

APPROVED MAY 18, 2020

Dover School Committee
Meeting of March 5, 2020

Members Present: Henry Spalding, Chair
Brooke Matarese, Secretary
Mark Healey
Leslie Leon

Also Present: Andrew Keough, Superintendent
Beth McCoy, Assistant Superintendent
Dawn Fattore, Business Manager

1) Call to Order

Mr. Spalding called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm in the Chickering library.

- 2) **Community Comments** - Henry Spalding thanked Laura Dayal for her years of service to Chickering and the children. She will be resigning her position at the end of the school year.
- 3) **Literacy Presentation** - Priscilla Stephan spoke about the work done so far this year to meet the needs of at students through the Literacy Specialist position.

4) FY21 Dover Public Schools Budget Hearing

Henry Spalding spoke of the development of the FY21 Budget based on the District's mission and strategic objectives as well as guidance from the Town of Dover.

The proposed FY21 Operating Budget is \$10,372,691 made up of \$7,254,102 in in-district costs and \$3,118,589 in out-of-district costs. This budget is \$243,663 or 2.30% lower than the FY20 Budget.

FY21 Budget Drivers for in-district increase of \$1,615 over FY20 include: reduction of one section for Kindergarten based on projected census which decreases salaries by \$55,000; all employment contracts are in negotiations so a reserve of \$215,000 is included in the budget to cover projected salary increases; post FY20 staffing changes resulted in a \$125,000 reduction in salaries; retirement notifications decreased salaries by \$35,000; and various expenditure adjustments at a net increase of \$1,700.

FY21 Budget Drivers for out-of-district decrease of \$245,278 over FY20 include: tuition has decreased by 9% for 31 budgeted OOD placements; less than three placements graduating/aged-out -\$310,000; less than three placements moved out of district -\$388,000; less than three FY20 budgeted placements remained in-district -\$170,000; changes in placements +\$85,000; eight new OOD placements +\$517,000;; and transportation costs based on ACCEPT overall increase due to changes in participation +\$25,000. Circuit Breaker reimbursement for FY21 is estimated to be \$1,100,000 based on a 70% reimbursement rate.

5) Vote on FY21 Budget

Rachel Spellman made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Leslie Leon seconded.
20-02 VOTE: 5 - 0

6) FY20 Monthly Financial Report as of February 28, 2020

- Salaries - there are no changes to report since the last meeting.
- Operating Expenditures - there are no variances to report to date. Projections have been encumbered for transportation, building maintenance contracts, and most utilities.
- Out-of-District (OOD) Expenditures - tuition encumbrances are reflected for the current cohort of OOD placements. Additional placement costs of \$90,000 have been encumbered increasing the overall negative variance in OOD costs to approximately \$214,000. Circuit Breaker reimbursement of \$1,152,623 will be used to offset tuition costs.

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- Special Revenue/Revolving Funds - activity report included in packet for review.

7) Reports

- a) Principal's Report - Ms. Dayal highlighted items from her report and answered questions from Committee members.
- b) Superintendents Update - Dr. Keough outlined the timeline for the Chickering Principal search process. He also reiterated that he is working very closely with the MA Department of Public Health and the Dover Board of Health to keep the students of the District safe during the COVID-19 outbreak.
- a) Warrant Report - provided for review

8) Annual School Committee Vote on MA School Choice Law - MA General Law requires local school committees to vote annually on whether or not the district will participate in School Choice.

Mark Healey made a motion to have the Dover Public School not participate in the School Choice program for the 2020-2021 school year. Leslie Leon seconded.

20-03 VOTE: 5 - 0

9) Consent Agenda

- a) Meeting minutes of January 21, 2020
 - b) Donation - received from past Chickering parent
- Rachel Spellman made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda. Leslie Leon seconded.

20-04VOTE: 5 - 0

9) Communications

- a) Regional School Committee minutes of January 7, 2020

10)Adjournment to Executive Session, not to return to Open Session, for discussion of personnel and contract negotiations at 7:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Davis