

BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES
REMOTE MEETING
FEBRUARY 23, 2021

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

Absent:

1. Opening Business

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m.

The Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee – Anne Helgen, Geoff Lubien, Liz Goss, Jack Weis, and Paul Rickter- joined the School Committee Finance Subcommittee meeting.

2. Budget Update

Supt. Phelan provided to Finance Subcommittee and Warrant Subcommittee on Education:

- [BPS FY22 Budget Summary Updated 02.22.2021v3](#)
- [Federal Grant Impact Slides v2.0 02.22.21](#)

3. Federal Grant Impact

The Finance Subcommittee reviewed federal grants awarded to the district and discussed their impact on the FY22 budget. To date, the district was awarded three federal grants (CVRF, ESSER1 and ESSER2) and one state grant (SCPF). CVRF 225 Grant, in the amount of \$1,043,100, is almost completely expended with an expiration date of June 30, 2021. ESSER1, issued in May 2020 in the amount of \$127,474, must be spent by end of the fiscal year 2021. It currently has a balance of \$21,990. ESSER2 grant issued in February 2021 (second Trump administration offering) in the amount of \$456,001, may be used through September 2023. The first state grant SCPF, was issued in January 2021 in the amount of \$148,863 and must be expended by June 2021. All four grants must be used for COVID-related expenses and are not inclusive of the anticipated Biden administration awards.

In addition to supplies, technology and PPE, other needs and recommendations for grant expenditures include summer school/academic recovery camp and surveillance testing. There are three large variables for next

year: will the district be required to offer a remote only school; will the 185 remote students come back to elementary school in-person (may have to add staff to accommodate for small class size) and; will there be a need for recovery programming for general education academics. Needs discussed included a Coordinator for a virtual program, combining with another district for remote-only, approaches to summer programs - enrichment, project-based, question on staffing.

Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance, gave a brief update on Chapter 70 funding. Although the Department of Education did not indicate they would re-calculate the district's Chapter 70 allotted funds, they did agree to offer an analysis of what lesser amount we would have received if we did not waive the Kindergarten fee.

4. Adjourn

The Finance Subcommittee adjourned at 8:53am due to participant disruption and technical difficulties.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Catherine Bowen, Secretary