



Regional School Unit 13
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Neal Guyer
Interim Superintendent of Schools
Director of School Improvement

Scott Vaitones
Business Manager

RSU 13 School Board Budget Committee Meeting

Minutes – April 11, 2012

Q: question asked A: Answered S: Statement

Noted: Bill Pearce was an excused absence.

The minutes from April 4, 2012 were approved and the minutes for April 9, 2012 were tabled.

Scott Vaitones reviewed what was passed out tonight at the meeting.

There were no members of the public in the audience who wished to speak

Neal Guyer reviewed the budget process to this point. He stated we can make the budget work as it stands but would ask to consider adding an additional \$150,000.

Scott Vaitones reviewed the unknowns – starting by noting that the State is currently only funding 43% of its mandated 55% for public education. The unknowns include Special Education cost, fuel cost and kindergarten enrollment

Scott Vaitones reviewed the proposed bonding of maintenance projects

Q: Can we get a copy of the proposed list of maintenance projects?

A: It is in the group of hand-out tonight.

S: Suggest cut off of \$50,000 anything below that is local maintenance.

S: All suggested items will outlive the 10 year bond.

S: Feel it is premature before discussion of other add backs

S: Need to identify the entire group of projects to be bonded.

Scott Vaitones reviewed the Tax impact as proposed which stands at 2.63% additional tax dollars as of the start of this meeting

Board Discussion and questions

Brian Messing outlined the Board direction of 4% maximum impact to the taxpayer.

The proposed budget has been reduced by approximately \$300,000 down to a 2.63% tax impact. He suggested that the Board identify a specific dollar amount to be added and let administration come back with how they would suggest using the dollars.

Do not feel can go any lower and have heard from admin that can work with it but \$150,000 and adding \$150,000 would be a significant help.

S: Would like some specific discussion of identified needs. Feel strongly the need to have a full time librarian at Oceanside high School – east if it is not full time it will likely result in some accreditation issues when the NEASC review team comes here.
Also the Art teacher at OHS-east

A: We are able to keep library open with ed techs.

S: Support adding \$150,000

S: The District is losing the Fulbright scholar in the World Language program next year, if working toward equity need to add world language to every building.

Q: What would dollar value be of 4% be?
A: About \$300,000

S: The Clinical supervisor is very important

S: More Tech integrators are needed if we are to use technology more effectively.

S: Find it difficult to add new positions when eliminating positions.

S: Feel the cut of ½ time administrative assistant in Transportation will hurt our ability to use Transfinder effectively.

S: Need to add dollars for an Engineering study - \$30,000 to \$50,000 as the Strategic Planning Committee will probably recommend that it can't possibly be done in-house.

S: Suggest using the dollars in the budget for the Siemens energy audit update for all inclusive engineering study.

S: We need to do more to bring our schools up to par in terms of academic offerings if we are to compete with our neighbors as our students have to compete with those students for college slots.

S: The formation of the RSU has saved the taxpayers over \$2.2 million dollars a year for the past three years and the proposed budget for next continues those savings for a total of over \$9 million dollars saved.

S: Need to consider students first and support 4%

S: Areas that need help library at ohs-east
An Art teacher OHS-e 100 student won't be able to take art
Consider full Technology teacher at OHS-e
OHS-e is being short changed - High School is the last stop we need to focus our efforts here
Look at what impacts the student and make school fun to come to such as Industrial Technology, Art, and Librarian

S: Concerned that with the initial 4% Board ceiling, everyone has now accepted that in their minds as a reasonable increase

S: The Administration has asking for about ½ of what has been reduced, and can support some addition but not the 4%

Q: What would be the Administration’s priorities?

A: Have not talked as a team but, feels the OHS-e Librarian to full time and an additional World Language teacher would be important.

S: We also have the maintenance needs.

S: Cuts made over the past 4 years have impacted students in some cases have cut into instruction time. That does impact education.

S: We need to trust Administrative Team based on the process that they have followed in this budget process.

Two votes were taken:

To add a question to the referendum to bond up to \$500,000 for maintenance projects.

\$500,000 bond	Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent	Total
Eric Schenk -		1				
Daryl Sanborn -		1				
Bill Pearce-					1	
Carol Bachofner -	s	1				
Sally Carleton -		1				
Tess Kilgour -		1				
Greg Hamlin -		1				
George Emery -	m	1				
Loren Andrews -		1				
Don Choquette -			1			
Brian Messing -				1		
Don Robishaw -			1			
Vote:		8	2	1	1	12

To increase the proposed budget to a 4% tax impact

4.00% tax impact	Motion	Yes	No	Abstained	Absent	Total
Eric Schenk -		1				
Daryl Sanborn -			1			
Bill Pearce-					1	
Carol Bachofner -		1				
Sally Carleton -		1				
Tess Kilgour -	m	1				
Greg Hamlin -		1				
George Emery -		1				
Loren Andrews -	s	1				
Don Choquette -		1				
Brian Messing -			1			
Don Robishaw -			1			
Vote:		8	3	0	1	12

Next meeting: April 23, 2012

Adjourned 7:55 PM

Scott Vaitones