

Board of Education Meeting

April 2, 2025 6:00 PM

Alfred B. Tyschen Building, 311 Hunting Hill Ave.

Conference Room A

DRAFT

Board Members Present: Liz Crooks, Sheila Daniels, Debra Guss, Adam Hayn, Deborah Kleckowski, Susan Owens, and Harold Panciera

Others Present: Superintendent Dr. Alberto Vázquez Matos, Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Stacey McCann, Executive, Director of Communications Jessie Lavorgna, Executive Director of Finance Natalie Forbes, Director of Food, Nutrition and Wellness Randall Mel, Director of Assessment, Manager of Human Resources Harry Snyder, Randall, Mel, Finance and Resource Management Specialist Cassandra Steinhilber, Purchasing Agent and Finance Department Lead Christopher Puorro, and Assistant to the Superintendent and Board of Education Joyce Carey

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Guss called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

II. 2025-2026 PROPOSAL OF SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDED BUDGET

Ms. Owens shared information from a meeting from last evening regarding Capital Prep Magnet School. Dr. Vázquez Matos reviewed documents including benefits and Legacy Academy Financials. Questions from Board Members included topics of leadership of Legacy Academy, location of Transition Academy, and tuition of outplaced students. Legacy Academy plans to include students from MHS, Beman and outplacements each separated into their own classrooms. Dr. Vázquez Matos explained how the district determined which students would be successful in the Legacy Academy. Chair Daniels asked about the Alliance Grant. Ms. Forbes explained. Mr. Puorro explained electricity costs and substitute secretarial costs. PreK curriculum writing was discussed as well as Convocation costs.

Mr. Gaylord explained the fuel cell repair or replacement. Dr. Vázquez explained the athletic coordinator position and the athletic trainer position. He explained that instruction support positions are put and maintained in place based on data results. Mr. Snyder explained adjusting job titles and discussions that would need to take place with bargaining units before taking any action. Mr. Snyder responded to questions regarding CT sick leave.

Dr. Vázquez Matos responded to remarks regarding reducing tuition of out of district high need students. He shared that the budget presented is conservative while serving the needs of the

students and comparable to other like districts. The wide services that the Pupil Services office covers was discussed.

The Board should be prepared to vote on the budget at the April 8th BOE Regular meeting. Ms. Forbes reminded the board members that grant funding is unknown and could be significantly reduced.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Daniels and a second by Ms. Kleckowski was made at 9:40PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Guss