

Katherine Hamilton is doing Board Highlights

Budget Presentation by Kevin (see power point) (some discussion below)

Need to approve budget by March 20th. Will meet March 16th at 5:30 and we will meet March 26th.

Discussion of State Aid (we were cut less than we expected).

Discussion regarding how much income comes from Pre-K. Mary mentions that kids come into Kindergarten and they are not prepared. This may be because people cannot afford the pre-K tuition. It may be worth it to cut or reduce the tuition. Discussion about having free preschool for Roosevelt students only.

Discussion regarding the \$15000 bank cap that is expiring and the \$0 is Tuition Reserve that we have. Suggestion by Ken to move some over/increase taxes slightly so that we have some money in our tuition reserve.

Discussion/questions about why we only lost \$15000 this year. It seems other schools lost a lot this year again but we did not lose nearly as much as last year nor as much as other schools. Mary/Kevin are really unable to say why we didn't lose as much.

Discussion about 1% tax increase would be worth it so that we have some in our reserve. Michael and Ken discuss and agree this may be a good idea all around as we do not know what will happen in the future years.

Discussion regarding the S2 Projections. It is a formula but at the same time no one can say what future legislatures will actually pass.

Choice association is looking into how STEM teachers from Public Schools are being used in Private Schools. Possible law suit.

Parents are asking in school for update. Need to know we will be open next year and that choice students will be OK. Something to write to the public. Katy/Michael jumped in about meeting with the council and discussing the status with the bills. We need assembly democratic support.

MINUTES

CSA- Mary discusses that she was at the Capitol yesterday as part of the Superintendents' legislative advocacy group, and people were aware of us/we did not lose as much money as others.

Mary discussed meeting with other superintendents and explained that we are doing a regionalization study for both East Windsor and Millstone.

Mary says that teachers aren't as anxious as they were last year about losing their jobs; most think that the school finances are good until 2022.

Parents are still a bit worried (especially choice parents). Mary says that if choice students left, we would have others to fill their seats.

Discussion about camp- if it is going on, who will be paying for the custodian? There was an ad in the Bulletin about camp but Mary did not sign off on it yet. Can Council pay for the custodian? Need to discuss with rec department.

Personnel- First grade teacher is going on maternity leave; Mary will be interviewing for a certified teacher as a replacement.
Spanish teacher will be available as a sub. She is ESL certified which will be helpful.

Outreach- Hand out/backpack to school members assuring people that school will continue the next few years. That we didn't lose as much. Reassure the choice students/families that we are absolutely going to be open.

Communications committee- 2 different handouts? One for students/school community and one for Roosevelt community? One insert in the Bulletin and one in backpacks.

Thank the town for support with tax and that we are working together. Explain the bills and that they can write letters of thanks.

Letter: Applying for grant, legislature with bills, status update, tax increase, etc. One side the same and other different?

Discussion of Choice student- accepting an unfunded student? We have students that are on the waiting list for choice so we would not get any state aid for them. We have two students that are probably leaving. Should we fill these slots with students that are unfunded? Students leave at the last minute. We can accept the unfunded students and then when choice students leave we can transfer them into choice by October 12.

We will get lump sum of money for choice aid every year because we use all of it/fill the seats. We could make a policy where we oversubscribe for choice students so that we do not lose any of this allocated money/so we do not lose any of our seats when students leave at the last second.

Board went into Executive session to discuss two student confidential issues.