

OUUSD INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Via Zoom

January 4, 2021

Present:

Board Members: Angela Colbeth, Danielle Corti, Timm Judas, Chelsey Perry

Administration: Emilie Knisley, Bruce Williams, Alison Kidder, Jean Wheeler, Marla Ianello, Morgan Moore, Brian Emerson

Others: Bud Haas and other members of the public

- I. The meeting was called to order at 6:02 PM by Danielle Corti, Chair
- II. The Chair shared budget breakdown numbers. The proposed budget shows an increase of 2.86% over the previous year, which amounts to \$467,248 increase. The budget supports six educational systems.
 - A. For a house valued at \$200,000, tax payment for Bradford residents would increase by \$144.20, and the tax payment for Newbury residents would increase by \$60.00 for the year.
 - B. D. Corti shared budget number comparisons year to year for '19-'20, '20-'21.
 1. The Transportation increase is for contracted services.
 2. Food services expenses—the Federal program will last through to the end of the year. The district was able to pay off lunch debts with the grant.
 3. This proposed budget added a half-time social worker to Newbury, who is shared with Bradford Elementary. There were also some added supports at Oxbow.
 4. The Health expense decrease is due to some experienced nurses retiring.
 5. River Bend's facilities budget has been added into the OUUSD budget lines.
 - C. Why the increase? We have to figure out as a community what we want our schools to be. OUUSD is starting on a strategic planning process. This budget shows that we are investing in the SU office and its systems. The Board feels that these investments will benefit all the students in the OUUSD that will support all the schools. We've made those investments, and the costs should level out.
 - D. This budget is showing a commitment to our teachers and staff. It shows a commitment to increased social emotional supports for the students, a common math curriculum, additional technology support, and an increase in student activities (such as winter activities programs.)
- III. Emilie Knisley: When folks get their ballots, they will see 5.5%. This does not reflect the tax increase. This is mandated by the state and reflects an equalized pupil count.
- IV. Jean Wheeler: wonderfully organized way of getting information out
- V. Morgan Moore: thanked D. Corti and everyone who's attending.
- VI. Brian Emerson: RBCTC has rebounded in their pupil count. If RBCTC runs a deficit, that is spread out over a number of sending schools.
- VII. Marla Ianello: very informative and appreciated the presentation

- VIII. Bruce Williams: Felt D. Corti covered it well
- IX. Bud Haas: Appreciates the information and data. He is looking forward to seeing the same kind of information in February/March when the District is getting ready for the next budget vote. He hopes the Board still has a commitment to getting the Amendment to Article 3 voted on at the next Annual meeting.
A. D. Corti: Article 3 will come before the Board, be vetted by an Attorney, and go before the voters at the next Annual meeting.
- X. D. Corti will post a tax cheat sheet on the website, which will hopefully offer clarifying information.
- XI. Emilie Knisley: A draft budget for OESU for next year has been sent to the Board. As we begin the next budgeting cycle, the Board will be looking at that draft at tomorrow night's OESU meeting. She invited people to be part of that conversation tomorrow night at 6:00 PM and review those documents.
- XII. Bud Haas: Will the OUUSD Board have an opportunity to review that? When will the OESU vote on their budget?
A. Danielle Corti: Reps from each Board will come back to their respective boards with information.
- XIII. Timm Judas: When will the documents be distributed to the OUUSD Finance Committee?
A. D. Corti: Right away, maybe tonight.
- XIV. The meeting was adjourned at 6:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Perkins, Minutes Clerk

The minutes are in draft format and are unofficial until formally approved by the Board at a subsequent meeting.