

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE  
SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.  
Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School Library  
500 Dorset Street**

**PRESENT (Participating Via Zoom)**

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Bridget Burkhardt, Martin LaLonde, Alex McHenry, Brian Minier, Cole Patno, Delaney Rosner

**AMINISTRATION/STAFF (Participating Via Zoom)**

David Young (at FHT library), Delina Gilroy (at FHT library), Gary Marckres, Amadee Denton, Steve Walker (at FHT library), Holly Rouelle, Brent Coon, Mark Trifilio, Karsten Schlenter, David Hyatt, Michael Martin, Joanne Godek, Patrick Burke, John Craig

**GUESTS**

Approximately 131 guests via Zoom including many staff members

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m.

Bridget Burkhardt reviewed the Zoom guidelines for school board meetings including how to ask questions or submit questions for the board in writing.

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

Brian Minier asked about the synchronous meeting times/online group chats the high school teachers were doing with the students and inquired as to whether they would be started up again. Michael Martin said the district is working on clear guidelines for students and parents/guardians and recommending that it be used for advisories and social emotional connections. Patrick Burke said the students have been using some videoconferencing to get their social needs met and there are some places where the district is using videoconferencing to meet educational program needs.

A member of the public asked about the fact that the Education Fund is insolvent and reserves are not sufficient to fully cover Education Fund spending for FY 2021. David Young and Martin LaLonde provided a response.

**COVID-19 UPDATE**

David Young gave an update on the services provided by the district including continuance of learning, food delivery for PreK-12, and childcare for parents and guardians designated as essential workers. Staff members are now wearing masks in conjunction with the new guidance from the CDC.

David Young has heard many stories around connections with students and families as staff are dropping off meals. He said the district has closed the playgrounds at all of our schools as well as our turf field to help with social distancing. He added that the track around the turf field is still open. Board members and community members asked several questions.

David Young said the April school break will still occur the week of April 20-24 so students, staff, and parents/guardians can have some down time.

**CONSIDER FY 2021 SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET**

David Young provided an overview of the FY 2021 budget which is available for review on Zoom and the school district web site. The budget is warned for action this evening. Amadee Denton provided an update on the complete list of questions asked previously by community members.

David Young provided an overview of the proposed budget reductions throughout the district. Board members asked several questions about some of the items still included on the reduction list. Community members also asked a number of questions and provided comments.

Student Representative Cole Patno commented that he is glad that most of the A category on the reduction list has been left intact and he supports this budget.

David Young said he is working with legal counsel and the Secretary of State's Office about the proposed vote date of May 7. He will connect with Donna Kinville, City Clerk, about the vote date.

Elizabeth Fitzgerald polled the board members about waiting to approve the budget until the next meeting on Monday, April 13 to see if the district has additional information from legal counsel on the vote date. She added that this would also allow for time to review the Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office report on Education Finance Issues Raised by the COVID-19 Pandemic and provide additional time for potential virtual meetings with the collective bargaining units.

The board discussed whether they should vote on the budget this evening or if they should wait. The board agreed to wait until April 13 to consider the proposed FY 2021 budget for approval.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Martin LaLonde motioned to adjourn the special meeting and Elizabeth Fitzgerald seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. All were in favor. The motion passes.

The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

---

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Chair

---

Bridget Burkhardt, Clerk