

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING & JOINT BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION**

**Tuesday, November 15, 2016**

**Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative M/H School-Media Room**

**6:30 p.m.**

Present: *Geoff Brock, Mark Legere, Charlie Post, Joyce Fisk, Carol LeBlanc, Matt Ballou (6:38pm) and Alex LoVerme (6:49pm) and Harry Dailey (7:00pm after Budget Committee Mtg.)*

*Superintendent Bryan Lane, Business Administrator Lise Tucker, Director of Student Support Services Betty Moore, Principals Brian Bagley, Tim O'Connell and Clerk Kristina Fowler*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Brock called the meeting to order at 6:32pm.

**II. ELEMENTARY STUDENTS OF THE MONTH**

Mr. O'Connell honored two 4<sup>th</sup> grade students of the month from FRES.

**III. ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Superintendent Lane added an explanation for the increase of Lyndeborough's tax rate and a new spread sheet to share with the Budget Committee.

**IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Mr. Jared Manning of Troop 10 was present and spoke of the Eagle Scout project he started in 2013 which was a score board for the soccer field. He is back to report that it is up and running. In 2015 he had collected \$5,636 plus put in a personal donation of \$2,000. On labor 150 hours have been spent and 400 hours of fund raising. Final plans include weed fabric and crushed stone. He plans to go before the Eagle Board for approval. He was praised by Superintendent Lane and Chairman Brock for the amount of work that was done and how much it adds to the experience of the game, it is appreciated by the WLC School District.

**V. BOARD CORRESPONDENCE**

**a. Reports**

**i. Superintendent's Report**

Superintendent Lane reported he continues to work on the budget and negotiations. He thanked the principals and SAU staff for meeting goals both fiscally and academically as we move forward. In December he plans to present a staffing piece which they have looked at collectively including what deficits they have with limited personnel. They are currently in final stages of this collective decision. He met with the road agents and also town administrators of both towns to see what they can do jointly and what makes sense. He will attend the Southwesterners meeting on Friday. He reassured them the schoolbus strike is not something we need to worry about thankfully. A couple of weeks ago he was at FRES where students sprayed him with silly string during a celebration. Today is the 50<sup>th</sup> day of school and at LCS the students are celebrating in 50's style, some with poodle skirts and leather jackets. He congratulated the girls' varsity for a great season, complimenting them for never giving up even though they were out sized by 6-10 inches in some cases. It shows a lot of character and the quality of the young ladies who participated.

**ii. Business Administrator's Report**

**iii. Principals' Reports**

**iv. Director of Student Support Services' Report**

**v. Director of Technology's Report**

52 **b. Letters/Communications**

53 **i. Follow up to Lyndeborough Selectmen's Letter**

54 Superintendent Lane reviewed the language from the Articles of Agreement originally dated September  
55 6, 1967 section 13 reads "In the event an elementary school property, or any portion thereof, is to be disposed  
56 of, the net proceeds of such disposition shall be credited to the Town in which such property is located." He  
57 explained this would indicate that if it was determined by the Board that the Lyndeborough Central School was  
58 no longer needed that there is no obligation to offer or give the town of Lyndeborough any consideration other  
59 than a financial settlement once the property was disposed of. If there were to be a modification to the Articles  
60 of Agreement, such a change would need to be proposed as a warrant article first at a public hearing and then at  
61 the annual district meeting. He would recommend consulting an attorney for any language changes. Any  
62 proposed modification would need to have a two-thirds majority of the voting body in order to become effective.  
63 There is no action needed on the part of the School Board.

64 **• LYNDEBOROUGH TAX INCREASE EXPLANATION**

65 Superintendent Lane reported that there is a letter on the town of Lyndeborough's website which  
66 explains the tax increase. He has created an additional explanation letter for the Board that includes the  
67 math. If anyone would like further information he would be glad to speak with them. The increase is  
68 not due to an increase in the budget, it is solely due to increase in the percentage of students in the  
69 district that live in Lyndeborough. In the last tax cycle Lyndeborough students made up 24.8% of the  
70 students in the district in the current tax cycle Lyndeborough students made up 26.93%. It represents  
71 an increase in the amount of the budget that Lyndeborough is responsible for by 2.08%. This can be  
72 achieved by the number of Wilton students leaving the district. Mr. Post noted Lyndeborough  
73 increased by 7 and Wilton dropped significantly and requested to have some numbers on student trends  
74 which the Superintendent will provide. The explanation letter the Superintendent created will be placed  
75 on the district website.

