

**LEBANON BOARD OF EDUCATION
BUDGET/FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE
LEBANON MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
JANUARY 9, 2018 – SPECIAL MEETING 6:15 P.M.**

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

PRESENT: William Meese, Alexis Margerelli-Hussey, Jason Nowosad,
James Mello

ALSO PRESENT: Superintendent of School Robert Angeli, Lyman Memorial High School
Assistant Principal, Ann Birell, Al Vertefeuille, Robert Sirpenski, Business
Manager, Kevin French, Facilities Manager, Jacque Dulac, Information
Technology Manager

1. Call To Order

The Budget/Finance Subcommittee meeting was called to order at 6:19 p.m. by J. Nowosad

2. Discussion of the 2018-2019 Budget

Superintendent Angeli reported that what is being presented this evening is a draft budget. It is still in development. It represents a 5.13% increase. The final budget proposal will be presented at the February Board meeting. The draft budget cuts three certified teacher positions due to declining enrollment. There are no lane changes in certified salaries. Health insurance is increasing 20% at this time. This represents a 2.62% increase of the total budget. ConnectiCare is the current provider. The insurance broker is exploring other options. CT Partnership 2.0 may be a flat increase. Special Education expenses (tuitions, transportation, special services) have increased. There is an increase to diesel and fuel oil. Transportation is going out to bid, and hoping for no increase. Copier lease is going out to bid. Magnet schools will have similar enrollment. Insurance – LAP/W/C – based on current contract. Electricity – flat funded – need to consider solar impact. Facilities – slight increase – need to evaluate in-house vs. contracted service. New initiatives – programming at LES and LMS with a board certified Behavioral Analyst (BCBA) position. This would be a full time position with a salary of \$85,248.00. New courses at LMHS are included in draft budget. Farm Viability Grant which is a matching grant. These initiatives would move the Strategic Plan forward. The major driver in the budget is health insurance. This represents a 2.62% increase. All building principals came in under budget. All three schools are currently under budget for this year.

J. Nowosad noted we have to have creative ways to deal with the budget. He suggested having one bus run. J. Nowosad discussed administrative costs and facilities costs. The start and stop times for students would need to be changed. Having elementary students on buses with older students was discussed. Staffing adjustments should reflect diminishing enrollment. The Special Education population is above the State average. Superintendent Angeli noted that Special Education is appropriately staffed at this time. A position by position salary was distributed in the packet. There will be input sessions on January 17th. The staff presentation will be at 3:30, and the public input session will be the same evening at 7:00. J. Nowosad noted that teacher positions

have been reduced over the past 12 years with no administration reductions. Heads of departments used to direct curriculum. R. Sirpenski noted that the trend for health insurance cost is between 6-10%. Claims represent a 75-85% loss ratio. There have been some months when the loss ratio has been 200%. Claims experience was discussed. There is not a HSA in the CT Partnership program. Facility Management costs are subcontracted. In house costs were compared. The Facility Manager position was discussed. It depends on the district. A truck would be needed for the position. Object line decreases were discussed. The salary for the BCBA position would cover at least one student coming back to the district. This position would provide behavioral support for students and staff. The public input session for the budget was advertised in Lebanon Life. There will be a subcommittee following the input session.

3. Review 2017-2018 capital and non-lapsing accounts

K. French noted that actuals are known for some projects. R. Sirpenski reported that the Trial Balance report is as of November 20, 2017. The priority of projects by year was discussed. J. Dulac noted that \$31,000.00 has been spent on technology but the bills are not into the Town yet. Ipads have been purchased for first grade. Some projectors are failing. Some Smartboards need to be replaced. Video streaming needs to be updated. We are in the third year of the Chrome Book project. There have been laptop and desktop refreshes. It was noted by J. Nowosad that the request for \$90,000.00 would keep the district up to par.

4. Review 2018-2019 capital accounts

A. Birell reviewed the requests for Athletics. An irrigation study is needed for the baseball and soccer fields. Requesting an updated weight room. Three scoreboards need replacing. One was donated, and has not been well maintained. Superintendent Angeli explained the rationale for putting the weight room on the SIP list. It may be funded by the non-lapsing account. It depends on the overall cost. There is \$75,000.00 in the Athletic Capital Account. The superintendent discussed previous funding. The superintendent also discussed the list for the Board of Finance. J. Nowosad noted it was the consensus of the subcommittee to recommend the items on the list to the full Board.

5. Adjournment

Motion made by W. Meese and seconded by A. Margerelli-Hussey to adjourn the meeting..
Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen E. Chapman
Board Clerk