

BRANFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

PERSONNEL & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

DATE: April 19, 2023

LOCATION: Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria
185 Damascus Road, Branford, CT

SUBJECT: Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting

ATTENDANCE

HERE	ATTENDEE	AFFILIATION
Y	Meaghan DeLucia, Committee Chair	Board of Education
Y	Peter Berdon	Board of Education
Y	Cristina Cantu	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	Laura Troidle	Board of Education
Y	Marie Watson	Board of Education
Y	Hamlet M. Hernandez, Superintendent	Central Office
N	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 7:53 PM by Meaghan DeLucia.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments made at this evening's meeting.

APPROVE MINUTES

- 02** A. MOTION (Troidle/Raynor) to approve the minutes from the March 8, 2023 Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting.
APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- 03** **A. 2022/2023 Monthly Expenditures**
Don Neel reported that the Pupil Services Budget is 81.5% committed, the General Operations budget is 90.2% committed for a consolidated General Fund commitment of 88.6%. Mr. Neel stated that this is the time that we start putting on the breaks, we will continue to spend but will do so deliberately. The budget remains in a solid status. Mr. Neel concluded his report by speaking about the food service contract, the bid process and also the transportation contract.
- 04** **B. 2022/2023 Special Education Tuition & Transportation Monthly Expenditures**
Charles Cicarella stated that there was a minor tuition increase of \$500, a \$5000 projected increase in our transportation, looking at residuals of about 112,000 going into the end of the school year. Mr. Cicarella concluded by stating that we are in a good position and are comfortable where we are at.
- 05** **C. ESSER Quarterly Report**
Mr. Neel stated that in this report staff costs were differentiated between non-staff costs, the budget is pretty much evenly split between these two categories. We have not submitted our budget revision request to the State yet for the American Rescue Plans ESSER funds (there are some changes that are going to have to happen that will be absorbed by these funds next year). Mr. Neel continued by saying that he is very confident that all of our modifications will be adopted with the exception of the security guards (because building is in the title) there is a better chance than not that this modification will be excepted.

Continued...

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DISCUSSION/CONSENT ITEMS (Continued)

06 D. Personnel Report

Mr. Neel reported that the big news is the State Partnership Plan. Superintendent Hernandez personally negotiated with each one of our Unions. It was a wonderful outcome the employees have better coverage and significant cost avoidance.

Dr. Raynor spoke about District exit interviews/surveys and asked if the Board could receive the data. Mr. Neel, Superintendent Hernandez and the Board further discussed the process, disseminating the information quarterly, annually or in a negotiating session.

MOTION (Raynor/Troidle) to look at exit interview data on an annual basis but for negotiation purposes receive a recap of the last 12 months in an executive session or a non-meeting.

APPROVED (Michaels abstained).

07 E. Solar Project Update

Mr. Neel stated that parts that we have been waiting for should be in next Wednesday.

ADJOURN

08 MOTION (Troidle/Michaels) to adjourn.

APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY

Mr. Berdon adjourned the meeting at 8:32 PM.

**The next Personnel & Finance Committee Meeting will be
May 10, 2023, at 7:00 PM at Walsh Intermediate School Cafeteria.**

Respectfully submitted,
Meredith Gaffney
Secretary

Prepared by,
Kerry Eyrich