

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SOUTH BURLINGTON SCHOOL BOARD  
THURSDAY, APRIL 28, 2017 at 7:00 P.M.  
Frederick H. Tuttle Middle School Library**

**PRESENT**

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Martin LaLonde, Bridget Burkhardt, Steve Wisloski, Alex McHenry

**ADMINISTRATION/STAFF**

David Young

**GUESTS**

Joseph Blanchette

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board entered executive session at 5:30 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations with teachers and support staff and added that it would be significantly disadvantageous to the district not to do so in executive session. The Board requested that Mr. Young and Mr. Joseph Blanchette attend executive session. The motion was approved.

**Discussion Regarding Labor Negotiations with Teachers and Support Staff**

In: 5:30 p.m.

Out: 6:55 p.m.

No Action

The executive session was closed at 6:55 p.m.

**PRESENT**

Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Martin LaLonde, Bridget Burkhardt, Steve Wisloski, Alex McHenry, Isaiah Hines, Alex Escaja-Heiss

**ADMINISTRATION/STAFF**

David Young, Delina Gilroy, Joanne Godek, Holly Rouelle, Susie Merrick as well as several teachers and support staff members

**GUESTS**

Approximately 45 guests.

**COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

Members of the audience asked about the following items:

- The petitions submitted by the community and when they will be brought to the voters for a vote.
- Will the next vote happen before contracts are settled. Do you have to go forward with a three-year contract or can you settle on a one-year contract.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

- There were no amendments.

**FY 2018 BUDGET**

Mr. Young provided the board with the revised budget and reviewed it page by page.

The following suggestions, questions, and comments were asked.

- Delays on Stewardship Plan this year will be incorporated into future years of the Stewardship Plan.

Page 1

- Of the 16.81 FTEs added in FY 2017; is the \$877,000 fully burdened with benefits?
- Of the additional FTE's, what are the number of those that cannot be cut because they are mandated, required by law.
- FTEs are off by 1 -- Page 12 to Page 1. There is one FTE that is not accounted for -- can that be looked into?

Page 2

- Is there a contingency teacher in the services budget (Page 2)?

Page 3

- Is paraeducator staffing being pulled to do crisis response pilot instead of classroom support. If so, what would the impact be?
  - This is not a pilot program.
  - Risk of incremental expense based on student needs.
- In the services budget the class sizes would increase. Need to document that we will be out of compliance with our class sizes.
- Add the enrollment pages to this packet and relate it back to the class size chart.
- Add the contingent teacher back into the budget.

Page 4

- Students experiencing trauma - Describe how this will be structured and how we will measure success.
- Describe how much of the expenditures are being offset by revenues. What would the budget be without federally funded programs? Possibly a graph with a breakdown with what the programs are.

Page 7

- What is the wording that will be used on the ballot? Focus on what will be on the ballot and explain what it means.
- Clarify all bullet points.
- What does it mean to be out of compliance with the class size policy? Are there any repercussions from the state for going over the suggested class size?
- Do we currently have any class sizes that are outside of the mandate?
- What is the total cost for each sport, including lights, transportation, etc?
- Provide rationale and additional clarity on how priorities were determined. Add a net FTE mandate

Page 9

- Why were certain things prioritized over others?
- How was this approached and why did certain priorities rise to the top?
- Make an assumption on revenue considering the possible loss of tuition revenue.
- Cover page on level funded budget, make note that this is the budget that will be

voted on if the next recommended budget “third vote” is not approved

Page 12

- Services – Describe what these services are. It is the next biggest next to salaries and benefits. Same thing for revenue.
- Define what the terms mean such as “carry over...” so everyone understands how the terms relate to the budget.
- Break out on allocated basis or direct cost basis what it costs to serve the tuition students. (Look at the memo John Aubin provided to the board previously and add some of those facts into this presentation.)

Page 20

- Rebel Nickname – Boys Soccer. Do they have rebels on the uniforms?
- Clarify what we will be doing if we are taking the \$47,914 out of the budget and making what the district currently has in the budget work.
- VPA – What is the answer on the uniforms? Specify what would happen with this.
- Replacement of the scoreboards...
- There is no money in the budget for new uniforms with the rebel identifier.
- Tile in locker rooms on the floors. How will this be changed and where is it in the budget?

General Comments/Questions:

- Documents with teacher ratios are different than the ones on the district web pages. What is the real student to teacher ratio size? Need to better explain this. Provide a table or chart that shows a reference for comparison.
- A student in the audience said colleges look at more than just the core subjects. They look at co-curricular activities.
- Community would like a forum for discussion on negotiations and specific questions. How can concerns/feedback about the negotiations process be provided to the board.
- Communicate the negative tax rate. Possibly put it in 6 or 7 bullet points.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The special meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m.

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Elizabeth Fitzgerald, Chair

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Martin LaLonde, Clerk