76  
77 **VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

78 **a. Treasurer's Report & Capital Projects Account-July & August 2016**

79 The reports have been reviewed by the Board.

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81 **VII. ACTION ITEMS**

82 **a. Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting**

83 *A MOTION was made by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Mr. Dailey to approve the minutes from*  
84 *October 25, 2016 as written.*

85 *Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

86  
87 **b. November 22 Meeting Date**

88 The Board meeting for November 22, 2016 will be cancelled as there are no immediate needs in the  
89 next week. The next scheduled meeting is December 6, 2016 which is a joint session with the Budget  
90 Committee to be held at WLC.

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92 Mr. Dailey joined the meeting.

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94 **VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

95 **i. Budget Liaison**

96 Mr. Dailey reported their discussions were mostly relating to the tax increase in Lyndeborough.

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98 **IX. 7:00 P.M. JOINT BOARD & BUDGET COMMITTEE SESSION**

Present: *Karen Grybko, Christine Tiedemann, Mary Guild, John Kofalt, Ellen Pomer, Lisa Post, and Leslie Browne*

The committee was already in session as they had met prior at 6:30pm.

#### **a. FY 2017-2018 Budget**

##### **i. SPED**

Ms. Moore explained that all of these figures had been seen before as part of the schools and SAU budgets. All those accounts have been collected here and the budget is inclusive of all special education costs for the district. The proposed budget is \$1,024,593 which is an increase of \$44,880 from \$979,713 in the adopted budget for 2016-2017. She reviewed the decreases to include: \$800 in legal services based on prior year expenses, \$1,500 in professional development as one of the staff is no longer pursuing a CAGS course, \$670 in dues and fees due to eliminating the NH Association of Special Education Administrators membership which was for the building coordinator, \$750 in replacement equipment at LCS as preschool equipment had been updated last year and \$37,085 in private in and out of state tuition at the HS due to a change in placement. She reviewed the increases to include: \$2,400 in computer software for the MS for the autism curriculum encyclopedia program as two students will transition into the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, \$1,500 in new furniture and fixtures for MS for workstations to be used in the RISE program, \$1,300 in ABA therapy supplies for all applicable levels at each school, \$67,478 in public, in state tuition at the HS which relates to tuition for existing out of district students as well as an addition of one student, \$2,160 in psychological testing services for all applicable levels as there is an increased need for evaluations at different levels for all schools, and \$13,860 in special education transportation which relates to year three of three of the current contract and additional out of district services needed. She reiterated the primary drivers in this budget are transportation and tuition. Responding to Ms. Browne, Ms. Moore explained with recent approval for a new program, they are expanding to the MS as two students will transition to the 6<sup>th</sup> grade. Superintendent Lane added that this would be \$120,000 per student if we had to go outside the district for this program and we are saving at least 70% of that although these are not exact figures, this is money we would pay one way or the other. Chairman Brock further added that the autism program has saved the district a lot of money and the feedback is that parents like it.

Responding to a question from Chairman Brock inquiring on the status of previous discussions on the possibility of "tuitioning in" other students, Ms. Moore replied that they are open to that and currently have eight students now and had started with three. Other districts have looked at their program and many are starting their own. Each student needs a therapist. There are 111 students that are serviced in special education (have an IEP). District enrollment is about 570.

Responding to a question from Ms. LeBlanc, regarding student progress, she explained it is a benefit to stay within their community and parents are so supportive that the student can be in their neighborhood school. They have discharged one student and another is transitioning into the sixth grade.

Superintendent Lane added it helps the student it is designed for but also helps other students to be sensitive to create that level of compassion. Mr. Dailey requested information on how many 504's there are and how much the autism program is saving the district.

##### **ii. CIP**

Members reviewed the document. Superintendent Lane explained that the first phase of the roof at WLC was completed and the door locks are done. They will continue to move forward to complete necessary projects.

Superintendent Lane informed members he has spoken with both police chiefs about COPsync and they believe it is valuable therefor it has been added back in the budget.

