

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BUDGET COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, December 8, 2015 – Location FRES Library 7:00 PM
Joint Meeting Minutes**

Members Present: Don Davidson (Chair), Kelly Eschback, Harry Dailey, Jim Kofalt, Pam Altner, Leslie Brown, Ellen Pomer, Harry Dailey (WLC School Board Rep.)

Attendance: School Board Members(s): Geoffery Brock, Harry Dailey, Matt Ballou, Francis Bujak, Joyce Fisk, Mary Giuld, Alex LoVerm, Carol LeBlanc

Superintendent Dr. Christine Tyrie, Business Administrator Lise Tucker, Principal Tim O'Connell, Administrative Assistant Mary Jane Ryan

Mr. Davidson called the School Budget Committee Meeting to order at 6:58 PM the School Board Meeting was already in session.

Mr. Davidson apologized for not having been able to make recent meetings and then asked why the School Board was conducting a search for a new superintendent. Geoff Brock replied that Superintendent Christine Tyrie has informed the board that she is planning to retire.

Mr. Tim O'Connell presented the proposed Elementary School Budget for 2015 – 2016.

Beginning of 2015 - 2016 School-Year the Elementary School had 222 students and current population has reduced to 215 students

There has been a significant increase in the computer related costs due to website fee and an increase in license fees which is based on the number of students. Funding is also needed to replace the older computer equipment.

Mr. Davidson asked if anyone had reached out to BAE to see if they could assist. Mr. O'Connell said no one had reached out and he did not know who would be the proper person to contact. Don Davidson said he would research the appropriate contact.

FRES is looking to have 2 Computer Labs as-well-as fully equipped Rolling Lab Carts

Due to an increase in the number of students participating in Chorus additional risers are needed.

Mr. Geoff Brock questioned if there is enough money in the proposed budget for books. He wanted to be sure that textbook updating is not being postponed.

Ms. Leslie Brown asked if there was a library plan. Mr. O'Connell said there was not one.

Fuel Budget \$42,000 is hoped to be sufficient due to energy efficient windows, insulation, etc.

Mr. Harry Dailey noted that $\frac{1}{2}$ of the \$15,006.69 (1.48%) is due to moving certain line items to SAU Budget.

Dr. Christine Tyrie stated the Benefits line has been reduced due to costs less than anticipated. If everything comes in flat for the current budget the proposed budget will increase \$234,150.30.

Mr. O'Connell stated funding for new furniture included. All classrooms in new addition are furnished with old furnishings.

Dr. Christine Tyrie stated the Tech Plan is not in the proposed budget.

Mr. Dailey - We need to determine a plan and stick to it.

Ms. Carol LeBlanc requested a presentation by the Tech Committee

Mr. Brock said there has been much discussion regarding providing devices for 4th and 9th grade students for one-on-one computing vs. computer labs.

Fran Bujak explained the CIP the old burner at LCS has been removed from the plan but bleacher replacement and LCS paving have been added

The Public Hearing for the 2015-2016 Budget is scheduled for February 4th at 7pm.

Geoff Brock discussed Wilton's \$1/1000 tax increase and the reasons attributing to the hike. Apportionment change, state reimbursement reduction, and \$250,000 for repairs and the school bond payment all increase the tax rate.

Mr. Dailey made a motion for the superintendent to make a prioritized list of potential budget cuts to bring in flat budget. Since the motion is advisory, Mr. Davidson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The next joint meeting is scheduled for January 5th.

The next Budget Committee Meeting is scheduled for December 22nd at 7:00pm at LCS.

Ms. Leslie Brown made a motion to adjourn the Budget Committee and Ms. Pam Altner seconded the motion at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Post for Ellen Pomer
Final 01/11/2016