

BELMONT SCHOOL COMMITTEE FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES
REMOTE MEETING
May 11, 2021

Present: Ms. Amy Checkoway, Chair
Ms. Meghan Moriarty, Secretary
Ms. Catherine Bowen
Mr. Michael Crowley
Ms. Andrea Prestwich
Mr. Jamal Saeh
Mr. John Phelan, Superintendent
Mr. Anthony DiCologero, Director of Finance, Business and Operations

1. Opening Business

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m. as a subcommittee.

2. FY22 Budget

School Committee members submitted recommendations to the Administration for the FY22 budget, in response to the May 4 presentation of Superintendent's recommended FY22 General Fund Reductions. All recommendations were reviewed by category of new positions, existing positions, extra-comp, and supplies with the goal of voting a bottom line budget. School Committee members recognized they are taking a calculated risk on position reductions with unknown factors such as the amount of Federal funding to be received, and it was agreed if the district can use Federal funds towards teaching positions, they will do so keeping in mind any positions hired with Federal funds would be cut after year 2.

School committee members discussed the various draft reductions and ultimately decided to restore the elementary Special Education Chairs and the District-Wide Equity Director. It was recommended that additional reductions be taken from contract allowances, district wide technology hardware/software, uniforms and regular day transportation.

The group then discussed the suggestion to reduce bus transportation in more detail. At the Chenery Middle School, existing traffic issues need to be addressed with making any cuts to busing. Committee member Bowen took the opportunity to encourage students to walk/bike to school and highlighted the need for increased safety measures around all schools.

Superintendent Phelan and Finance Director DiCologero agreed to incorporate the adjustments to the draft budget reductions document for the School Committee meeting later that evening.

3. Adjourn

The Finance Subcommittee adjourned at 9:58 am

On a motion offered by Amy Checkoway and seconded by Andrea Prestwich, the School Committee unanimously agreed to adjourn the meeting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Meghan Moriarty". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Meghan Moriarty, Secretary