

**BROOKLINE SCHOOL BOARD**  
**JANUARY 11, 2018**  
**MEETING MINUTES**

A regular meeting of the Brookline School Board was conducted on Thursday, January 11, 2018 at 6:38 p.m. at the Captain Samuel Douglass Academy.

Chairman Matthew Maguire presided:

Members of the Board Present:            Lauren DiGennaro, Vice Chairman  
   Alison Marsano, Secretary  
   Kenneth Haag

Members of the Board Absent:            Erin Sarris

Also in Attendance:                        Andrew Corey, Superintendent  
   Gina Bergskaug, Assistant Superintendent  
   Kelly Seeley, Business Administrator  
   Kristen Maher, Assistant Business Administrator  
   Dennis Dobe, Principal, Captain Samuel Douglass Academy  
   Daniel Molinari, Principal, Richard Maghakian Memorial School

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AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS - None

DISCUSSION

Superintendent Corey thanked members of the Administration and the Board for the work that has gone into the proposed FY19 budget.

- Brookline School District Report

Superintendent Corey commented one of the things learned from last year's Deliberative Session was that because of having moved to SB2 as a School Board, but not as a Town, the timing of the Schools meetings is significantly prior to the distribution of the Town Report. Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug has addressed that through the creation of a School District Report. The report will be finalized, based on feedback received, and will be made available for distribution at the Deliberative Session. It has been vetted by legal counsel and is intended solely as informational for the taxpayers.

Superintendent Corey noted, upon completion of the Public Hearing, the Board would consider its position on each of the Warrant Articles.

Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug reiterated the report was in draft form and would be finalized based on feedback received. The report showcases data such as total number of students enrolled, percentage of special education students, average class size, cost per pupil. Board members understand that enrollment numbers change month-to-month, but the public may question at what point we capture the data. Information included was captured from the State's numbers, which represent the start of the year (October 1<sup>st</sup>). Also included is academic data gathered from the results of the Smarter Balanced testing, the Superintendent's report, and information on the Board membership.

The Warrant Articles are listed, and an explanation provided for each. Included in the report are the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) items for this and the next year. The entirety of the CIP is available, but the desire was to highlight the next few large purchases.

It was requested language be added in the description of Warrant Article 2 noting there is no contract in place at this time.

Ms. DiGennaro questioned and was informed the amount of the decrease listed under health insurance cost represents the Guaranteed Maximum Rate (GMR), which went to -1% (from FY18 rates) for FY19.

When asked Superintendent Corey stated items that are identified under building maintenance needs, which would be in jeopardy were the budget not to be approved, include HVAC work at RMMS, carpets, and, depending on the interpretation, items listed under the Maintenance Expendable Trust.

When asked to include examples of acceptable expenditures from the contingency fund, Assistant Superintendent Bergskaug asked if the Board wished to provide feedback on how to start that conversation, e.g., how the contingency fund came to be for the District. The explanation will include examples of how the funds would be utilized and the process for expending from the fund.

Superintendent Corey remarked, under Article 4, the explanation addresses the classroom teacher and science specialists. When comparing the proposed budget to the default, it is the two positions that make up most (\$104,000) of the difference. The addition of those positions means that class sizes go down and the science instructor moves to full-time.

In response to the question of the current balance in the Special Education Expendable Trust, Superintendent Corey stated it to be the \$100,000, which was approved by the voters last year. In September, he made the Board aware of an unexpected move-in. The first goal is to see if the need could be met through the operating budget. If that cannot be done, a request would be made for a transfer from the expendable trust in the March/April timeframe. Ms. DiGennaro suggested that information be included. Chairman Maguire requested the warrant articles identify existing balances. Chairman Maguire requested a link be provided to the SAU website.

**MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO RECESS UNTIL THE CONCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED FY19 BUDGET**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER DIGENNARO**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4-0-0**

*The Board recessed at 6:57 p.m.*

*The Board reconvened at 7:46 p.m.*

PUBLIC INPUT - None

DELIBERATION

- To see what action the Board will take regarding the proposed FY19 Operating Budget and subsequent Warrant Articles.

