

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
BUDGET & FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES: January 30, 2020**

Greenfield Public Schools Central Office, 195 Federal Street, Greenfield, MA 01301

Present: Susan Eckstrom (SE), Chair; Amy Proietti (AP); Jean Wall (JW)

Absent: None

Also present: Jordana Harper, Superintendent; Steve Nembirkow, Business Manager; Roxann Wedegartner, Mayor

I. Roll Call/Call to Order

With a quorum present (SE, AP, JW), SE opened the meeting at 8:15 a.m.

II. Public Comment

None.

III. FY21 Budget Development

Business Manager Nembirkow answered members' questions on the budget documents distributed at the previous meeting.

- School choice revenue is used to offset the budget; the balance is not earmarked for specific items
- Renting GPS facilities to the public is not a money-maker; facilities are rented out at cost. Rental policy has been highly debated in the past. Superintendent Harper suggested revisiting and updating the fees, taking into account the administrative costs to the district.
- JW suggested looking into whether or not a representative from GPS should attend Franklin County Tech meetings
 - Superintendent Harper: a lot of work goes in to making sure attending a tech school is a good fit for the student
 - Members will ask GHS principal to weigh in on tech school enrollment

AP suggested beginning a dialog on regionalization as it relates to the budget. Superintendent Harper noted two recent positive developments related to regionalization: 1) transportation department service expansion; and, 2) co-op football.

Mayor Wedegartner shared that health insurance costs are most likely going up; the exact percentage will be negotiated soon.

Business Manager Nembirkow distributed enrollment data and explained the numbers, noting it is all public information taken from the DESE website.

- Enrollment has been steady over the past 5-6 years; no trend of declining enrollment
 - Lots of movement throughout the year
- Funding formula for special education is only funded at 2% of the foundation enrollment (no matter how many special education students the district has)

Business Manager Nembirkow reviewed school choice and charter in/out history and numbers.

- The number of students leaving GPS to attend other schools has a detrimental effect on the budget
 - This number has decreased over time
- Superintendent Harper: once students have left GPS, they rarely return

Members reviewed who they would like to invite to present at upcoming meetings (e.g., principals, department heads, etc.).

Consensus to post a subcommittee meeting for February 18th from 9:00 a.m.–11:30 a.m.

V. Adjournment

JW moved to adjourn. AP 2nd. Yes – SE, AP, JW. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Documents

1. FY21 Budget Packet
 - a. Budget to Actual FY 2017-2019
 - b. Budget to Actual 12/30 FY 2020
 - c. Draft Proposed Budget FY 21 Summary
 - d. Draft Proposed Budget FY 21 Detail
 - e. Draft Proposed Budget FY 21 Level Service
2. Enrollment Data