

# **BUDGET / FACILITIES SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**

## **Budget Focus**

### **MINUTES**

**Tuesday, October 16, 2012**

**Oliver Administration Building**

#### **Present**

**Subcommittee: William O'Dell, Chair, John Bento and Diana Campbell**

**School Committee, Administration and Staff: Marjorie McBride (6:41 pm), Melinda Thies, Pauline Silva and Christy Belisle**

**Bill O'Dell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.**

#### **Approval of Minutes**

**Diana C. made a motion to approve the minutes for the September 17, 2012 Meeting; John B. seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**For future meeting minutes, Diana would like the names of committee members mentioned within the body of minutes to include the initial for their last name.**

## **Review of Stipend List**

**To accommodate Christy Belisle, all agreed to move the Review of Stipend List to the top of the meeting.**

**Diana C. explained that she had originally requested to have the stipend list reviewed because there had not been any changes to it for some time, and she felt it would be a good idea to review.**

## **Mt. Hope High School – Athletic Stipends**

**Pauline S. brought everyone's attention to the Mt. Hope High School Stipend List and highlighted a few things. There was \$114,400 budgeted for the 2012-2013 school year for athletics. It was felt that some stipends should be revisited and revised as noted in the "suggested pay" column. Christy B. explained that Title 9 seeks to bring equality across the board for both girls and boys sports which dictate that we provide equal opportunity, equal resources and equal funding for athletics as related to boys and girls. Christy stated that the district is currently not in compliance with Title 9 and it is important that we address this. Otherwise, some boys programs will have to be cut. Gender-specific sports and competitions have created issues in being able to provide coaches for both girls and boys, ie., swim team where there currently is not a girl's coach. A suggestion was made to create an interest survey prior to adding a sport. In addition, researching how robust a program it would be and to consider whether there are competitions in place outside of our district related to that particular sport. Christy B. said that Mt. Hope**

**High School is currently a 50/50 school genderwise.**

**Marj M. asked where the trainer monies come from. Pauline responded this money comes from a purchase service, not from the stipend list. Christy stated that we currently are using Olympic PT who ran a paid summer clinic because it was preseason. Once the Rhode Island Interscholastic League begins, we cannot charge the student athletes. Since Olympic PT is working with the students with re-numeration, Christy would like to be able to pay the trainers.**

**Melinda T. explained that the increase for the “after school gym area supervisor” from \$165 to \$800 would provide incentive for a person to help out in this critical area as there are kids who come to the gym after school to play basketball, for example. A lot of these kids have no place to go after school, and the gym offers a safe environment for this. However, it is a liability to have these kids present on school property without proper supervision. Due to the immediate need in this area, until we have someone to permanently help out, Melinda T. stated she would contact the high school to see if there would be someone interested in helping out temporarily. All agreed that we want to be welcoming to kids who do not otherwise have a place to go after school.**

**A line item has been added to indoor and outdoor track for boys and girls because they compete separately all the time, and this requires too much from one person to be available for all indoor and outdoor track events.**

**Pauline stated that a total increase of \$9800 is being suggested for athletic stipends.**

### **Student Activities**

**Pauline reported they are requesting a total increase of \$2500 for student activities with new programs including Gay/Straight Alliance, Sustainability Club, Interact Club and Literary Magazine Advisor. Bill O. asked how an organization qualifies for a stipend. Melinda T. responded by stating it is based on the level of interest by teacher and/or students. Another factor would be whether these organizations would be engaged in state competitions, etc.**

**Marj M. questioned why the Jazz Vocal Ensemble is on the stipend list. Melinda T. responded by saying it is because they are a select group that participate in competitions and not part of the chorus.**

**Members present would like to see an increase for the Robotics Organization due to how much time and effort is put into this group by the person heading it up. Melinda T. will look into the different groups represented on the student activities list and report back on whether increases would be warranted for other group leaders as well.**

### **Transfer of Funds.**

**Pauline read through for the group GASB 54: Spending Policy and**

**Minimum Fund Balance Policy (DIC) noting specifically that the “assigned fund balance” represents a “plan” for spending the amount, but it is not restricted or committed. The authority to “assign” fund balance is designated to the Director of Administration and Finance. “Assignment” does not require a vote by the school committee. Pauline also mentioned that monies can be assigned and reassigned at any time. The school committee has the authority to “commit” the fund balance.**

**MOTION: Diana C motioned to commit \$7,883 for increase in reserve requirement; John B. seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**MOTION: Diana C. motioned to commit \$26,709 for transfer to Capital Projects; John B. seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

### **Growing Four-part Core Program Continuum**

**This discussion will be moved to a future meeting.**

### **Athletic Position**

**This agenda item had previously been removed as it did not qualify for the 48 hour rule. There was no discussion on this matter.**

### **Next Meetings**

**Tuesday, November 13th – Facilities Focus**

**Monday, November 19th – Budget Focus**

## **Adjournment**

**MOTION: Diana Campbell motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:59PM. John Bento seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

**/kd**