

Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting

AGENDA/MINUTES

Monday, October 23, 2017

6:00-7:00 P.M.

Elm Street School -District Conference Room

Members Present: Jen Boenig, Lisa Dulac, **Leonard Lamoreau**, Norm Beauparlant, Julie Rioux

Members Absent:

Other Board Members Present: Mary Martin

Administrators Present: Tina Meserve

Staff Members Present:

Item 1: Signing Warrants SP:D.4 (Stacie Field)

Warrants will be available at the Board Meeting. Committee members are asked to sign them prior to the start of the meeting, if possible.

Item 2: CDS 3-5-Year-Old Services (Tina Meserve) Tina shared the Portland Press Herald article, the State wants to shift special education for 3-to 5-year olds to school districts, with committee members. She shared that most people feel that public educators could provide a better education for this population, but the program is riddled with long-standing financial deficit that needs to be addressed before it should be transferred to the local level. Concerns include: lack of space in our facilities, lack of appropriate vehicles and staff for transporting 3-5 year olds, lack of staff to find, assess and service students, lack of adequate medical services, costs may be shifted from the State to the local (through the funding formula or other methods that moves cost from a fully funded state service), current funding is not adequate for the program. The state needs a process that includes a full audit of needs in all school districts and then a plan to pay for upgrades to all areas identified as deficits for this to be doable for school districts and local communities. The committee agrees that the administration and Board should advocate strongly on this topic. Tina will write a letter outlining the local impact and send it to our legislators.

Item 2: Financial Update (Tina Meserve) John Hawley has informed Tina that the interest on the anticipatory note for the Building Project will be \$188,000 over two years. If the project is passed, we will need to budget for half this amount for next year. In the current financial report, Tina shared that our budget does not have the usual savings in salaries. This is good news because we were able to hire experienced staff for many positions. This also means that we do not have much salary buffer for unexpected needs. The Interim Principal has been offered the same contract as the former principal. There will be some savings for retirement costs and benefits. MCS administrator benefits will be over-spent this year with the hiring of a new employee and a different benefit package. Summer school came in under expected cost by approximately \$2,400. We have paid out the technology lease at \$90,119 and also NWEA testing. Our substitute lines are looking good so far, with the exception of PCS where we have two substitutes for unfilled Ed tech positions. The Behavior Specialist position is currently unfilled, but we are actively searching to fill that position. Bonds have not been paid out on PCS, ESS and BWMS, but those will be paid soon. Overall, the budget looks fine but we will watch the financials closely with the high salary costs.

Adjourned: 7:00 p.m.