151 **iii. Warrants**

152 Superintendent Lane reported that both documents have been reviewed by the attorney. The first  
153 contains articles 1-3 for election of officers and second containing articles 4-9 mostly financial in  
154 nature. **Article 5** relates to the CBA with the teachers, at this point we are in progress and have another  
155 meeting on Monday. It is public knowledge that Schoolcare will come in and talk about healthcare  
156 changes. All staff is welcome to attend on November 29 at WLC in the media room. **Article 7** relates  
157 to whether there will be money added to Building/Equipment and Roadways Capital Reserve Fund,  
158 currently the balance is \$241,649. **Article 8** relates to the Technology Advancement Capital Reserve  
159 Fund and whether there will be money added to that, the balance is \$24,756. He explained we are  
160 looking at creating a greater level of fiber and we would hook into the town to connect with the  
161 schools, library, police and town hall. It doesn't appear to be financially beneficial to go to LCS right  
162 now. Educationally Disabled Children Capital Reserve Fund is not listed as there is not a need as it is  
163 just under \$250,000 and is appropriate. Ms. Tucker added that it has not been used in a couple of years.

164  
165 Both groups discussed article 8 and what the appropriate use for this fund is, does it include  
166 infrastructure, how much should be in it but in any case it should be well planned out. Superintendent  
167 Lane reported the fiber would be \$14,000.

168  
169 Both groups discussed article 7 and members shared concerns of not adding money to this fund with  
170 balancing the tax rate for the community.

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172 A decision will need to be made by the last meeting in December on both articles.

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174 **iv. Technology Student Survey**

175 Superintendent Lane reviewed the survey from the 9<sup>th</sup> grade students. It shows a good number can  
176 access the internet from home and a small percent who cannot, some think they should use them more,  
177 some less, it shows we are making use of the materials although there is still room for improvement.  
178 We have about 4-5 in reserve and these devices have some durability to them. One key thing is the  
179 teachers are sensitive to the ones who don't have access. We will experiment with letting the 9<sup>th</sup>  
180 graders take them home. There will be a policy and protocol involved. Mr. Dailey recommends  
181 parents are notified via letter and have them sign an acknowledged of receipt. Mr. Ballou's only  
182 concern is content filtering and Superintendent Lane will check on that.

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184 **v. Standardized Test Scores**

185 Superintendent Lane reviewed the scores. He noted in some cases there are problems that the students  
186 have not been exposed to which could contribute to the scores. For example, most don't take physics  
187 until their senior year, how can they do well until they have been exposed to it although he is not saying  
188 this is the only reason. We need to use this as a diagnostic. He explained Common Core and Smarter  
189 Balanced. He confirmed accommodations are made for special education students. Members requested  
190 additional data.

191  
192 *A MOTION was made by Ms. Pomer and SECONDED by Ms. Browne to adjourn the Budget*  
193 *Committee session at 8:16pm.*

194 *Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

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196 **X. RESIGNATIONS / APPOINTMENTS / LEAVES**

197 **a. Appointment-Kathie Wilson-SPED Teacher**

198 Superintendent Lane reviewed the recommendation for appointment for Ms. Kathleen Wilson and  
199 requested the Board make her salary retroactive to her start date instead of being paid at a substitute  
200 rate of pay due to an immediate need to have her start right away. There is cost savings of \$3,000 for  
201 12 days of the position being vacant.

203 *A MOTION was made by Mr. Dailey and SECONDED by Mr. Ballou to approve the appointment of*  
204 *Kathleen Wilson, SPED teacher and approve to make it retroactive to pay her from November 4, 2016.*  
205 *Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

206  
207 **XI. BOARD BUDGET DISCUSSION**

208 No further discussion was warranted.

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210 **XII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

211 Mr. Dailey requested to have the lathe and tractor removed from under the pole shed.

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213 **XIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A: 3 II (A)**

214 *A MOTION was made by Mr. Dailey and SECONDED by Ms. Fisk to enter Non-Public Session to*  
215 *discuss a personnel matter RSA 91-A: 3 II (A) at 8:35pm.*

216 *Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

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218 **RETURN TO PUBLIC SESSION**

219 The Board entered public session at 8:55pm.

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221 *A MOTION was made to seal the non-public session minutes for 50 years by Mr. Dailey and*  
222 *SECONDED by Mr. LoVerme.*

223 *Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

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225 **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

226 *A MOTION was made by Mr. LoVerme and SECONDED by Ms. LeBlanc to adjourn the Board meeting*  
227 *at 8:55pm.*

228 *Voting: all aye; motion carried unanimously.*

229  
230 *Respectfully submitted,*

231 *Kristina Fowler*

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