

BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES
REMOTE MEETING
OCTOBER 27, 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

Andrea Prestwich left the meeting at 8:34 a.m.

Members of the public attending: Michelle Rhinehard, Anne Helgen (Warrant Committee), Arto Asdoorian (Dir. Fine Arts)

1. Opening Business

1.1 Call to order

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

2. FY21 Budget Update and FTE Status Budget Assumptions / Draft Proposal Leadership Model / Development of FY22 Budget Assumptions

The Committee continued their discussion on FY22 and the creation of two budgets, one for a positive override vote and another without. The Committee discussed possible positions to be added with the understanding that decisions may have to be re-aligned based on what happens with COVID going forward. Superintendent Phelan shared a whiteboard illustration with FY21 and FY22 budget scenarios. Teaching and learning should guide the decision on budget requests. Assistant Superintendent Janice Darias has been working on a vision statement for the district.

The Committee discussed the fact that enrollment is slightly lower this year at the elementary level but those students will come back. Supt. Phelan has asked teachers which courses are easily transferable to online streaming.

The Committee discussed positions to maintain for FY22 and what of the 76 positions on the budget list should be included. There was discussion on the importance of building in decision points with formal votes so everyone has a clear understanding going forward. It is important to make clear asking for \$400,000 is for level service. The override vote will be for a series of positions over two to three years.

The Committee gave preliminary feedback on the Leadership model presented by Supt. Phelan, and reviewed the list of positions developed with the district realignment plan in conjunction with the new middle and high school formation. The Committee reviewed the "BPS Vision for Teaching and Learning_DRAFT_October 2020" which was presented earlier in 2020 by the Teaching and Learning Working Group. Included in that planning work, a graduate would be emerge as a "responsible collaborator, engaged citizen, effective communicator, critical thinker, and self -manager." Work drew on the research of Shelby County School District of Kentucky.

The schools are primarily composed of staff, as a people-centered institution. The Committee identified the need to evaluate programs and positions relative to student experience, unique mandates, and enrollment. An unsuccessful override would be a significant loss in the range of 3 to 6 M. The Director of Business and Finance will send the budget book as a spreadsheet to committee members for easier evaluation of budget priorities.

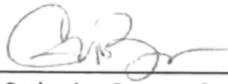
The Committee agreed to meet again on November 5 at 8:00 a.m.

2. Rink Update

Due to the late time, there was no discussion on the rink.

3. Adjourn

*On a motion offered by Amy Checkoway and seconded by Michael Crowley, the School Committee **VOTED** unanimously on a roll call vote to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m.*

Respectfully Submitted by 
Catherine Bowen, Secretary