

**SCITUATE SCHOOL COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING –TUESDAY, MARCH 6, 2018
SCITUATE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY 94 TRIMTOWN ROAD, NORTH SCITUATE, RI 02857**

Mrs. Guglielmi: Asked for a motion to reconvene into Open Session.

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to reconvene into Open Session.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes.

1. 7:06 PM – Reconvene into Open Session - Call to Order

Present were Mrs. Guglielmi; Mrs. Pendergast; and Mr. Scacco. Also present were Dr. Michael Sollitto, Assistant Superintendent; and Consultant Dr. Edward Myers.

Mrs. Dias is absent due to a schedule vacation.

Chair LaPlante and Dr. Filippelli were attending the Town Council budget meeting.

A. Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mrs. Guglielmi, the Committee and audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Routine Matters – Minutes and Bills:

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to Approve the Scituate School Committee Regular Session Meeting Minutes for Tuesday February 13, 2018

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes

Motion Passes

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to Approve the Scituate School Special Session Meeting Minutes for Friday, February 16, 2018

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes

Motion Passes

Mrs. Pendergast: Made a motion to approve 2017-2018 Budget General Fund for March 2018 in the amount of \$676,373.60.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes

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Motion passes

Mrs. Pendergast: Made a motion to approve Grant Bills for March 2018 in the amount of \$52,849.51.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes

C. Correspondence:

1. A leave form from Nicole Barton requesting use of one personal day with reason on 4/13/2018.

Background: The date requested is contiguous with a school vacation.
According to the STA contract, the school committee must vote to allow the date requested.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve the request.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

All in favor: yes

Motion: passes.

D. Report of the Committee Liaisons:

Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, Budget Committee: None

Mrs. Dias & Mr. LaPlante, School Space Needs Study Committee: None

Mrs. Guglielmi & Mrs. Pendergast, Collective Bargaining and Negotiations: Begin the meet and greet with the paraprofessionals to begin the negotiation process.

Mrs. Pendergast & Mr. Scacco, Policy Development: None

Mr. Scacco, Scituate Prevention Partnership: None

Mrs. Guglielmi: Scholarship Foundation: \$53,000 in scholarships and making many of them \$2,000 instead of \$1,000.

Mr. Scacco, Health and Wellness: None

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E. Assistant Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Sollitto read his report into the Record (which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by the referenced.)

1. Frontline Absent Management:

Chair LaPlante and Dr. Filippelli joined the meeting.

2. Technology Update:

3. State Assessment Schedule:

4. CTE Progress:

Mrs. Pendergast: Are those the next 2 pathways

Dr. Sollitto: Yes

5. Course Offerings:

Mrs. Guglielmi gives control to Chair LaPlante.

Mr. LaPlante: Asked for a motion to take new business H1 out of order.

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to take new business H1 out of order.

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: Yes

Motion passes.

Dr. Filippelli: We were asked at the last meeting to take the ask down from the town budget committee. So we took out of the \$75,000.

The budget committee this evening offered to fully fund our Capital Improvements and give us a van, 2 trucks and a plow. We are getting more in the Capital. Karen said the year one would be the \$121,000. The problem is that you are level funding the district.

Mr. LaPlante: 1.5 % ask is what we went to the budget committee for, after the first meeting we asked Larry to bring it down. Now they asked us to bring it down again which would essentially level fund the school budget. This is dangerous, the last page of the proposed we will be short and we will have to turn to our savings account and deplete it.

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Dr. Filippelli: We had a lot of one times that we were able to save money with this year such the dental credit and teachers retiring. I do not think we will have a repeat of those.

Mrs. Pendergast: Our Capital ask was \$432,000? The Town Council is going to ask for a Capital Improvement bond at the annual Town Meeting, we can use those dollars? They will give us \$100,000 and \$60,000 in equipment. So it is \$160,000 plus the capital.

Dr. Filippelli: We could have lived with the Capital at \$200,000. With this we can attack some of those big ticket items.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Our budget not the Towns?

