

**BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES  
REMOTE MEETING  
DECEMBER 8, 2020**

Present: Ms. Andrea Prestwich, Chair  
Ms. Catherine Bowen, Secretary  
Ms. Amy Checkoway  
Mr. Michael Crowley  
Ms. Tara Donner  
Ms. Evelyn Gomez  
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent  
Ms. Janice Darias, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance, Business and Operations  
Mr. Michael McAllister, Director of Human Capital

**1. Opening Business**

1.1 Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

**2. Winter Athletics**

Previously, the School Committee voted to reduce the fee for fall athletics due to a shorter modified season. The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association (MIAA) approved winter athletics using modified activity guidelines for boys and girl's basketball, ice hockey and alpine skiing. There may be a winter 2 season between winter and spring, which may include football. The School Committee discussed whether to keep the lower fees for winter athletics. The Committee agreed on the fee of \$325 for the first sport and \$220 for the second. The total cost for the program will be \$92,058.

The committee discussed that fees are non-refundable, that competitions would not begin until January, and that were conditions unfavorable, there were additional ways in which the athletics teams could conduct themselves to reduce risks of transmission, such as elimination of inter-town competitions and skills based practices, for example.

Athletic Director Jim Davis is out on leave until February. Guidance Counselor Matt Ruane is being provided a stipend to fill in as Interim Athletic Director. Three Physical Education teachers will become lead teachers for the elementary level and middle school levels.

***On a motion offered by Michael Crowley and seconded by Tara Donner, it was voted unanimously on a roll call vote to approve the fee structure for the winter athletics.***

**3. FY22 Budget Update**

The School Committee will view a PowerPoint presentation at their meeting in the evening. The presentation will explain the FY22 contingent budget. The Committee discussed the need for a higher

amount than the \$400,000 included in the financial model for enrollment-based and service-based additional positions which is currently in the model. The committee discussed ways to relay the vision for the schools, including providing a student lens, views of programs, class sizes, neighborhood schools, equity work. With \$400,000, the district may only be maintaining class size. There is a need for additional positions, such as Nurse, Social Worker, Special Education Chairs, Curricular Specialists, among others.

Committee members discussed the balance between asking for too high an amount and not asking for enough. They also discussed the possibility of an advisory group to take on the COVID surveillance testing issue.

Due to the late time, the Committee did not cover the last two agenda items.

4. **Testing Funding**
5. **Equity Audit Funding**
6. **Adjourn**

*The School Committee **VOTED** unanimously on a roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 10:05 a.m. Kate Bowen moved to adjourn, Evelyn Gomez seconded.*

  
Catherine Bowen, Secretary

Respectfully Submitted by: