

## OUUSD INFORMATIONAL MEETING

Via Zoom

March 24, 2021

Present:

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

Administration: Bruce Williams, Linda Metcalf, Jean Wheeler, Morgan Moore, Brian Emerson, Marla Ianello

Others: Marvin Harrison, Amy Hayward, and other members of the public

- I. The informational meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Danielle Corti, Chair.
- II. Financial Report (Linda Metcalf) which is all in the annual report and posted to the website
  - A. Shared budgets for each of the schools comparing 2022 to 2021
    1. Bradford budget: \$4,016,754
    1. Newbury budget: \$2,258,172
    3. Oxbow budget: \$5,769,677
    4. River Bend budget: \$2,484,852
    5. OUUSD budget: \$12,379,525
  - B. Tax worksheet:
    1. Equalized pupils: 685.99
    1. Estimated spending per equalized pupil: \$18,044
    2. Bradford estimated tax rate \$1.6554
    3. Newbury: estimated tax rate \$1.5798
  - C. Common level of appraisal for Newbury has gone up a little bit, which will bring Newbury's taxes down a little bit.
  - D. D. Corti thanked Elizabeth Kingsbury for her hard work on the annual report and for getting documents posted to the website.
- III. Principals' Reports
  - A. Jean Wheeler: Principals worked together to create a power point.
    1. Morgan Moore: What's going on now: Newbury Elementary School has a new literacy program that complements the current writing program. There is a new math program called Illustrative Math, which is used across OUUSD. Teachers also participated in the All Learners Network for professional development training. In Unified Arts they have added music lessons during the school day. The winter ski program had 40+ students participating. Scholarships were available to all who needed them. They have purchased specialized bikes for the PE class. The Librarian won a grant for an equity audit and more diverse library books.
      - a. in the future: Forest and Outdoor Programming. The first-grade teacher wrote a grant to fund outdoor education next year. Vertical and District PLC's are in place for literacy and math. They will continue Restorative Practices. Students are also on the team. Next year they

hope to work on Tier 2 implementation of restorative practices. This helps kids repair relationships.

b. Budget: Added .2 for the music teacher. There is an increase for PD for teachers and paras, facilities costs, and increases to technology, phone, etc.

c. Digital Schoolhouse is run jointly with Newbury and Bradford. It provides live instruction from a licensed teacher all day every day for remote learners.

2. Marla Ianello: The collaboration coming out of Digital Schoolhouse will have a long-lasting impact for professional development in the district. It creates opportunity for vertical learning opportunities between the two schools. BES focused on outdoor education. Outdoor classrooms are behind the school, and one is being built at Low Forest. When the students are out, they are out for the day in all kinds of weather. The second-grade teacher wrote a grant for boots, jackets, and backpacks that permitted the students to be out in all kinds of weather. Maple is the flavor of the month, and students have experienced maple sugaring. Outdoor education is an opportunity to take a break from technology and to do their work in the outdoors instead. The Library is now all set up. There are new titles, and weeding is going on. They are implementing a new math curriculum, and staff are going to All Learners Network. 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders are starting a letter writing program as pen pals to some of our local elders. Next year they will be spending time on English/Language Arts, connecting with the community, and expanding library hours. The total budget is down. Decreases are from facilities, OESU assessment, and PK tuition. Increases are from health insurance and other benefits, technology, and salaries.

3. Jean Wheeler: Oxbow is projecting that student enrollment will increase by 30 next year. They are focusing on getting as many students back in school as much as possible while keeping them safe. Athletics and Extracurricular have been active. Drama has been held while observing safe practices during the pandemic. Seniors are planning for prom and graduation, which will be June 18<sup>th</sup>. They are planning for the future to help re-engage students, allow for more flexibility to their schedules, and exploring STEM and career academic models. Project-based learning-June Term 2022. Proficiency based graduation requirements. Oxbow budget has increased \$264,103.37. Increases included salaries and benefits, special education, 2 teaching positions, tuition to River Bend, and transportation. Decreases include OESU assessment, shift in staffing, guidance counselor, reduction in Tech staff, and facilities.

4. Brian Emerson: It is Sugaring Season, and the Diversified Ag class is busy boiling. Culinary Arts students are perfecting their recipes for the ProStart Competition.

a. Recruitment: He is very nervous about recruitment this year.

Students and staff have done remote spring recruitment activities. He is hoping after April break they can have individual families and students

visit River Bend in person. For the future: building statewide CTE proficiencies for each program. Continued Community Connections: through work-based learning in the community. Upcoming adult education courses in heavy equip, LNA courses, and CDL courses.  
b. Total Budget: \$141,506 increase. Savings: heavy equipment repairs, technology upgrades, OESU lowering budget. Increases: health insurance, benefits, and salaries, student college tuitions, culinary supplies, tech supplies, and deficit from previous year.

IV. Public Comment/Questions

A. Timm Judas: Bravo! A unified document in their presentation goes so far to support and reinforce the idea of unification. He appreciates the efforts by everybody.

B. Amy Hayward: Is proud of our four schools.

C. Danielle Corti: There will be another informational meeting in April and hopes for more people in attendance. She extended a big thank you to the SU office for their work in reducing their budget and hopes the community sees that effort and the awareness they are meeting the needs of the taxpayers. She thanked the teachers for keeping the budget to what is really needed. It was a Board decision to not put Provision 2 in the budget or on the warning. They feel it is important, but that holding off is the best decision for right now.

1. Zachary Lang and Megan Ballou are write-in candidates from Bradford for the OUUSD Board. Lynda Fischer is a write in candidate for Treasurer.

2. T. Judas: Bliss Store, Newbury Store, Tenney Library, and Bradford Library all have hard copies of the survey.

3. Marvin Harrison: The Budget committee felt that there should be a special in-person meeting to talk about Provision 2.

a. Doesn't the State transfer funds electronically? Linda Metcalf: yes, they do. She's making a call first thing in the AM.

4. Jean Wheeler: thanks to teachers and staff. We should constantly thank them. It was a great way to be inclusive to make this presentation. She thanked OESU for doing a lot of the tasks that the individual schools used to do.

5. D. Corti: The presentation about the CARES funding and ESSER funding did not make it to the meeting. We will have that information at the April 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. These funds are Federal supports for the kids.

V. Motion by Timm Judas, seconded by Carol Cottrell to adjourn the Informational Meeting at 7:25 PM. Motion voted on and approved unanimously.

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.**