Dr. Filippelli: No it is on the Town side, they reimburse us. The operation side I will have to find more savings. I need a number from the committee.

Mr. Scacco: Isn't this risky?

Dr. Filippelli: It is very risky, we have contracts we have to uphold. I will sharpen the pencil more.

Mr. Scacco: What happens if we go over this?

Dr. Filippelli: We use our savings account and go in the hole. I heard from Mike Barnes, Superintendent from Ponaganset, he wanted to inform me that at least 3 additional student applications are a yes.

Mrs. Pendergast: 3 over our budget? He has accepted 33 students.

Dr. Filippelli: That is \$45,000. It is risky to level fund, you will hit your deficit.

Mr. LaPlante: Last year it was said that the prior government had underfunded us and now the current government wants to underfund us.

Dr. Filippelli: The capital is restrictive. It has to be true capital. Get the priority 1 & 2's so we get the reimbursement.

Mrs. Pendergast: Do we need trucks?

Dr. Filippelli: What I heard is get another plow truck so the town does not have to plow. A van would be good for all the tools.

Mr. LaPlante: We have taxpayer responsibility to the students. We have to reduce this deficit spending, but I want to tighten the belt but carefully. There is a 2% increase to the taxpayers. I think it is irresponsible for us. We are getting .05 with a 2% percent increase to the taxpayers.

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Mr. Scacco: We have done our job and what we have asked for is reasonable. I think the level funding is risky.

Mrs. Pendergast: I do not know how we ask for anything less than what we asked for. I am grateful for the Capital. We do not have enough people to drive the plow truck. A van would be “nice” to have. We have made changes to our policy so our vehicles do not leave the town. We are not even asking for a 2% and we were very fortunate for what we received last year.

Dr. Filippelli: The improvements are going to get hit. If we have a horrible winter we could have higher expenses.

Mr. LaPlante: Starting at the 8% to get down to the 1.9% and we have been respectful. Tell them we do not need the \$60,000 in vehicles.

Dr. Filippelli: I think some of the budget committee understands.

Mr. LaPlante: Good will another \$20,000. I am sure they have allocated those dollars on things that are important to them.

Mrs. Pendergast: If we do not have students we will not run sections?

Mr. LaPlante: I think it is time to vote.

Dr. Filippelli: Scrub another \$18,000?

Mr. LaPlante: We could use that van.

Mrs. Pendergast: I do not think we need that.

Dr. Filippelli: What happens at the Financial Town Meeting if the bond does not pass?

Mr. LaPlante: 1.8 million if the bond does not pass it is likely they will be squeezed. If it is not bonded what will they give us.

Dr. Filippelli: If the bond does not pass what is the town commitment?

Mr. Scacco: Would we be doing our job at a 1 %?

Dr. Filippelli: What is the committee willing to live with?

Mr. LaPlante: We do not want to repeat history. We would get 1 or 1.5 % and we learned that this is why we are in the position. We have an influx of dollars with the bond and improvements will happen. \$532,000 plus an addition \$100,000.

Mrs. Pendergast: Do we take the \$100,000 off?

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Mr. LaPlante: 4.9 million are being allocated and separate from that are a bunch of projects we do not have money for. We are looking for additional dollars for those items, such as boilers, tank lining, these are asset protection projects. You can save money by pushing money over to capital.

Mrs. Pendergast: We do not need \$60,000 for truck right now. If the bond does not pass we can live with the amount that is being offered.

Mr. LaPlante: When we spend dollars on capital we want to use the reimbursement to come back to the school so we can continue to make improvements.

Mr. Scacco: Motion to approve reducing our budgetary ask to \$198,000 which is a 1% increase and with the expectation of getting the capital purposed of \$592,000.

Mrs. Pendergast: Second

Discussion:

Mrs. Pendergast: I cannot in good faith spend money on vehicles that we do not need.

Amend to also ask for the capital to remove the \$60,000 which was offered in the form of a plow truck and equipment van but to include \$60,000 in overall capital.

All in favor: yes

Motion passes.

F. Superintendent's Report:

Dr. Filippelli read his report into the Record (which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by the referenced.)

