

SANBORN REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
November 30, 2017
APPROVED

A meeting of the Sanborn Regional Budget Committee was held on Thursday, November 30, 2017. The meeting was called to order at 7:03pm. The following were recorded as present:

SRSD BUDGET COMMITTEE

Annie Collyer, Chairperson
Charlton Swasey, Vice-Chairman
James Doggett
Sandi Rogers-Osterloh
Mary Cyr
Cheryl Gannon
Jack Kozec
Tammy Mahoney, School Board Representative

The meeting began with a salute to the flag.

Ms. Collyer welcomed the School Board and Administrators as a joint meeting was held. Ms. Collyer outlined agenda and contents of meeting.

Ms. Collyer called for a motion to accept the meeting minutes from November 15, 2017

Ms. Rogers-Osterloh motioned to accept meeting minutes from November 15, 2017. Mr. Doggett seconded. Ms. Gannon abstained. Motion passed. 6-0-1

BUDGET PREPARATION DISCUSSION

Mr. Ambrose, Superintendent provided answers to the 78 questions presented by both the Budget Committee as well as the School Board. Questions can be seen on the website along with the detailed answers.

Mr. Ambrose clarified that duplicate questions were not answered and referred to slides from 11/1/17 and 11/15/17.

Mr. Ambrose expressed that the district understands the impact of taxes on the communities. They are working to balance supporting the community taxes while analyzing the needs of the district.

Mr. Ambrose proposed reductions reflect approximately \$1.1 million in cuts or reallocation. New items such as professional development are funded without a year-to-year increase to the budget as a whole.

Mr. Ambrose noted the School Board will deliberate and send a budget to the Budget Committee on 12/6/17.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Angela O'Connell from Fremont offered information on funding trusts via warrant articles that permit use of unexpended funds at the end of the year. She also expressed concern for the proposed 8 position reduction. Who will be cut and where are the cuts going to be? Mr. Ambrose explained that the positions are spread all over the district and it is a complex process that involves collective bargaining agreements. The exact reduction in staff cannot be specifically noted at this time.

Tammy Gluck from Newton questioned how the reduction in staff members could help meet the goal of student success. She noted she would like to see the Student Assistance Counselor added back into the budget.

Barry Gluck from Newton expressed concern that the budget presentation does not balance the needs of the students and the district versus the expenditures.

Dawn Dutton expressed concern about the proposed teaching position reductions, and asked if there are other ways to find savings.

Cheryl Gannon from Kingston spoke of her appreciation to the administration in providing answers to the questions presented and for Mr. Ambrose's perspective, as someone new to the district, that there is a lack of trust. She said we all need to work on a balance, and come together as a community. If that doesn't happen, more of our children may turn to drugs and alcohol.

Corey Masson from Newton applauded and thanked the Budget Committee and the administration and support staff for all their hard work. He expressed the goals of student outcomes and building student culture and asked that those goals be kept in mind in the formulation of the budget.

COMMITTEE COMMENT

Mr. Doggett explained that this is the some in the community's first opportunity to ask questions on how the budget was worked through in years past. He also expressed that some of the questions asked were not the result of the proposed budget but clarification of past activity.

Cheryl Gannon questioned if there will be an offer of training on the pivot table spreadsheet. Ms. Croteau agreed to meet with members who need training. Ms. Collyer explained that the pivot table will be used and that the training would be very helpful to use the document in a practical setting.

Ms. Rogers- Osterloh read the Budget Committee mission and goals so the committee will stay on target.

Ms. Collyer thanked the administration, leadership team and the public.

CALL TO ADJOURN

Ms. Collyer called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Doggett made the motion, Ms. Rogers-Osterloh seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:37pm.

Minutes submitted by,
Christi Donovan