

DRAFT MINUTES

Greenfield Public Schools Budget, Finance, Negotiations

Date: 1/9/17

Time: 1-2:30 pm

Location: Central Office

Attendees:

Chair Nunez

Member Tripp

Asst. Superintendent Elizabeth Pratt

Bus. Director Howie Barber

Superintendent Jordana Harper

Supporting Documents Received:

NA

Call to order:

1:06 pm

Agenda Items:

1. **Public Comment—NA**
2. **Overview:** conversation on possible changes to negotiations and budget subcommittee and how this may affect the schedule/meetings. AN notes interest in serving on the Budget Subcommittee but not as chair. Need to move to Ex. Session immediately at 2.
 - a. Noted that a special full committee to vote on the budget is needed, likely the first week in March.
3. **FY17 update—**HB states: additional reviews of costs and how to manage shortfall are ongoing, reviewing staff posted against grants vs gen funds. Notes two positions at AEL to be posted against tuition account that previously were not.
 - a. Reporting update: Last year actuals have been added to excel spread.
 - b. HB notes total current remaining funds equal approx. 420k. 316k currently showing as available for fy17 + 104k more due to two personnel posting adjustments. We are in similar position to last year's remaining funds at this time in year (390k.)
 - c. HB notes Revolving acct. & scholarships: Scholarships can't be touched unless it is used for certain objectives.
 - d. Gift accts have more flexibility, but still have some objectives. Most are site specific.
4. **Revolving accts.**—student tuition (SPED) some will be used for SPED dept. improvements/changes. School Choice acct about 1million. But, not always "guaranteed". Circuit Breaker is awaiting two deposits. Working closely with SPED

department. No printed reports were given to subcommittee. HB notes will be in packet to full committee.

- a. HB notes budget shortfall maintenance is ongoing. Request for supplemental funding going to Council first reading next week. After supplemental we will be in good position and comparable to last year.

5. FY18 Budget development

- a. JH—principals and departments have submitted requests. Admin mtgs coming up next week.
- b. Subcte wants one meeting for dept heads. Templated sheet of information including what requests the Super is granting and what is not granted, and some narrative. Interest in streamlining these meetings and delivery of info.
- c. Talking about programs and what the term means: integrated arts, library, etc. MSA. Noted that MSA move will have budget impact. Any new GRS program will budget impact.
- d. JH confident that can put program in that space to meet goals of district, School Comm, community.
- e. Brief discussion on msa movement request for plan framework asap. JH notes: Transition team is happening now and on track with transition.
- f. JH current thinking on best use of GRS space: small program, not entirely elementary. Review various options. Nothing solidified at this time. Noted that movement of MSA to GMS building included the intent of using GRS as a k-5 pilot elem.
- g. MSA movement will see some reduction to transportation cost—about 45k shuttle bus will not be needed, but some changes may occur to other routes.

6. Scheduling of meetings/Deadlines for FY18 budget development.

- a. Feb 14 is deadline for public posting in the paper.
- b. March 1 proposed special full committee meeting for budget final vote. Possible to have Public hearing and vote on same day. May ask Mayor for one week extension, if needed for full committee to have enough time to review and vote.
- c. AN request that admin finalize firm dates and then send out an email to schedule with full committee ASAP.
- d. Total of 4 subcommittee meetings needed in next few weeks. Super recs 2 Department/Admin meetings; first draft meeting, 2nd draft meeting. Noted that full committee does not have to review before posting in paper. Paper posting is still a draft of the budget, changes can and likely, will, be made.
- e. Brief discussion on priorities for the budget. Subcommittee members feel it is their duty to provide for all students and therefore request the funding needed to support them. Our minimum responsibility is to request what we have.

Consensus: direct super to craft minimum of level services budget. Support for finding efficiencies, but noted that any funding found through efficiencies should be reinvested into district programming. Noted that other improvements and changes to programming including, but not limited to SPED programming in-house, will need financial support. Noted that additional variables (higher/new

SPED costs) were not in last year's budget. A level-funded budget would leave the district underfunded.

- f. Discussion on narrative needed to be delivered with budget proposal: important to tell a compelling story with the budget. Real clear numbers, really clear narrative. Preserving key services.

7. 2:10 Ex. Session to discuss Unit C and A Negotiation.

Adjournment time:

2:34 pm

Submitted by AN