

BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**MINUTES****WELLSBORO AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

January 25, 2011 12:00 PM Administration Office- Conference Rm.

Start Time: 12:08PM

Present

Todd Coolidge, Glenn Poirier, Wayne Hackett, Carl Chambers, Chris Morral, Marcia Newcomb, Steve Adams, Pat Hewitt, Mike Pietropola, Amy Repard, Scott Keck Public- John Peropat

Agenda

Update Preliminary Budget
Review/Discuss Budget Updates
Present Staffing Changes
Review Budget Timeline
Review Facility Usage Fee Structure
PASBO/PASA Webcast- March 24, 2011 @ 9:00-11:45AM
Discuss Desires of Committee

Committee Member /Administration Issues or Discussion Topics

1. Superintendent Morral opened the meeting with an updated preliminary budget projection discussion. Superintendent Morral forecasted an optimistic view to the 2011-2012 budget and stated that things are progressing daily within this budget season. Superintendent Morral also reported projections for the current budget are based upon the assumption that we receive funding equivalent to the current fiscal year of 2010-2011.
Mrs. Newcomb reported a variance in the preliminary budget of (-260,000) noting several key factors influencing the proposed budget as is;
 - Increase of \$200,000 for capital project budget as recommended by buildings and grounds committee.
 - Additional sixth grade teacher
 - Additional Elem. Library Aide
 - Additional High School Tech Ed. position
 - PSERS retirement projection of 8.65 from 10.85
 - Health Ins. Projection of 11% increase
2. Superintendent Morral commented on reduction of \$20,932/year for five years for copier expenses. Original budgeted amount was \$65,000/year. Actual cost will be approximately \$48,568.

3. Mr. Poirier asked for clarification regarding capital project expenses. Current capital project budget for 2010-2011 budget is \$200,000. Total capital project budget proposed for 2011-2012 budget is \$400,000. One time money as a result of refinancing bond obligations will be dedicated to capital project needs already identified by buildings and grounds committee.
4. Further budget discussion revolved around projected level of basic education subsidy anticipated by PDE. Superintendent Morral discussed possible projections from 2008-2009 fiscal year as well as 2010-2011 levels of school funding.
5. Mrs. Newcomb and Mr. Morral reviewed/discussed staffing summary with committee. All factors mentioned above were discussed as well as Special Education vacancy as a result of Amy Repard being named Director of Special Education. Current vacancy exists in HS as a result of Kevin Post transferring to MS. Further discussion took place regarding additional need for Life Skills teacher at Don Gill due to an increase in the number of students in Life Skills from 12 to 13. As a result of this increase, WASD will be out of compliance to not place an additional Life Skills teacher at Don Gill. Recommendation was made to transfer HS position to DG for the remainder of the school year. Further discussion will occur for this position in the 2011-2012 school year. Mrs. Repard noted changes from PDE in regards to students being considered full time students vs. part time students. Mr. Adams added concerns regarding additional needs within the elementary level specifically in grades 3 and 4 in which students are currently not meeting AYP.
6. Superintendent Morral opened discussion about facility usage fee structure. Mr. Morral noted several key factors influencing a need for this discussion that included a significant increase in facility use requests, additional requests from outside organizations as well as parks and recreation, and increasing utility costs. Mr. Morral suggested to each committee member to think about the structure for facility use requests and have discussions with stakeholders prior to next meeting.
7. Mrs. Newcomb reported the PASBO/PASA Budget Webcast to be held on March 24th @ 9:00-11:45AM and is open to all board members and administrators.
8. Mr. Poirier asked for clarification regarding increased expenses in district/board expenses. Business Manager Marcia Newcomb explained the increase due to students placed in acute mental health facilities, contribution to parks and recreation tennis court resurfacing, contribution to Mary Lou Putnam Fitness Center, PEP contribution, retiree benefits, and district wide copier expense.

9. Superintendent Morral ended the meeting by asking members of the committee to begin to prioritize budget reductions to account for the variance of (-260,000). At the next meeting, discussions will need to take place to finalize proposed staffing and all other items related to 2011-2012 budget. Mr. Morral then turned the meeting over to Chairperson Todd Coolidge.

10. Meeting was adjourned at 1:07PM.

Next Budget and Finance Meeting will be February 9, 2011 @ 12:00PM- District Office Conference Rm.