Article 2

*To see if the Brookline School District will vote to approve the cost of items for the first of a two-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Brookline School Board and the Brookline Teachers Association for the 2018-2019 and 2019-2020 school years, which calls for the following increase in professional staff salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:*

<u>Fiscal Year Estimated Increase</u>	
2018-19	\$154,095

*and further to raise and appropriate a sum of \$154,095 for the first fiscal year (2018-2019 school year), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in professional staff salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. This is the first fiscal year of a two-year agreement. Negotiated cost item increases for the next fiscal year (2019-2020) will require approval of a specific warrant article on the ballot.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER DIGENNARO TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 2 AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MARSANO**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4-0-0**

Article 3

*To see if the Brookline School District will vote to approve the cost of items included in a four-year collective bargaining agreement reached between the Brookline School Board and the Brookline Education Support Staff Association for the 2018-2019 through 2021-2022 school years, which calls for the following increase in support staff salaries and benefits at the current staffing levels:*

<u>Fiscal Year Estimated Increase</u>	
2018-2019	\$40,467
2019-2020	\$32,542
2020-2021	\$35,544
2021-2022	\$31,754

*and further to raise and appropriate a sum of \$40,467 for the first fiscal year (2018-2019 school year), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in support staff salaries and benefits required by the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER HAAG TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 3 AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER DIGENNARO**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4-0-0**

**Article 4**

*To see if the Brookline School District will vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first session, for the purposes set forth therein, totaling **\$9,080,562**. Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be **\$8,939,050**, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the school district or by law or the governing body may hold one special meeting, in accordance with RSA 40:13, X and XVI, to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only. Majority vote required to pass.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER DIGENNARO TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 4 AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER HAAG**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4-0-0**

**Article 5**

*To see if a school district will vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate a sum of up to **\$50,000** to go into fund. This sum to come from the unassigned fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1, 2018.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 5 AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER DIGENNARO**

**ON THE QUESTION**

Ms. Marsano questioned if the fund carries over from year to year and was informed it does not.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4-0-0**

**Article 6**

*To see if the school district will vote to raise and appropriate a sum of up to **\$50,000** from the June 30 unreserved fund balance (surplus) available for transfer on July 1 of this year to be added to the previously established SCHOOL FACILITIES MAINTENANCE FUND.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER HAAG TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 6 AS PRESENTED**

**MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER DIGENNARO**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**4-0-0**

**Article 7**

*To see if the Brookline School District will vote to establish a SPECIAL EDUCATION EXPENDABLE TRUST FUND per RSA 198:20-c, to be used for special education expenses and to raise and appropriate up to **\$25,000** to put in the fund, with this amount to come from fund balance available for transfer on July 1. No amount to be raised from taxation, further to name the school board as agents to expend from the fund.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER DIGENNARO TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 7 AS PRESENTED  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MARSANO  
MOTION CARRIED  
4-0-0**

**Article 8**

*Shall the voters of the Brookline School District adopt a school administrative unit budget of \$1,577,723 for the forthcoming fiscal year in which **\$279,152** is assigned to the school budget of this school district? This year's adjusted budget of \$1,543,057 with \$274,158 assigned to the school budget of this school district will be adopted if the article does not receive a majority vote of all the school district voters voting in this school administrative unit.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 8 AS PRESENTED  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER HAAG  
MOTION CARRIED  
4-0-0**

**Article 9**

*To see if the school district voters will authorize the Brookline School District to access future year state and federal special education aid funds in the event that special education costs exceed budget limitations.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER HAAG TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 9 AS PRESENTED  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER DIGENNARO  
MOTION CARRIED  
4-0-0**

**Article 10**

*To transact any other business which may legally come before said meeting.*

**MOTION BY MEMBER HAAG TO RECOMMEND ARTICLE 10 AS PRESENTED  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER MARSANO  
MOTION CARRIED  
4-0-0**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION BY MEMBER MARSANO TO ADJOURN  
MOTION SECONDED BY MEMBER DIGENNARO  
MOTION CARRIED  
4-0-0**

*The January 11, 2018 meeting of the Brookline School Board was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.*

Date \_\_\_\_\_ Signed \_\_\_\_\_