

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS
SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES: Friday, March 10, 2023
Greenfield MA**

Note: This meeting was held fully remotely in accordance with the Governor of Massachusetts' March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A, §20.

Present: Susan Eckstrom (SE); Glenn Johnson-Mussad; (GJM); Kathryn Martini (KM); Amy Proietti (AP); Jean Wall (JW); Roxann Wedegartner (RW)

Absent: Elizabeth Deneeve (ED)

Also present: Christine DeBarge, Superintendent; Andy Paquette, Budget Manager, TMS; Karin Patenaude, Assistant Superintendent, & citizens.

I. Call to Order

With a quorum present (SE, GJM, KM, AP, JW, RW), Chair Proietti called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.

II. FY24 Budget Public Hearing

SE moved to open the Greenfield Public Schools FY24 Budget Public Hearing. JW 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

Dr. DeBarge provided budget presentation of educational & corresponding funding priorities. FY24 budget is 8.04% overall increase over FY23 budget, 10.35% increase in local appropriation; increase primarily related to staff pay.

\$29,077,331 = total budget

\$23,151,624= local funding request

III. Public Comment

Melissa Webb, Greenfield, expressed concern that there isn't more money for public schools, questioned differing budgets of 3 elementary schools, support for purchasing tech and busses, support for Artspace.

Stacey Sexton, Greenfield, noted the challenging daytime timing of budget hearing, suggested less complicated budget information or workshop to explain.

II. FY24 Budget Public Hearing *continued*

Dr. DeBarge described how the Superintendent's Budget was built, presented educational & corresponding funding priorities.

FY24 budget is 8% overall increase over FY23 budget, 10.35% increase in local appropriation; increase primarily related to staff salaries.

\$29,077,331 = total budget

\$23,151,624 = local funding request

The Superintendent's budget presentation included:

- reasons for notable % increases/decreases in cost centers
- overview of \$6million revenue sources
- reductions in staff positions, textbooks, technology

- reasons for differing allocations to elementary schools
- detailed look at budget document by cost center

KM moved accept the Superintendent's Budget for FY24 as the School Committee Budget for FY24, at the total amount of \$23,151,624. SE 2nd.

Roll call: Yes –SE, GJM, KM, AP, JW; Abstain – RW. Motion passed 5-0-1.

AP moved to close the FY24 Budget Hearing. RW 2nd. Motion passed unanimously,

VI. Adjournment

SE moved to adjourn. KM 2nd. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Farber
Recording Secretary

Meeting Materials

1. Agenda: March 10, 2023
2. Notice of Budget Hearing
3. FY24 Superintendent's Budget