

Middletown Public Schools  
Middletown, Rhode Island

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Tuesday, January 9, 2018

MICHAEL S. PINTO CONFERENCE ROOM

5:30 p.m.

Members Present: Theresa Spengler, Chairman  
Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 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 meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by School Committee Chair Kellie DiPalma. All members present. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS**

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *To approve the budget adjustments, as discussed.* Unanimous vote.

Budget amendments were done in July, but will not go before the Town Council until new amendments were approved by the School Committee.

Adjustments include carry over funds for grants, shifting \$8K from the General Fund to Restricted Categorical per RIDE, increasing \$113K in Medicaid revenue per NCRSEP updated projections, and an increase of \$8K in private donations.

**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *To approve the Capital Improvement Plan.* Unanimous vote.

There have been a number of meetings with the Town Administrator and Central Office to look at how projects will be funded. Mr. Fontes would like to look into tower rental funds, HVAC controls, and energy initiatives. There has been initial discussion about moving some prior Impact Aid funds and tower rental funds into operations. The

recommendation is to keep the two items where they have been and use for technology, curriculum, and facilities.

Mr. Fontes has attended meetings at the State level regarding the school facilities bond. All districts will benefit from this.

Mrs. Kraeger, Mrs. Savastano and Ms. Pellerin attended a "Best Practices" workshop. A school budget needs to be driven by the districts strategic plan and focused on student achievement.

- Budget Goals -

The FY19 Fiscal Management Goals are primarily the same as last year:

- *To use our community fiscal resources wisely, purposefully, and responsibly to maintain and enhance a high quality education for all students.*
- *To identify and acquire high quality resources to support district goals and ensure that budget plans link expenditures to anticipated outcomes.*
- *To coordinate fiscal resources from local, state and federal funding streams, as well as human capital resources, to meet priority instructional goals and to promote equity and excellence.*
- *To allocate resources that support student achievement and instructional goals, including money, time, personnel and materials, in a manner that supports district goals and maximizes student growth and achievement.*
- *To ensure equity and adequacy of available resources to achieve a notable return on our educational investment.*

- Enrollment - NESDEC enrollment projections have been done.

- Programmatic Priorities are similar to last year, and include:

- K-12 Literacy and Math Development (Literacy and Mathematics Coaches and intervention tools)
- K-12 Digital Transformation (Technology Coaches, curriculum revision, support for transformation and digital learning, and continued implementation of K-12 STEAM/PLTW/MakerSpace).
- K-12 World Language (Curriculum development and implementation)

- Closing the gap in special education
- Professional Development
- Safety, Security & Health Bond

A Career Tech pathway has been submitted for Middletown High School to qualify for as Career Tech. This would open the doors of Middletown High School to any student who would like to attend. Mrs. Fenton asked about Cybersecurity pathway. Training will be available this summer and would be a new PLTW course. Civil Engineering would also be offered.

- Revenue – Ms. Pellerin reported that this will be presented to the Town Council on Tuesday. Municipal appropriation is level-funded. Regarding State Aid, there is an 8 bed group home reduction, which is approximately \$138,000. Medicaid has been slightly increased per NCRSEP. As of today, there have been no Impact Aid payments received. We are hoping for more prior year impact aid payments. There has been a slight increase in school lunch based on improvements that were made. We will not know about State and Federal grants until well into the fiscal year, which is why amendments are made at this time of year.

Upcoming Meetings –

- Town Council Pre-Budget Consultation on Tuesday, January 16, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, followed by Legislative Agenda meeting.
- January 25, 2018 School Committee Meeting at 4:30 p.m.

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *To go into Executive Session 42-46-5 (a) 2 at 6:45 p.m. Unanimous vote.*

No votes taken.

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

**MOTION:** 1) Theresa Spengler, 2) Liana Fenton. *To adjourn from Budget Workshop at 7:08 p.m. Unanimous vote.*

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemarie K. Kraeger  
Clerk