

## **MINUTES OF THE WBOE FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday 9 November 2021, at 4.35pm to 5.46pm

(Hybrid meeting in South Assembly at Beecher Road School and via Webex)

Attendees: Jonathan S. Budd, Superintendent; Richard Huot, Interim Business Operations Manager; Jay Dahya, WBOE; Maria Madonick, WBOE; Sarah Beth Del Prete, WBOE; Lynn Piasyck, WBOE; Kim Franklin, Teacher, Cathy Zdrowski, Teacher/WEA

1. Call to order
2. Public Comment: No public comment
3. Action(s) Taken: None
4. Items presented by the Administration for Discussion:
  - a. FY 2021/2022 budget narrative, budget report summary as of November 1, 2021, and draft projections and year end estimates – this included a benefits analysis with projections and year end estimates
  - b. FY 2022/2023 budget development with forecast on total employee benefits
  - c. Administrative team also provided a TEG (teacher experience grid) and budget calendar for 2021/2022

### Discussion

(A) Administration forecasts a deficit of \$171,380 by FYE 2021/2022. Key drivers of the deficit: series benefits (medical insurance costs); purchased property services (fuel and electricity costs); and other purchased services (liability insurance and workers compensation claims). Administration has initiated certain cost saving measures that did not impact programming. Administration is looking into diversifying the risk pool to better manage increasing medical insurance costs.

Recommendation: (a) Establish a combined school and town committee to examine how medical insurance costs might be moderated in the future; (b) A budget freeze in non-contracted and discretionary sections of the budget might be imminent if the deficit remains or continues to grow; (c) Reconsider the revenue/cost structures in ancillary programs such as Summer Programs and E-Day.

(B) For FYE 2022/2023, there is a budget forecast for a 9% increase in total salaries and 19.6% in employee benefits. The remainder of this budget will be discussed at the next two meetings of the finance committee.

5. Adjourn

Next meetings: November 30 and December 14, 2021.