

Milford Board of Education

Board of Education Budget Workshop

January 20, 2011

Board members present:

Tracy Casey
Suzanne DiBiase
Josip Jukic
Jack O'Connell
Mark Stapleton, Chair
Robert M. White

Board members absent:

Dave Amendola
Diane Kruger-Carroll
Gregory Oliver
Jay Tranquilli

Administration present:

Michael Cummings
Philip Russell
Wendy Kopazna
Sue Kelleher

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Milford Board of Education held a Budget Workshop on January 20, 2011, in the Board of Education Room at the Parsons Complex. Chairman Stapleton called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. with the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance immediately following.

II. 2011-12 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Cummings reviewed the questions (41-45) submitted by board members. See the attached.

Mrs. Casey asked administration to provide a PreK comparison for years 2009-11, 2010-11 and the proposed 2011-12 budget year.

The board had a discussion about the PreK program and the state mandate that requires the district to offer the program to special education children.

Mr. O'Connell suggested that the district could research contracting the program out to a school that has a PreK program in place. It might be a way to save money.

Mr. Cummings continued to review the 6000 series of accounts with the board. The 6000 series of accounts encompasses the educational supplies. They include: non-instructional supplies, instructional supplies, health services, graduation expenses, textbooks, textbook adoptions, library books, periodicals, testing and evaluation, audio visual materials and computer software.

Mr. Cummings explained the budgeted dollars are based on "per pupil" figures.

Mr. O'Connell was surprised that IPADs and Nooks were not in the budget, opposed to books.

Mr. Cummings explained that the district has purchased a program that will allow students to go on our internet. Most students are equipped with the technology.

UNAPPROVED

Mr. O'Connell asked for clarification of the funding for staff evaluation as this is in the Priorities and Assumptions document.

Mr. Cummings will forward that to the board under separate cover.

The board then reviewed the 7000 series of accounts. The 7000 series of accounts is for wish list items.

The 8000 series of accounts encompasses dues and fees, professional development, student activities, student athletes, parent activities, education revenue projection, education cost analysis; competitive grant awards and entitlement grant awards.

Mrs. Casey asked Mr. Cummings why funds were budgeted for CAFE. Mr. Cummings told the board the Dr. Feser has utilized their services and knows them well. CAFE would also be very helpful in assisting the district with the policy work that needs to be done. He further explained that since the budget was printed, the fee has been reduced by \$11,000.

A discussion ensued about the student activity funds.

Mrs. Casey recommended administration put a policy in place that limits how much money the directors can spend for certain sports. Mr. Cummings explained the principal oversees financials as well as a bookkeeper and a central office person.

Mrs. Casey reviewed several of the many questions she forwarded to administration in advance of the workshops.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

IX. ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. White made a motion to adjourn. Mrs. Casey seconded.

Meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Robert M. White
Corresponding Secretary

Pam Griffin
Recording Secretary