



Office of the Superintendent

Cultivating the Brilliance in Each Student

Alberto Vázquez Matos, Ed.D., Ph.D., Superintendent of Schools

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Middletown Board of Education Budget Committee Meeting Minutes December 9, 2024

Present: Dr. Vazquez- Matos, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Eduardo Miranda, Director of Finance
Mrs. Sheila Daniels, Chairperson of the Board of Education
Mr. Harold Panciera, Chairperson of the Budget Committee
Mr. Mike Skott, I.T. Support

I. The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

II. The minutes were approved for October 7, as the meeting scheduled for November 18 was cancelled.

III. Mr. Miranda reported on the line - item transfers for the month. There were few, as it is still early in the school year.

He took questions regarding the line items, and why some showed projections for a surplus or deficit that seemed large. He made it clear that uncertainty is common throughout the year, especially in the areas of Special Education tuition and transportation.

IV. Dr. Matos has started the budget process earlier this year, and plans to hold a community meeting in order to get input from citizens. The Chair of the Board, and the Chair of the Budget Committee will meet with Dr. Matos each month in order to collaborate on meeting our needs in critical areas.

V. Dr. Matos and Mr. Miranda reminded everyone that the Board of Education's fixed costs are going up in about a year due to contract negotiations with four unions. Salaries and benefits will be more expensive.

VI. Dr. Matos commented on the capital expenses for improving our school buildings. The referendum to make improvements to Macdonough School was approved on November 5 by the voters. However, at least \$150,000 will be needed to make sure Keigwin School is ready to take the Macdough students for at least two years. The Superintendent and the Mayor's offices continue to hold monthly meetings in order to find a way to get money for this , and other pressing needs.



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VII. Dr. Matos reported also on the unfunded mandates that the state issues to all school districts. Two examples would be improvement of air quality (\$131,000) and menstrual pad dispensers in schools (\$ 21,000). He continues to work with our state congressional delegation to reduce these financial burdens placed on the city.

VIII. There were no other budget questions , and no suggestions for the January meeting.

IX. Meeting dates for 2025 were approved, and will be sent to the full Board. They are:

January 13	February 10
March 10	April 14
May 12	June 9
September 8	October 13
November 10	December 8
January 12, 2026	

X. Meeting was adjourned at 6: 17.