

Belmont School Committee Minutes
Finance Subcommittee
November 13, 2012
Conference Room of the School Administration Building

Present: Mr. Kevin Cunningham
Ms. Anne Lougee
Ms. Laurie Slap
Dr. Thomas Kingston, Interim Superintendent
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance

Also present from Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee:

Mr. Michael Libenson
Mr. Raffi Manjikian
Mr. Robert Sarno

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:13 a.m.

2. Update from Central Office team

3. Update from SC representative on Warrant Committee

4. Update from SC representative on Capital Budget Committee

Agenda items 2-4 were combined as part of a discussion with members of the Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee (WCESC).

5. Review of FY13 Results

Mr. DiCologero explained how he had created 3 new line-items in the budget to provide finer distinction re services previously included as part of special education salaries: "Special Education Services Salary", "Special Education HS PM", and "Chenery ITM Program"

Mr. DiCologero also explained the process and timing of encumbering of out-of-district special education services. Mr. Sarno noted that LABBB expenses reported for the 1st quarter of fiscal 2013 are running approximately \$300,000 over budget. Mr. DiCologero said he and Ken Kramer, Director of Student Services, would investigate in more detail how the 1st quarter results match up against budget assumptions.

The group discussed a draft of the Stabilization Fund Protocol that Dr. Kingston had prepared. WCESC members suggested some refinements to the language in the document. The group agreed to review a revised draft at the next joint FSC/WCESC meeting.

Dr. Kingston gave a brief update re the ongoing special education out-of-district placement cost analysis. He reported that 2 staff people from Student Services are working overtime to pull together relevant data. He expects this project to be complete within the next several weeks and will disseminate results to members of the FSC and WCESC.

The group agreed to wait and examine these data before determining whether further cost analysis of the LABBB program is worthwhile.

6. FY14 Budget Update

SC Finance Subcommittee members then raised several topics likely to impact budgets in the near and longer term:

- Rising enrollment numbers will likely impact the FY14 budget. Dr. Kingston noted that class sizes for current grades 5 and 7 are particularly large. He also distributed a report from NESDEC that projects total enrollment to increase next year by approximately 100 students.
- The need for High School renovations will likely gain more attention now that the Wellington project is almost complete and the NEASC report will be released this week.

7. Next Meeting

The group agreed to hold 8 a.m. on December 11, 2012 as the tentative date for the next joint meeting of the WCESC and the SC Finance Subcommittee.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by 
Laurie Slap, Co-Chair