

MSAD #8 School Board Special Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2019
Middle School Science Room
Regular Meeting 6:30 PM

Board Members Present: Renee Jones, Rachel Noyes (6:05), Laura Lazaro, Kathi Young, Virginia Wadleigh
Administration Present: Superintendent Roy Crawford, Tina Davidson, Hillary Bunker

1. Call to order: at 6:00 by Renee Jones
2. **Motion R. Jones/second K. Young to add the opening of fuel oil bids to the agenda. (4-0)**

Bids: Stanley Fuel: .90 over rack price
Granite Island Fuel: .90 over rack price
Dead River: .90 over rack price
Dead River: 2.75/gallon or 2.50/gallon paid in advance
Vinal Oil: 2.75/gallon or 2.50/gallon paid in advance

Roy, Tina and Hillary will analyze the bids and make a recommendation to the Board at the May Board meeting

3. Final Budget Discussions

Roy presented distributed the 20 Page detailed budget document and a spreadsheet he had produced summarizing the final figures for every cost center, including the following computations:

Total current Increase excluding playground debt service already approved by referendum: \$196,762 (4.74%)
Of that increase, \$180,446 is due to:

- ✓ Special Education Student Services: \$96,756
- ✓ Full time PK to serve 25 four year olds: \$41,390
- ✓ CTE teacher .4 of full time to continue funding MS "shop" classes: \$32,300 (See April 17 Board minutes.)
- ✓ Career counseling so our social worker can provide full time social emotion counseling: \$10,000

All remaining budget lines reflect in increase of \$16,316 (.038%) We have absorbed all salary increases, health insurance increases and special education leadership restructuring by "squeezing" all budget lines to the maximum. However, there is little wiggle room in the budget and there will likely be little fund balance in June of 2020.

In addition, we have experienced a net loss of state revenue in the amount \$64,606 (-7.1%) in state funding since we do not qualify for Economically Disadvantaged Funds.

There was extensive discussion about how to encourage family to complete the forms for free/reduced lunch that are used for the Economically Disadvantaged qualification, and the cost of providing free breakfasts for all students. Tina will finalize the amount needed for breakfast services at the May 1 work session. It was agreed that the \$4,800 increase in food purchases will be used to help defray the cost of a breakfast program.

As previously requested by the Board, Roy presented a rationale for eliminating the HS social studies position. A number of teachers currently do not teach 5 or 6 classes per day and next year we will have only 30 students in

the MS and 40 students in the HS. Roy and the teacher leadership team believe the teaching position can be eliminated, and current staff can be effectively re-deployed to offer the necessary classes at a savings of \$50,000. The teacher leaders welcome the opportunity to build a creative schedule to accomplish this. In addition, we will attempt to have all upper school class sizes to be 4 or more students and for all teachers to teach 5 or 6 classes per day.

After extensive discussion and public comments: Motion R. Jones/second V. Wadleigh to eliminate the HS social studies position. (5-0)

This action will reduce the expenditure increase to \$146,762 or 3.5%.

4. Action to adopt the 2019-2020 school budget: tabled until the approval of the warrant article on May 8 and these final changes are reflected in the final documents. After consulting with our school finance attorney, Roy recommends the following revised budget timeline:
 - May 1: review of breakfast program funding and any final budget revisions.
 - May 8: Approval of warrant articles
 - May 15: Post Warrant Article
 - May 15: Publish Budget Newsletter
 - May 15: May Regular Board meeting
 - May 22: District Budget Meeting
 - June 11: Voting day

5. Personnel matters that arise: resignations, appointments, transfers

As recommended by the superintendent, **Motion R. Jones/second R Noyes to appoint Bryan Feezor as upper school Assistant Principal for the 2019-2020 school year. (5-0)** Bryan is nearing completion of his program to be certified as a school principal

As recommended by the superintendent **Motion R. Noyes/second L. Lazaro to appoint Blake Reedy as elementary school assistant principal for the 2019-2020 school year. (5-0)** Blake will complete her masters degree in school leadership in December, 2019.

6. Adjourn at 7:30