

Town of East Bridgewater Finance Committee

175 Central Street

East Bridgewater, MA 02333

Town Hall, 2nd floor Conference Room



**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2020**

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK
20 MAY 12 PM 4:29

Members present: Crystal Hudson, Daniel Picha, Melanie Dean, Kevin Reilly, Laura Sebastyn, David Walsh

Member(s) absent: Joe Conley

Selectman Liaison: All

Guest(s): Brian Noble, Superintendent - Liz Legault, School Committee Chair - Ellen Pennington, School Business Director - John Shea

1. Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by Laura Sebastyn
2. School Committee Budget Presentation
 - a. Budget was presented describing the drivers of the budget - curriculum, social emotional wellness, professional development, and technology
 - b. Total budget presented for \$21,792,495 or 2.99%
 - c. Department includes 183 teachers
 - d. Review of the district report card
 - e. Highlights presented from the previous year - including hiring of nurses and approval for Central School roof
 - f. Curriculum cycle was reviewed with a highlight on how to handle ELA and social studies
 - g. Main reasons presented for the budget increase include support for emotional and social wellness, maintaining technology, 5-year accreditation success plan and increased academic positions
 - h. Discussion regarding school choice and in district/out of district students - out of district student numbers are not set in stone
 - i. New positions will be funded from school choice in 2021 but this is not sustainable
 - j. Noted that in the past textbooks were funded out of capital but aren't any longer
 - k. Copier leases are 3 years and are getting more expensive
 - l. Budget does not include any fee increases
 - m. Homeless transportation will be over budget
 - n. No position was added in 2020 for the Mitchell School security line as previously budgeted
 - o. Lines in PPS look to have decreased but many are just reclassing
 - p. A company was recently hired to deal with finding substitutes
 - q. School will send a list of positions hired through school choice

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r. Selectman exited the meeting at 7:40

3. Vote on Minutes

- a. Voted to approve the minute of 1/28/20 and 2/12/20
- b. Motion - Walsh, Second - Hudson
- c. Vote - 6-0-0

4. Budget Update

- a. Next week we will begin to go through articles
- b. Dan is reviewing formulas on the DPW spreadsheet
- c. Fire Chief is working on reducing some budget lines
- d. Health insurance numbers will hopefully be in next week
- e. Would like to get a true spend report from all departments that includes what is spent from the operating budget, revolving funds, grants, capital, etc.

5. Vote to adjourn meeting at 7:47

- a. Motion to adjourn - Walsh
- b. Second - Hudson
- c. Vote 6-0-0

Melanie Dean, Clerk