1. Meeting Recordings and ClerkBase:

Mrs. Pendergast: We would have a camera?

Dr. Filippelli: Portable with portable microphones.

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to revisit item H1

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes

Motion passes

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion to return to agenda.

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Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes
Motion passes

2. Commissioning Agent:
3. School Safety Protocols:

Mrs. Pendergast: Dr. Napolitano had a coffee hour and after the tragedy in Florida she had an assembly which my own children came home stating how safe they felt. At what age does children tell us what they are going to do? This walk out is nationwide. It is a huge safety concern.

Dr. Filippelli: Todd Rich was at our meeting and they have already planned for another officer. It could be a perfect target. We cannot discipline what might take place. We have to create a safe environment for them to protest.

Mrs. Guglielmi: What time?

Dr. Filippelli: Before 10:00 for 17 minutes. We have a safe place here for them. A child does not check their rights when they walk in the door of the school.

Dr. Sollitto: We are providing an avenue for them to protest.

4. Budget:
5. Technology:

Mrs. Pendergast: Is this in line with our plan Mike?

Dr. Sollitto: I do not think we will get push back from the older kids. All grade 9 students.

Dr. Filippelli: I might have to scrub our numbers based on tonight.

G. Public Comments

Stacy Wortman
9 Azalea Court

Assessment testing are we doing anything to engage them?

Dr. Sollitto: The PSAT and SAT's those kids are driven. The science testing is a pilot year and we will not see any of those results. We will promote the RICAS at elementary and middle schools.

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Mrs. Pendergast: We learned from the past. The message we need to send is that RIDE listened.

Mrs. Wortman: I got the email from Tonianne and I love the idea to point them to the auditorium. If they have students in the Middle school encouraging everyone to go into the auditorium. Consider using peer leaders with this.

Mr. LaPlante: Peer leader that is a good idea.

George Kuzmowycz
37 Esek Hopkins Road

Assessment, what is the % of students taking the AP exams?

Dr. Sollitto: 30-40 kids total.

Mr. Kuzmowycz: Some are taking more than one?

Dr. Sollitto: Yes

Mr. Kuzmowycz: New courses?

Dr. Sollitto: We do not have any to share right now as they are still being developed.

Mr. Kuzmowycz: School Building Committee meetings are with the School Committee meetings agendas on the website.

Dr. Filippelli: Still do not have access to the financial software.

Mrs. Pendergast: Now that we are not in that building, is the computer upgrade going to help us?

Mr. LaPlante: Yes

Dwight Farrar
730 Central Pike

Complement you on your exercise working through the budget.

I want to speak about the plow, if you have 2 trucks for a small storm it will be fine. You are not going to have enough if you have a big storm.

Dr. Filippelli: We have that as a line item to pay the town but it is the sanding.

Mr. Farrar: Big truck need licensing. I think you will get a push back from the committee.

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Brandon Machowski
294 Quaker Lane

I am a 10th grader and I am going to be mad if the 9th graders get laptops, and I do not get one.

On a regular day if a student walks out, what happens?

Dr. Sollitto: The teacher would call the main office and it would be investigated. Automatic suspension if they leave school grounds. Most of the time we speak to the student and resolve the issue.

Brandon: What is the penalty for just being outside?

Dr. Sollitto: Student gets some news and goes outside not the same as someone just going to DD to get a coffee. We look at the past history of student behavior. It is a case by case basis.

Brandon: On the 14th this is a normal school day. Why is that not a normal leave school?

Dr. Sollitto: It is planned and protected as free speech.

Dr. Filippelli: If there is an assignment there might be an academic consequence.

Brandon: Mr. Hassell had us do grade level meetings. He suggested that they go to the gym. But, if there is a class going on and they will be interrupted a class there.

Brandon: How much to have someone go to Ponaganset and how much do we get if a kid from Ponaganset? Why are we getting less?

Dr. Sollitto: That has been addressed by the department of education and now you will never pay more or get more than your per pupil.

