

FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

The meeting was held remotely via Google Meet

September 19, 2022

7:30 a.m.

Members in Attendance:

Jamie Bente, Scott Gerdes, Chad Wolff, Jason Engbrecht, Christopher Nelson, Courtney Cavellier, John Bellingham, Joel Olson, Stacy Fox

Others in Attendance:

Members Absent:

Michael Dietch, Rob Dehnert, Meghan Knutson

Meeting was called to order at 7:30 am

1. Business Items

- a. Motion by Mr. Wolff to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2022 Finance Committee Meeting, second by Mr. Bellingham. Motion passed.

2. Contracts, Agreements, Bids and Grants for Review

- a. Ms. Falvey presented the German exchange program we have with Wurzburg in which we send students for three weeks and then receive some of their students for three weeks. She explained that the program had temporarily ended during COVID, and last year there was a reduced program, and proposes resuming the normal full exchange for the summer of 2023. Motion by Mr. Wolff, seconded by Mr. Dehnert. Motion passed.
- b. Mr. Dehnert presented a proposal to provide ABA therapy via the Twin Cities Recovery Center within the district, which has been requested by various members of the public in recent months. There would be zero cost to the district. Mr. Dehnert explained that this would assist the students, and would help build bridges with the community. We would be the first school in MN to do this. It's similar to what is currently done with Fernbrook, but Fernbrook deals with mental health whereas the TCRC program would deal specifically with students with ASD. Motion by Mr. Bente to approve, seconded by Mr. Engbrecht. Motion passed.
- c. Mr. Dehnert presented information on a CVSEC DHH teacher, Medford DHH teacher, a contract for physically and other health disabled services teacher and visually impaired teacher contract, and a contract for orientation and mobility services as a consent item. They are all fairly basic contract continuations without much change from the prior year. Motion by Mr. Engbrecht to approve, seconded by Mr. Bellingham. Motion passed.
- d. Mr. Bente presented the SMSU concurrent enrollment contract, explaining that this is our college now/college in the schools program. We have physics and several math classes that are provided via our contract with them. Motion by Mr. Wolff to approve, seconded by Mr. Bente. Motion passed.

- e. Mr. Gerdes presented the SRO contract renewal, stating that it's very similar to the existing contract we have for SROs, which is increasing by only 2% from the previous contract. Mr. Engbrecht expressed concern about how some communities relationships with the district are impacted by the presence of SROs. Mr. Bente said he's never heard anything from any of our communities that would indicate they don't appreciate the presence of SROs. Ms. Fox and Mr. Olson had heard that the communities at their schools are focused on safety and appreciate having SROs. Motion by Mr. Bellingham to approve, seconded by Mr. Wolff. Motion passed.

3. Financial Performance

- a. Mr. Gerdes shared that the August ADM was up from budget by 85 students but that it's very early and automatic drops had not yet happened.
- b. Mr. Gerdes presented the August comparative financial reports, pointing out that gas is high, and that the insurance plan is down because we don't collect premiums during the summer, but continue to have claims.
- c. Mr. Gerdes presented the August investment report, reminding the committee that we don't get state payments in July, and that the balance is down because we hadn't been submitting for reimbursement for several grants because of audit and not wanting to overdraw.

4. Financial Strategies

- a. Mr. Gerdes presented the truth in taxation update, explaining that the state passed a law that all counties, cities, and school districts need to submit their finances via the form which was presented. Cities and counties run on calendar years, so they can provide their audited answers by the date of the filing, but we do not have final audited numbers as of the date of filing, we cannot provide final numbers. We can either submit numbers where are not final and which are unaudited or allow them to leave in the language saying that schools do not follow the same calendar and therefore the data is unavailable.
- b. Mr. Gerdes presented the levy certification, pointing out in section 2 showing that the year over year breakdown shows a difference of 170.54 per pupil unit, or \$906,804 in total. This funding means that we will not qualify for state aid, and the fully levy will come from local sources.

5. Next Meeting October 17, 2022 at 7:30am.

6. Motion by Mr. Bellingham to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mr. Olson. Meeting adjourned at 7:30am.

Respectfully submitted by Christopher Nelson