

**Belmont School Committee Work Session Minutes**  
**Finance Subcommittee**  
**January 29, 2015**  
**Conference Room of the School Administration Building**

**Present:** Mr. Tom Caputo (left at 9:20 a.m.)  
Ms. Laurie Graham  
Ms. Anne Lougée  
Ms. Laurie Slap, Chair  
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent  
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance

**Absent:** Dr. Lisa Fiore  
Ms. Elyse Shuster

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 a.m.

**2. FY16 Budget Discussion**

Superintendent Phelan complimented the coordinated efforts between the Town Department of Public Works and the Buildings and Grounds Department of the BPS to successfully remove snow from sidewalks, drive ways, and parking lots of all school buildings so that the students and staff could safely return to school on Thursday following the Monday-Tuesday blizzard.

Superintendent Phelan reported that the Town-wide Financial Task Force (FTF) presented its findings to the Board of Selectmen (BOS) at the BOS meeting on January 26. The FTF report recommendation is that the Town needs additional revenue in the form of an operational override to both maintain the current level of services and invest in capital infrastructure. Following a period of questions/answers BOS chairman Rojas explained that the selectmen will continue to review the report and decide at either their next scheduled meeting on February 2, or one week later on February 9, about putting an operational override question on the April 7 ballot.

At present, the initial amount of available revenue for the BPS is approximately \$990,000. The Town Administrator has indicated to Superintendent Phelan that this figure could increase by approximately \$200,000-\$300,000. Superintendent Phelan informed the Committee that he has had a preliminary discussion with members of the Leadership Council about the budgetary gap between available revenue and what is needed for a level service budget, and will be meeting with them again next week to get more detail on the reduction measures that will be necessary to meet the available revenue.

A joint meeting of the School Committee and the BOS is scheduled for February 9 from 6:00-7:00 p.m. and will include a presentation of a preliminary FY16 available revenue budget for the BPS. The Warrant Committee is scheduled to meet on February 11 at 7:30 p.m. at which time the preliminary FY16 budgets for both the Town and School departments will be presented.

As one means of communicating the FY16 budget information to the parent community Superintendent Phelan and various members of the Committee are scheduled to meet with the PTO/PTA presidents as a group, in addition to attending a PTO/PTA meeting at each school. He is also scheduled to meet in Boston with the parent group of the METCO families.

**3. Approval of Minutes**

On a motion offered by Ms. Slap and seconded by Mr. Caputo, the minutes of January 15, 2015 and January 30, 2015 were unanimously approved, as amended.

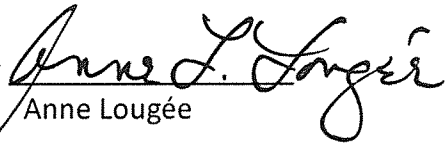
**4. Next Meeting**

The next scheduled meeting of the Finance Subcommittee/School Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3 at 7:30 a.m. in the SAB conference room.

The Subcommittee awaits confirmation from the Education Subcommittee of the Warrant Committee regarding a joint meeting on February 4 at 4:30 in the SAB conference room.

**5. Adjournment**

On a motion offered by Ms. Lougée by Ms. Slap the Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by   
Anne Lougée