

# BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES - REVISED

## REMOTE MEETING

April 8, 2022

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: June 8, 2022  
TIME: 3:27 PM

Present: Ms. Amy Checkoway, Chair  
Ms. Meghan Moriarty, Secretary  
Ms. Kate Bowen  
Mr. Mike Crowley  
Mr. Jeff Liberty  
Mr. Jamal Saeh  
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent  
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance, Business and Operations

1. Call to Order by Amy Checkoway at 8:01 AM. Chair Checkoway welcomed newly elected School Committee member Jeff Liberty.
2. FY23 Budget Additional Positions (vote)

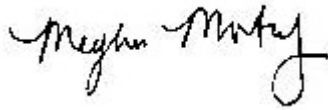
Superintendent Phelan provided an overview of the last Finance Subcommittee meeting with the Warrant Committee's Education Subcommittee, the FY23 draft 1 budget, and subsequent reductions that are reflected in the FY23 draft 2 budget. This is the first time that the district has reduced the staff exchange amount (by \$400,000); staff exchange in this context refers to the amount of money that can be available if staff with higher salaries leave the district and staff with lower salaries are hired, which is not always the case. The district is hopeful that it will receive additional Chapter 70 funds that flow to the town as well as additional Medicaid monies. In addition to the reductions from the draft 1 budget, Member Moriarty recommended that the School Committee reduce out-of-district (OOD) by \$200,000 from \$1.5M to \$1.3M. Then, the School Committee discussed the 6.2 FTE which are being proposed as potential additions for next school year. All 6.2 positions are priorities in order to meet the increased mental health and academic recovery needs of Belmont students.

To finalize the FY23 budget, the School Committee is asked to vote to include all 6.2 FTEs or a subset of these (3.2 FTEs); this is not a vote on the full FY23 budget. After discussion by the School Committee, Jamal Saeh moved to **REDUCE THE OOD IN THE FY23 BUDGET BY \$200,000 AND APPROVE THE 3.2 FTEs, KEEPING THE OTHER THREE POSITIONS ON A LIST OF PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE HIRING IF ADDITIONAL FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE.** Mike Crowley suggested an amendment to Saeh's motion to retain the 6.2 FTEs in the FY23 budget. Jamal Saeh did not accept the amendment. Chair Checkoway asked if there is a second for the motion made by Jamal Saeh. Meg Moriarty seconded. A vote was taken and the outcome was a **3-3 split**: Moriarty, Saeh, Checkoway in favor; Bowen, Crowley, Liberty against.

**Mike Crowley made a motion to INCLUDE ALL 6.2 FTEs in the FY23 BUDGET. Kate Bowen seconded.** A vote was taken and the outcome was **5-1**: Bowen, Crowley, Liberty, Moriarty, Checkoway in favor; Saeh against.

3. Adjourned at 9:05 AM

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meghan Morley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'M'.