



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, January 12, 2023

9:00 a.m.

Committee Members: Dr. Camille Cerciello, Chair
Carol Hample, Michele Mencer, Justina Ryan

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent
Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary
Don Race, Facilities Manager

1. Next meetings are planned for:

- a. 2023-24 budget meeting on Thursday, Jan. 26th at 10:30 A.M.
- b. Regular meeting on Tuesday, February 14th at 9:00 A.M.
 - i. *Tentative Topics: audit results presented by auditors, breakfast mandate >10%, night custodial bid, insurance renewal update/Q&A, security plans, school bus tracking app, substitute rates*

2. **Tewksbury Shared Services Agreement severance effective January 1, 2023** - Mutually severed agreement by both districts. There is no negative financial impact on our district. Our employees will have more time to focus on our schools.

3. **Substitute Rates & Inflation Impact on Minimum Wage** - Substitutes rates for clerical aides, secretaries and custodians will need to increase from \$105/day to \$106/day to meet the NJ minimum wage requirement, based on the number of hours (7.5) worked per day.

4. **Preschool Tuition Rates** - Tuition rates have not increased in 2 years. After discussion, a decision was made to increase tuition by \$20/month or \$200 for the school year.

5. **ACES Utilities Consortium (Through NJSBA)** - Discussion regarding the Alliance for Competitive Energy Services, which saves us money for gas and electric costs. Agreed to rejoin ACES for free.

6. **RMS Winter Sports Chaperones for Safety - Not to Exceed \$1,300** - Agreed to hire chaperones for RMS Winter Sports. Also discussed considering hiring a police officer, at an hourly rate, to provide security for winter sports after school hours, approximately 3 hours/day, only on days needed.

7. 2023-2024 Capital Projects

- a. ROD / SDA grants - Regular Operating Districts, through the Schools Development Authority, are eligible for grants to support capital projects. Agreed to apply for grants.
- b. E-Rate proposals - Agreed to submit application for federal grant money for IT and internet costs.
- c. Architect fees - Agreed to move forward with architect fees for full board approval. We enjoy a very good relationship with Settembrino Architects.
 - i. RMS roof & HVAC / Bergen County Cooperative
 - ii. HBS, TBS & WHS bathroom additions
- d. Solar expansion - Agreed to move forward with next step for solar expansion in all 4 schools. Full board will vote to seek bids for solar expansion.
- e. TBS boiler -Topic tabled until next meeting
 - i. <\$40,000 repair and \$14,000 architect/engineering fee

8. Insurance Renewal Background Information - Topic tabled until next meeting

- a. Health insurance - No staff data, market, options
- b. General liability/property/casualty insurance - Background, market, options

9. Board Goals - Topic tabled until next meeting

#5. To set budget parameters that effectively plan for enrollment growth, maintain the depth, breadth and quality of the educational and co-curricular program that are both sustainable and fiscally accountable to the community; Evaluating and assessing our redistricting plan to accommodate shifts in student population.

#6. To continue to upgrade and refine safety and security measures to ensure student and staff safety.

10. Finance Agenda Items / Bills List