

**GREENFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**SCHOOL COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING**  
**MINUTES: Monday, March 12, 2018**  
Greenfield High School, 21 Barr Ave., Greenfield MA  
Approved 04.11.18

**Present:** Don Alexander (DA); Katie Caron (KC); Jordana Harper, Superintendent (JH); Susan Hollins (SH); William Martin (WM); Adrienne Nunez (AN); Cameron Ward (CW).

**Absent:** Susan Eckstrom (SE)

**Also present:**

Mark Chapulis, The Management Solution; Andrew Vernon, resident; other school staff and citizens.

**I. Call to Order**

With a quorum present (DA, KC, SH, WM, AN, CW), Chair Nunez opened the meeting at 6:37 p.m.

**II. Public Comment**

Andrew Vernon, parent, commented on letter to parents re: potential student walk-out on March 14. Unclear whether walkout is condoned by school. Wanted more advance time to discuss with his child.

**III. Reports**

Moved to March 14 meeting agenda

**IV. Business**

**A. Update on Safety Planning & Scheduled District-Wide Events**

JH announced district-wide events for March 14:

- Elementary schools: "Day of Kindness"
- GMS: "Acts of Service and Kindness"
- GHS: "Day of Dialogue" around topic of school safety.

JH clarified that schools are not organizing the possible March 14 walk-out; it is student-initiated. School district cannot and does not support any political activity. Supports students' rights to freedom of expression and peaceful assembly. On-going work to review and improve safety protocols. Significant investment in school safety in past years.

SH noted Policy IMB, Teaching about Controversial Issues.

**B. FY19 Budget Deliberation and Vote**

Budget presented is revision of Supt's original budget, amended by School Committee's Finance & Budget Subcommittee.

CW, Finance & Budget Subcommittee chair, reviewed changes:

- Textbooks line item increased from \$10K to \$30K
- Human Resources increased from \$0 to \$60K
- Academy of Early Learning full-time principal cut to part-time = \$39K reduction.

Mark Chapulis, TMS, reviewed changes:

- \$ added to sick leave buy-out
- Budget is adjusted for anticipated decreases in grant funding

**SH made a motion to add two lines to budget document, one for School Committee stipends in School Committee cost center, and one for School Physician Services in Nursing cost center. KC 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.**

Budget includes \$60K for HR Assistant to Superintendent.

AN: No decision to create specific position; want flexibility in funding HR services.

**SH moved to change the line item or create a new line item for HR (Human Resources) Services to be funded at the same amount. CW 2nd. Motion passed 5-0-1 (WM abstain).**

**Request to Supt to report on how often library materials have been updated.**

**SH moved to take \$15K from library contracted consulting services and move it to a line for updating elementary libraries. KC 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.**

Requests to TMS:

- list of line items for consultants
- Charter School costs in budget (including transportation, meals)

**SH moved to create a new line item titled School Resource Officer under System Wide Administrative Costs, and \$30,600 listed under the Truant Officer go into that line. KC 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.**

**CW moved to support FY19 local budget of \$19,003,955.06. DA 2nd. Motion passed 5-0-1 (WM abstain).**

### **C. Upcoming Agenda Requests**

SH:

Clarify what time limit we are referring to when we talk about “past practice”

Review unfinished work from FY17

Possible revenue streams (e.g., adult education)

Models for central office staffing

Curriculum planning policies

Social justice, civic involvement

DA:

Internal goals for School Committee

Host public meetings/events for Committee members to talk with parents/families

Investigate ways to connect with local public groups for collaboration

WM:

Revisit curriculum issue of civics and local history

Proposed ordinance barring use of consultants and out-sourcing

### **V. Executive Session**

AN announced intent to move into Executive Session in accordance with MGL c 30A, §21, (2) To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel.

WM moved to enter Executive Session. SH 2nd. Roll call vote: Yes – DA, KC, SH, WM, AN, CW. Moved into executive session at 8:43 p.m.

SH moved to leave Executive Session. CW 2nd. Roll call vote: Yes –DA, KC, SH, WM, AN, CW. Returned to public session at 9:11.

## **IX. Adjournment**

WM moved to adjourn. KC 2nd. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Farber  
Recording Secretary

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## **Meeting Documents**

1. Agenda: March 12, 2018
2. Proposed budget, as amended by School Committee Budget & Finance Subcommittee
3. School Choice: Revenue / Expense totals (bar graph)
4. School Choice: Ending Balances (bar graph)