Dr. Myers: Earlier tonight the committee had a good discussion with our Chairperson regarding the budget and there was a whole lot of respect in this room.

Mr. LaPlante: Yes, Thank you to our audience.

H. New Business:

1. Discussion/Vote/Ratification of budget proposal for submission to the Town Council
2. Ratification of Scituate School Building Committee's recommendation concerning Commissioning Agent services contract with Colliers, with a recommendation to the Town Council for award of contract. (Discussion/Vote)

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Mrs. Guglielmi: Motion to Ratify Scituate School Building Committee’s recommendation concerning Commissioning Agent services contract with Colliers, with a recommendation to the Town Council for award of contract

Mr. Scacco: Second

All in favor: yes
Motion passes.

3. Authorization for Superintendent to issue RFQ for Owner’s Project Manager, as recommended by the Scituate School Building Committee, and to coordinate the same as needed with the Town Council, pursuant to RIDE School Construction Regulations (5/24/07)

Mrs. Pendergast: Our director of facilities is comfortable acting as the project manager, the reason we are going out for RFQ is if there is additional funding available. The RIDE regulations do not require an outside Owner’s Project Manager. How much?

Dr. Filippelli: \$80,000 plus full time, we will only need a part-time.

Mr. Farrar: I would caution you to monitor so you do not overwhelm him, it has happened in the past with a dual responsibility.

Mrs. Pendergast: Motion for the authorization

Mrs. Guglielmi: Second

All in favor: yes
Motion passes

4. Discussion/Vote/Ratification of HVAC for Central Office rooms at Clayville

Mr. Scacco: They will be there all summer.

Mrs. Pendergast: We have a space needs study. Is it prudent to spend that money not knowing if that is your final location?

Dr. Filippelli: We wait any longer they will be slammed. I do not know where we would go. You cannot upgrade Central office using bond.

Mrs. Pendergast: You cannot unless it is located in the School.

Mr. LaPlante: We are not going to know.

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Dr. Filippelli: The space needs report is coming out March 12th.

Mr. LaPlante: It would be until the end of the summer for us to complete this study.

Dr. Filippelli: If we left, how would we repurpose?

Mrs. Pendergast: Clayville is our smallest school.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Is there anything else we can do?

Dr. Filippelli: Bob is looking at his crew to do some of the work and them getting in a professional to do the rest.

Mr. Scacco: The window units would be more expensive to run and if you were to move then you could take them with you.

Mr. LaPlante: I am thinking that it is most prudent to identify where you are going to be and outfit you as professionals.

Dr. Filippelli: Will we be out of there by July or August?

Mr. LaPlante: Maybe Bob can identify where you should go.

Dr. Filippelli: If we need to get portable units.

Mr. LaPlante: Do you feel in Clayville you are in a good spot.

Dr. Filippelli: It is a time issue.

Mr. LaPlante: I do not think Clayville remoteness hinders your ability.

Mrs. Pendergast: The most remote with the least population of students.

Dr. Filippelli: We have our own entrance, it is a good space.

Mr. Scacco: I have been there is it a good space. If you are going to stay there then it is a good spend but if not then no.

Dr. Filippelli: Table this.

Mr. LaPlante: I want you in comfortable space. This is not a message that we do not want you to have a comfortable spot.

5. Presentation from Scituate Lions regarding upgrades of the existing sign in front of the Scituate Middle/High School.

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Mr. Farrar: The Lions have committed to this project.
Using the brick and adding a fully digital and aluminum sign.

Mr. McCormick: Not just lettering. It will have animation too.

Mr. Farrar: All the work will be done and supervised by the Lions all the warranty is in the school's name.

Dr. Sollitto: This has been in the works for several years and we thank the Lions for their support.

Mr. Farrar: Have the unveiling at our scholarship breakfast.

Mr. LaPlante: On behalf of the committee, thank you.

Mr. Farrar: We are going to do a demo. The lighting is adjustable.

I.RESIGNATIONS

1. Katherine Hitte; .70 Special Education Teacher, Scituate High School, effective 2/26/18

Mr. Scacco: Moved to accept the resignation.

