Pecoraro
Members absent: E. Chalfant, P. Tracey
Alternates present: C. Christensen
Alternates absent: W. Chalfant, S. Pelletier

Chairman R. Sulich asked that C. Christensen sit in as a voting member for P. Tracey.

II. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION - None

III. NEW BUSINESS

1. Education Budget 2016-2017

Superintendent Lois Knapton provided the members with folders containing the proposed Education Budget for the 2016-2017 FY, including various charts, and gave a power point presentation of the information.

Highlights of the presentation were as follows:

The budget for 2016-2017 proposed is \$11,471,059, which is an increase of \$24,269 or 0.21%, with the major portion of the increase being salaries/wages/benefits, due to contractual obligations.

Enrollment is turning up, according to New England School Development Council (NESDC), due to the incoming pre-K and kindergarten numbers. There were questions on high school tuition numbers and L. Knapton said she would follow up with more detailed information for the Board of Finance.

The line item for oil has been markedly reduced for the next fiscal year. R. Sulich requested details as to how the figure of \$29,295 was determined, to make sure enough is being budgeted for that line item.

A Para worksheet was included, which shows the number of Para's and their scheduled working hours, as well as whether or not they have insurance coverage. Most of them work 29.75 hours and were hired as part-time. Under Obamacare, anyone working 30 hours or more must have insurance benefits available to them. Some of the Para's are scheduled for more than 30 hours, but have not asked for insurance. R. Sulich is concerned about the expense risk should they decide to opt in.

H. Tuttle asked about the use of solar and that he thought the school had planned to do that. L. Knapton indicated that they had run into engineering issues with the roof which delayed the project, but the Board had recently approved a contract and the solar is scheduled to be installed in June.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

**Motion was made by L. Pecoraro at 8:15 p.m. to adjourn. Second by E. Chalfant.
Vote 4-0-0. Passed.**

R. Droesch / E. Chalfant / D. Norell / L. Pecoraro

Yes Yes Yes Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Bissonnette
Recording Secretary