

Note: Per C.G.S. 10 – 218, Board of Education meeting minutes are provided in a draft format within 48 hours of the date the meeting was held. With the exception of motions and votes recorded, these minutes are unofficial until they have been read and approved by a majority vote of the Board. Should edits be necessary, they will be made at the next regularly scheduled meeting, noted in the meeting minutes, and voted upon.

SCOTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
Scotland, Connecticut
Meeting Minutes - Special Meeting
May 26, 2020

Chairperson Brynn Lipstreu called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

Present were Board members Sherry Smardon, Steven Kurcinik, Cassidy Martin, Scott Sears, Rod Perry and Bill Trudelle.

Administrators present were Superintendent Dr. Francis Baran, Principal Dr. Catherine Pinsonneault and Finance Coordinator Tim Smith.

Budget Presentations:

Dr. Baran reviewed budget scenario #8 which maintains current staffing and results in a Budget decrease of 0.5%.

Sherry Smardon asked whether or not MBR was an issue with a reduced budget. Dr. Baran stated that it is not a concern.

Rod Perry reviewed scenario #3 that provides a more balanced specials schedule while providing more class time for regular education with some savings.

Scott Sears stated support for scenario #6 which does not reduce music staffing.

Cassidy Martin stated support for scenario #6 as well.

Sherry Smardon stated that she supports scenario #8 which maintains current staffing levels.

Steve Kurcinik stated that he prefers scenarios #3 and #4.

Bill Trudelle asked whether there will be any fuel savings from bus transportation due to the school being closed.

Dr. Baran stated that there are many unknowns related to transportation needs in the fall and that we should not anticipate any savings.

Sherry Smardon asked whether reductions in administration had been considered. Dr. Baran stated that Dr. Pinsonneault had considered reducing her schedule from 5 days to 3.

He said that he does not approve of that reduction due to the need for consistent administrative leadership in the school from the Principal.

Sherry Smardon requested the number of Special Education students. Dr. Pinsonneault stated that there were approximately 22 students but have not been able to evaluate new incoming students due to the school closure.

Sherry Smardon discussed a concern that the public has not had an opportunity to provide feedback on the budget proposals as would normally be the case.

Wendy Sears, a member of the BOS, stated that they need the BOE budget for their selectmen meeting tomorrow and that they expect the BOE to send a budget with a 3% reduction because that is what they have directed all town departments to achieve. She stated that there will be a virtual town hearing to review all budgets on June 4, 2020 at 7:00 PM. She said that she hopes that BOE members will attend to discuss their budget. She reviewed some line items from the audited 18/19 BOE budget that indicated some line items were both under and over budget by significant amounts.

Steve Kurcinik made a motion to approve budget scenario #4 which provides 4 days staffing by the Speech and Language pathology teacher, 4 days per week for the school counselor and increases the 3% reduction budget by \$6,266 resulting in a budget of \$2,325,356 or an overall reduction from the 2019-2020 budget of 2.73%.

Motion was seconded by Rod Perry.

The motion passed with the following vote:

Sherry Smardon - no
Bill Trudelle - yes
Rod Perry - yes
Scot Sears. - no
Cassidy Martin - no
Steve Kurcinik - yes
Brynn Lipstreu - yes

Motion to adjourn made by Steve Kurcinik. Seconded by Scott Sears

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rod Perry, BOE secretary