Mrs. Guglielmi: Second

All in Favor: Yes
Motion passes

APPOINTMENTS

None

REAPPOINTMENTS

None

NON-RENEWALS

None

VOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

None

INVOLUNTARY TRANSFERS

None

TERMINATIONS

None

J. Committee Remarks:

Mr. Scacco: Thank you Scituate Lions, thank you for being patient with the budget.

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Mrs. Pendergast: Nothing

Mrs. Guglielmi: Ditto what Jim said.

Mr. LaPlante: Thank you as we dealt with the budget stuff.

K. DISCUSSION OF FUTURE BUSINESS
 None

L. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Scacco: Motion to adjourn

Mrs. Guglielmi: Second:

All in favor: Yes
Motion passes

The Committee unanimously approved the motion at 9:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Mrs. Guglielmi, Clerk

Minutes were prepared by Theresa C. Yeaw, Recording Secretary. Neither the Clerk nor the Recording secretary is the designated Public Records contact for the Scituate School Committee or Scituate School Department under the RI Access to Public Records Act (“ARPA”). For all APRA inquiries, please contact the Superintendent’s Office.

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**ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT
March 6, 2018**

1. Frontline Absence Management

With assistance from Dr. Filippelli, we are holding a superintendent’s meeting on March 8th for all district teachers. At this meeting, teachers will receive their log-in information and instructions on accessing and using the system. The system will go live on March 19th with the sub-line still in place as a safety net until March 26th. The system is quite user-friendly and I do not anticipate many issues with the implementation. This will be used only for teacher absences and will not be tied directly to payroll just yet. We hope to contact each substitute on our sub list by March 12th to ensure they have access and instructions for the new system.

2. Technology Update

There is a mid-year report scheduled with Highlander for this month (3/28). Following this meeting, we will have some hard data on the use of blended learning and technology in the classroom. I have been in contact with implementation specialists from Highlander regarding plans for next year and possibly expanding the plan to add “Lighthouse” classrooms to extend to more than 10 across the district. This will be discussed at our district professional development day which will be scheduled for April.

In other technology news, Mark DiLuglio and his team are working with principals to ensure that all computers are ready for upcoming state assessments. We are also in the process of obtaining an Apple user agreement for our district iPads. We have purchased additional iPads for elementary classrooms but cannot fully deploy these until we have a registered school district user agreement with Apple. We received original approval and now are awaiting a final approval.

3. State Assessment Schedule

Below is the schedule for assessments for the remainder of the school year. As principals finalize school specific dates, the schedule will be sent to students and parents and posted on websites.

Assessment	School/Grade level	Testing Window
PSAT 10	SHS - Grade 10	April 10; make-up day April 24
SAT School Day	SHS - Grade 11	April 10; make-up day April 24
DLM – Dynamic Learning Maps	Alternate Assessment – All grade levels	April 9 th – May 25 th
RICAS – RI Comprehensive Assessment Program	SMS & Elementary Schools Grades 3-8	ELA – April 2 – May 4 Math – April 3 – May 25
NGSA – Next Generation	All schools	May 14 – June 1

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Science Assessment	Grades 5, 8, 11	
AP Testing	SHS – All AP students	May 1 – May 12

4. CTE Progress

As you know, we currently have 3 RIDE approved CTE programs (Computer Science, Engineering, and Biomedical Sciences). RIDE has recently reopened the application process for new pathway proposals. We have been looking into establishing a Performing Arts pathway, an Entrepreneurship Academy, and possibly a Graphic Design pathway. The application window expired on March 2nd. We were able to complete the application for the Entrepreneurship Academy and have high hopes that this will be approved in the coming months. This academy involves several of our Economic courses that are currently running at SHS and enrollment in these courses are fairly high.

At this time, we are not ready to submit an application for a Fine Arts pathway or a Graphic Design pathway. We will continue to offer courses in these areas but are not currently able to fulfill RIDE requirements for full approval.

