

**Belmont School Committee Minutes**  
**Finance Subcommittee**  
**November 4, 2015**  
**Conference Room of the School Administration Building**

**Present:** Ms. Susan Burgess-Cox  
Mr. Thomas Caputo  
Ms. Laurie Slap  
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent (joined the meeting at 8:21 a.m.)  
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance (joined the meeting at 8:21 a.m.)

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 a.m.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

There were no minutes to review.

**3. Review of FY16 Budget and Q1 Actuals**

The group discussed how best to structure its meetings in November and December to prepare for the start of the FY17 budget preparation season and initial meetings with the Warrant Committee and Board of Selectmen.

**4. Temporary Adjournment**

At 7:54 a.m., Ms. Slap entertained a motion to temporarily adjourn the Finance Subcommittee meeting so that the SC members could join a full School Committee meeting, now that Ms. Shuster joined the group and a quorum of the School Committee was present. Ms. Slap explained that the Finance Subcommittee meeting would resume at the conclusion of the full School Committee meeting.

**5. FY16 Budget Discussion Resumed**

At 8:21 a.m., Ms. Slap called the Finance Subcommittee meeting back to order. Superintendent Phelan and Mr. DiCologero joined the meeting at this time. The group continued its discussion of the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FY16 results, and considered how best to tackle the challenge of extraordinary out of district special education costs. All agreed it would be important to submit a request to Town Meeting in the spring to replenish the Special Education Stabilization Fund, in order to prepare for any such situations in future years; and to introduce this idea again at the upcoming Warrant Committee meeting when the Q1 results will be presented.

Superintendent Phelan reported that he plans to reach out to a consultant to gauge whether it appears worthwhile to undertake all the administrative work necessary to seek Medicaid reimbursement (if there are sufficient number of subscribers, reimbursable expenses, etc.)

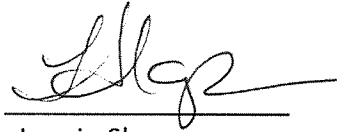
**6. Plans for FY17 Budget Development**

Superintendent Phelan and Mr. DiCologero presented an initial analysis of how the Financial Task Force FY17 budget assumptions compared to the actual FY15 and 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of FY16 results. All agreed with Superintendent Phelan's suggestion that the group examine the School Department's preliminary development of the FY17 budget assumptions in more detail during its meetings over the next 6-8 weeks.

**7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by



Laurie Slap