

KIRTLAND BOARD OF EDUCATION
FINANCE COMMITTEE
April 7, 2022

Minutes

The meeting began at 7 a.m. with all members present (Cosgrove participated via phone). Superintendent Chad Van Arnhem and Treasurer Lew Galante were also present.

Minutes were reviewed from the prior meeting.

Lew Galante reviewed the February financials. The March financials were not yet available and will be reviewed with the April financials at the next Finance Committee meeting. Overall, the numbers were performing on target notwithstanding that the real estate revenues were down \$500,000. Overall, revenues are running slightly ahead of budget. The real estate revenue shortfall is likely due to a collections timing issues. Likewise, expenses were down slightly with respect to budget. Again, LG explained that timing issues were likely down because of timing.

There was discussion with respect to the cost of special education and the subsequent potential risks on the expense side. This was part of the discussion on the Purchased Services line item.

LG indicated that in the May Finance Committee the finances should give a better indication of year end results.

The Finance Committee next reviewed the draft agenda for the April 11 Board meeting. There were minor recommendations and adjustments.

The Committee considered a recommendation from the Superintendent regarding the contract with Riverside for shared tech personnel services. After discussion about the service agreement, challenges with recruiting tech experts, and a discussion of the net increase cost, the Committee recommended that the full board approve the amendment. There was also discussion about the quality services provided by Mr. Renwick and the need to provide adequate back up. There was discussion about the growing importance of tech support given the increase dependence on technology in schools particularly as accelerated by the pandemic.

Next there was a discussion on staffing. There was discussion regarding the cost of implementation of the state financial literacy requirement. The Committee recommended approval of converting a half time teacher to full time employee. The proposal was also fully discussed at the SLA Committee.

The superintendent recommended the board approve a RIF for a kindergarten teacher given the potential for a smaller entering kindergarten class. It was explained that it was necessary to act now given the collective bargaining agreement but does not bind the district to the rif -

(reduction in force) if the kindergarten class grows to the requisite number. The Committee agreed to recommend the RIF to the full board.

The Superintendent recommended the approval of the Blood hound contract to provide further analysis of the stadium site to determine potential underground impediments/costs. This was recommended by the architect as well and will assist in assuring that new costs estimates will be more accurate. The Committee recommended approval by the Board.

The Superintendent then gave a stadium construction update. The Architect was sending out revised proposals for new cost estimates. The new estimates will be reviewed and considered by the Board the first week of May.

The Committee discussed teacher buy back of computers. Given the value of the computers, state law requires that the computers be auctioned off. However, teachers may still be able to purchase in a public process. The machines are valued at roughly \$250 each.

The Committee then recommended that the full board approve the purchase of a new bus pursuant to our overall bus purchase plan – 1 each year. The approximate cost is \$90,000. LG indicated that he did not believe that supply chain issues would impact our ability to purchase.

The Board discussed the replacement of our current copiers. The proposal is to go from 7 to 6 copiers. There was a discussion of lease vs. purchase. Ultimately, the Committee asked the Treasurer to evaluate and make a recommendation.

There was a brief discussion on the upcoming budget process. The district is implementing its zero-based budgeting process. There should be a budget outline by May for expected adoption in June.

A roll call was taken at 9:25 and all committee members voted to go into executive session to discuss upcoming labor negotiations. The Committee came out of executive session at 9:57 and then recessed.