

Middletown Public Schools  
Middletown, Rhode Island

June 23, 2017

**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING**

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

Members Present: Kellie DiPalma Simeone, Chairman  
Theresa Spengler, Vice-Chairman  
Douglas Arnold  
Liana Fenton  
William O'Connell

Also Present: Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools  
Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent  
Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager  
David Fontes, Director of Facilities/Safety and Transportation

The School Committee Meeting was called to order at 8:02 a.m. by School Committee Chair Kellie DiPalma Simeone. All members were present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *To approve the Consent Agenda.* Unanimous vote.

Mrs. Kraeger said that this is part of the new practice and policy with vendors. Anything expenditure exceeding \$5,000 needs to be listed.

**FY 2017-2018 BUDGET AMENDMENTS**

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *That the School Committee approve the 2017-18 Budget Amendments, as discussed.* Unanimous vote.

The budget amendments approved at the last meeting allowed us to close the gap. Approval of the budget amendments include the adoption of additional use of fund balance per GASB 64 for the buyout of district copiers.

The final budget after amendments is \$42,261,358. This includes the reduction in State Aid.

Part of the budget reductions were to reduce a portion of salaries in the General Fund and apply to grants. This includes carryover funds and will be submitted to RIDE in the fall. Rules are different for each grant. Title I does not allow as much carryover.

**FOOD SERVICES ACCOUNT POLICY - 2<sup>nd</sup> READING**

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *That the School Committee approve the revised Food Services Account Policy.* Unanimous vote.

The sentences, "No students will be denied a meal. After the \$10.00 threshold, students will be provided a designated menu alternative", will be moved to the end of the paragraph for clarification. There was more discussion on what constitutes a "menu alternative". This will be addressed at a later date, but will include milk.

It needs to be clarified that students can take as many servings of fruits and vegetables as they can eat.

There was discussion regarding notifying parents when they have a low balance on their account. Parents currently receive 3 notifications. It is their responsibility to check their email for the notices. A communication plan will go into place where parents receive emails, followed by a letter mailed home. Parents can apply for free/reduced lunch of their financial situation changes.

Currently, \$15,000 is owed. Some parents do not realize they owe. Other debts will be written off. After exhausting all avenues, this will be reported as a deficit at the end of the year. There is an addition to the policy regarding efforts to collaborate with parent groups and social agencies to establish a fund to help recover unpaid charges.

#### **CHANGE ORDER**

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *That the School Committee approve alternate #1 for the Forest Avenue School project.* Unanimous vote.

The section of pavement by the dumpster and boiler area were listed as an alternate because we did not know where the budget would come in. The budget is currently in good shape so this project will be able to be completed. The other alternate was to pave the back roadway, but that will not be completed.

Mr. Fontes met with the Board of the Bay Ridge Homeowners Association concerning drainage, erosion, and fencing. The meeting went well. The demolition on the Forest Avenue School Boiler Room is being done in-house. It is 99% complete.

#### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES**

Mrs Spengler mentioned that Mrs. Kraeger, Mrs. Fenton and herself attended Chief Anthony Pesare's induction into the the R.I. Criminal Justice Hall of Fame in Warwick. She said the town is fortunate to have him as a leader.

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *To go into Executive Session 42-46-5 (a) 1,2,5,8,9 at 8:32 a.m. regarding Personnel.* Unanimous vote.

Mrs. Simeone announced that there was no vote taken in Executive Session.

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *To seal the minutes of Executive Session.* Unanimous vote.

*(Minutes of June 23, 2017 School Committee Meeting, Page Three)*

**ADJOURN FROM MEETING**

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *To adjourn from School Committee Meeting at 9:30 a.m.* Unanimous vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger  
Superintendent of Schools