

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: **October 20, 2021** **LOCATION:** **Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria**
185 Damascus Road, Branford, CT

SUBJECT: **Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting**

ATTENDANCE

HERE	ATTENDEE	AFFILIATION
Y	Dawn Perrotti, Committee Chair	Board of Education
Y	Joanne Borrus	Board of Education
Y	Peter Berdon	Board of Education
Y	Cristina Cantu	Board of Education
N	Chad Edgar	Board of Education
Y	Meredith Gaffney	Board of Education
Y	Ellen Michaels	Board of Education
Y	John Prins	Board of Education
Y	Dr. Tim Raynor	Board of Education
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Rachel Sexton, Assistant Superintendent	Central Office
Y	Charles Cicarella, Jr., Student Services Director	Central Office
Y	Donald Neel, Chief Operating Officer (COO)	Central Office

Others present:

CALL

01 The meeting was called to order at 7:21 PM by Dawn Perrotti.

DISCUSSION/CONSENT ITEMS

02 **2021/2022 Monthly Expenditures**

Don Neel reported that the Special Education fund is 56.2% committed, the General Operations budget is 74.2% committed for a consolidated General fund commitment of 70.8%. Mr. Neel stated that this is up about 8% from last month because it is the time of year where we make half of the contribution to our self-funded health insurance fund.

03 **ESSER Funds**

In his ESSER quarterly report Mr. Neel discussed the following; Corona Relief fund (\$77,000 has been spent), ESSER I (\$33,000 is 90% committed), ESSER II (1.5 million dollars), American Rescue Plan (3.4 million dollars). Mr. Neel also discussed; addressing learning loss and gaps (interventionists, afterschool programs, literacy, paras and ELL teacher), social and emotional wellbeing (budgets for an SBHC at Sliney and professional learning activities), Summer Learning, Family Community Outreach (Family Liaison, translation services, Family Academy and community efforts), equipment repair (minimize disease spread, tents and desk guards) and building safe and healthy schools (ventilation and indoor air quality updates).

04 **2020/2021 Special Education Tuition & Transportation Monthly Expenditures**

Charles Cicarella, reported that we experienced an increase in projected tuition going into June 30th of about \$88,700 this is attributed to current school year expenses. Projected tuition expenditures going into the end of the school year are 3.1 million dollars. Mr. Cicarella stated that transportation is very fluid, with a projected reduction of \$96,000 compared to last month. The reason for this reduction is strategic adjustments, cost sharing and vehicle type change. The projected expenses for transportation is \$765,000 going into the end of the year. Combined the budget is about 3.99 million dollars with projected expenses of about 3.84 million dollars, leaving residuals of approximately \$154,000 going into the end of the year. Mr. Cicarella concluded by saying we are well positioned.

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05 **Personnel Report**

Don Neel stated that the number of certified staff remains very stable, the number of para openings is 75% Special Education. We are seeing a tight labor market with a natural amount of turnover.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Gregg Jerolman, Branford resident, spoke about staffing and openings, the Director of Technology position, a New Haven Register article, and the open communication position.

ADJOURN

- 06** MOTION (Michaels/Cantu) to adjourn.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Prins adjourned the meeting at 7:41 PM.

**The next Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting will be
November 10, 2021, at 6:30 PM at Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria.**

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Gaffney
Secretary

Prepared by,
Kerry Eyrich