

**WALLINGFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING  
DRAMA LECTURE ROOM – MARK T. SHEEHAN HIGH SCHOOL  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 2013**

**MINUTES**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER**

The Operations Committee Meeting was called to order by Mr. Miller at 6:05 p.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

K. Castelli, C. Mansfield, J. Marrone, R. McKay, C. Miller, P. Reynolds, M. Votto

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

S. Menzo, E. Cohn, J. Guarino, L. Winters, S. Wong, M. Deptula, R. Backus, R. Mancusi, C. Burke, P. DeFilio

**2013/2014 BUDGET REVIEW**

Dr. Menzo reviewed 2013/2014 budget adjustments. There was a reduction of \$3,150 from the Fixed Asset bid savings, a reduction of \$3,169 for natural gas savings per the mayor, a reduction of \$9,528 for Middle School After School Busses and an increase of \$950 for transportation for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation at Moran Middle School. These changes resulted in a 2.52% increase or \$91,832,459 Sustained Services Budget.

Dr. Menzo stated that the Common Core State Standards is the most significant driver of the mandated items in the budget.

The Operations Committee took consensus on the 2013/2014 Cafeteria Budget. Mrs. Wong stated that the Food Service Budget included a 10¢ price increase for school lunches. Mr. Votto asked what items the Board of Education budgeted for the Food Service Program. Dr. Menzo stated the items are in the Strategic Plan Budget. There is \$58,000 for Technology items and \$203,500 for Facilities and Maintenance items. Mr. Miller asked if the salaries for the Food Service Director and office staff are paid out of the Food Service Department. Mrs. Wong stated they are paid from the Food Service Department.

The consensus of the Operations Committee was to send the Cafeteria Budget for 2013/2014 to the full Board for approval.

Dr. Menzo provided information on the 2013/2014 Budget. There are three scenarios. The Sustained Services Budget of \$91,832,459 which is a 2.52% increase. The Sustained Services Budget with all mandated and safety items from the Strategic Plan Budget and purchasing technology items which is \$94,008,357 or 4.95% increase. The Sustained Services Budget with all mandated and safety items from the Strategic Plan Budget and leasing technology items which is \$93,389,245 or 4.26% increase.

Mrs. Mansfield asked Mr. Backus for his opinion on leasing or purchasing the technology items. Mr. Backus stated leasing provides opportunity to get additional items. Leases are for three years and the finance rates are very low.

The consensus of the Operations Committee was to lease technology items.

Mrs. Castelli asked what per cent was submitted to the mayor for the 2012/2013 budget. Ms. Winters stated 3.9% was requested and the Board of Education received 3.2%.

Mr. Miller suggested that the Board of Education wait to budget for safety items to see if there will be funding resulting from Federal and State recommendations. Dr. Menzo stated that the budget is broad in its scope. Decisions on safety and security upgrades will be discussed with the Board of Education members in Executive Session meetings. Mrs. McKay stated that the Mayor, Police Chief and Fire Chief should be invited to attend the meetings for their input on safety and security in the schools.

Mrs. McKay suggested the Board members give Dr. Menzo a percent increase they are comfortable with and charge the Central Office Administrators to prioritize items from the budget to get to that percent.

Mrs. Castelli – 3.9%, Mr. Votto – 3.9%, Mrs. Mansfield – 1.5%,  
Mr. Marrone – 2.65%, Mrs. McKay – 3.25%, Mr. Miller – 3.2%

Dr. Menzo stated that the administration will make recommendations of cuts to the budget to get to the percent suggested by each Board member.

The next budget review will be at the February 11, 2013 Operations Committee Meeting. Another budget review meeting, if necessary, will be on Wednesday, February 20, 2013. The Board of Education will vote on the 2013/2014 Budget at the February 25, 2013 Board of Education Meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Miller adjourned the Operations Committee Meeting at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia DeFilio