5. Course Offerings

Mr. Hassell and Guidance Director Hitchings has been working on finalizing this year's Program of Studies. Students and parents access the Program of Studies when they selected courses for the next academic year. After discussions with Mr. Hassell, it looks like we will be adding 4 additional course offerings to the Program of Studies. Keep in mind that this does not mean that these courses will run next year. Students will have the opportunity to choose them. Once all courses are selected, the enrollment process and creation of the schedule begins. I have instructed Mr. Hassell to send each Committee Member a link to the updated POS as soon as it is completed.

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**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
March 6, 2018**

1. MEETING RECORDINGS AND CLERKBASE:

At our last school committee meeting, I was asked to investigate setting up a system in the school library so that our meetings could be streamed live on ClerkBase. The committee voted at the 2/28 school committee meeting to have our school committee meetings held at the high school library rather than at town hall. To this end, Mark DiLuglio was able to price out the equipment for us to stream, record, and have sound at our meetings. The cost for the equipment is \$623.81. Mark indicated that he checked the specs given to him by ClerkBase and he has a laptop computer that meets those specifications. A few months ago I reported on what hiring a camera operator would cost. Jenn rechecked those numbers with ClerkBase and indicated the same information as the last time. One person was \$60/ hour with a three hour minimum and the other person was \$150.00 per meeting. At this point I would recommend we keep the services in house and buy our own equipment. This strategy also positions us nicely when we want to have our meetings offsite in the first few months of school. Because we are on our own network and own the equipment, we may be able to make it mobile and stream those meetings as well.

2. COMMISSIONING AGENT:

In an effort to keep the ball moving on the bond construction, under new business tonight, I will be recommending the school committee take the recommendation of the building committee and approve Colliers as the commissioning agent for the project. Attachment A is the proposal written by Colliers and approved by the building committee at their meeting yesterday.

3. SCHOOL SAFETY PROTOCOLS:

I held a district crisis response meeting on Friday, March 2nd to review our district crisis response protocols. In addition, the Scituate police department held a mock active shooter drill at Hope Elementary last weekend. The middle and high schools have debriefed with their students the tragic incident that happened in Florida on 2/14. While I cannot disclose our protocols publically, I can tell you that our building safety assessment plans were submitted in August 2017 to the RI School Safety Committee (on whose board I sit) and are under review by that committee and RISP. Our district crisis response team reviews best practices, analyzes weaknesses, and makes recommendations for improvements when we meet. I have added a second parent to the district crisis response team. At our RISSA meeting on 3/1, we had a lengthy conversation about the planned 17 minute moment of silence and potential nationwide walkout. Every district is unique in how they are handling this and our district crisis response team weighed in at our meeting on how we were planning for this. We may

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be having a public forum on school safety if deemed necessary by the district crisis team and potential peaceful responses to 3/14.

4. BUDGET:

Attached to this report is the amended budget based on the conversations with the town budget committee on 2/26/18. At that meeting, we were asked to try and bring down the fiscal ask from the town and the taxpayers. After looking at the budget, my recommendation is to take the ask down from \$293,000 to \$218,000 by reducing the overall ask by \$75,000. I can take those funds from the teacher salary line based on anticipated section reductions at the high school. The revised budget (Attachment B) is listed under new business for your approval.

5. TECHNOLOGY:

Based on the recommendation from Mr. Hassell and Mr. DiLuglio, I will be asking the committee to approve some technology expenditures. We would like to move forward with providing one to one computer technology to our incoming Freshman class. Mike Hassell feels this is a good place to start based on the number of incoming 9th graders. Additionally, we would like to upgrade the CTE/Engineering pathway because their tower computers which run PLTW required specifications are three years old and they need new computers to meet the needs of the PTLW curriculum. The engineering pathway is getting more requests because of the prosthetic arm coverage and the new hardware and software will need stronger computers to run efficiently. The replaced computers will be given to the library for a new computer lab because the Champlain grant does not cover that. The total cost of this technology upgrade is approximately \$100,000. We feel that we are positioned to do this during this current year because of the rare situation we found ourselves in with the one time cost savings as iterated in my budget presentation.