

Belmont School Committee Minutes
Finance Subcommittee
May 26, 2015
Conference Room of the School Administration Building

Present: Ms. Susan Burgess-Cox
Mr. Thomas Caputo
Ms. Laurie Slap
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 a.m.

2. Full Day Kindergarten Tuition Update

Superintendent Phelan asked Finance Director DiCologero to review the analysis he had prepared to calculate the Full Day Kindergarten fee that would be necessary to cover the cost of afternoon Kindergarten should state funding be eliminated. Mr. DiCologero explained that he considered the number of families receiving waivers for kindergarten tuition in his analysis. The Administration recommends that the Full Day K fee be raised to \$3700 should the state grant completely disappear.

2. Rental Fees

The group reviewed the draft proposal to be presented to the full School Committee at the meeting that evening (May 26, 2015). Superintendent Phelan reiterated that he and Mr. DiCologero had met with the groups that would be affected (After School program and Belmont Aquatics Team) to explain the new fee structure and solicit feedback. He said that by and large, the groups recognized that there had been no increases in the last 5-6 years and understood the need to raise fees to cover a small portion of the operating costs.

3. General Student Fees Discussion

Mr. Phelan shared the memo that he received from Food Services Director, Dustin O'Brien, recommending an increase in breakfast and lunch prices by 25 cents. Here too, prices had not gone up in 6 years, and more funds are needed to begin replacement of aged equipment in the school kitchens. This draft proposal would also be presented to the full School Committee in the evening meeting (May 26th).

4. Town Meeting Budget Presentation

The group discussed what topics were important to share with Town Meeting on June 1st before the school budget appropriation was voted. Ideas included a review of the pressures facing the district, 2-3 slides outlining the FY16 budget allocation among broad categories, and a discussion of how the override funds

would be deployed in FY16. The group agreed that since most of the detailed information had been distributed to Town Meeting members a few weeks ago, a summary of the highlights would be most effective.

6. Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to approve.

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by



Laurie Slap