

**WILLINGTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
BUDGET WORKSHOP #3
MINUTES**

January 31, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Virtual Meeting: Zoom Recording

Members Present (all present remotely through Zoom)

Michelle Doucette Cunningham - Chair

Ann Grosjean- Vice-Chair

Herb Arico - Secretary

Tracey Anderson

Briana Ross

Laura Rodriguez

Donna Cook

Also Present

Phil Stevens, Superintendent of Schools; Mary Kay Tshonas, HMS Principal; Lisa Cushing, CES Principal; Marcia McGinley, Director of Pupil Services; Dr. Erin Conley, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; members of the public.

1. Call to order

Chair Cunningham called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Cunningham led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Present to Speak

No members of the public were present to speak.

4. Review of prior programs

Donna Cook asked about a list of contracts to prepay and Chair Cunningham noted it would be discussed under program adjustments.

Herb Arico shared his thoughts on the budget and questioned if enough funds were available for books. Board members shared their thoughts on funding for books. Superintendent Stevens shared that students have a balance of online and physical books and that he would share more information on past book purchases.

5. Program 8 Operations/Maintenance, Review and BOE Discussion

Superintendent Stevens shared information on Program 8, noting an increase in custodial supplies. Ann Grosjean asked where the preventative maintenance contract with EMCOR was located and it was noted that it was in programs 1 and 2. Donna Cook asked where general maintenance supplies were funded and Superintendent Stevens noted that it was this program along with programs 1 and 2.

6. Program 9 System-Wide Support, Review and BOE Discussion

Superintendent Stevens reviewed program 9 highlighting the various subscriptions necessary to operate the district, including their contract with NOVUS for IT services. Herb Arico asked about legal fees and Superintendent Stevens noted that the Board

pays for hours as they are used. Members also asked about magnet school tuition, erate consulting, and school security funding.

7. Program adjustments

The Board discussed applying \$150,000 versus prepaying certain items with current budget savings. Superintendent Stevens shared the process for applying non-lapsing funds and why the Board currently has significant savings in the 2022-2023 budget. Superintendent Stevens shared that the budget would be a .99% increase if the Board applied \$150,000 in non-lapsing funds which they requested he complete.

8. Adjournment

Herb Arico made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Laura Rodrigues seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously and the Board adjourned the meeting at 7:16 pm.

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