



Haverhill School Committee
Finance Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, March 6, 2019
City Hall, Suite 206
8:30 a.m.

Present: Attorney Paul Magliocchetti, Attorney Richard Rosa, Ms. Margaret Marotta, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Brian O'Connell, School Business Manager, Mrs. Kathleen Smith, Accountant

Absent: Ms. Gail Sullivan, Chairperson

Agenda

Discussion and Review of Agenda Items for March 6, 2019 Working Session: Data Review, Class size Management Proposals, Principal Recommendations and School Committee Budget Priority Setting.

The subcommittee and the Superintendent conferred about the format and talking points for tonight's working session.

The following topics were put on the table for discussion:

- Class Size Reduction
- Technology
- Social-emotional learning
- Common planning time for teachers to get together as a group
- Efficiencies in the district
- Reworked the grants
- More efficient use of our capital assets
- New positions that have been extremely beneficial for the district (i.e. Supervisor of Special Education/HHS & Safe & Supportive Schools
- Address facilities cursory

It was suggested that each school committee member be asked to provide their three priorities before tonight's working session.

A brief conversation was held on the Mayor's designation of \$500,000 (capital reserve) and \$200,000 (Superintendent needs to request funds), both amounts were put in separate city accounts.

Mrs. Smith related that the school district had pulled monies from the city's capital reserve for several projects.

It was agreed that a request would be added to the next regular meeting agenda requesting the \$200,000 from the Mayor.

Ms. Marotta noted that by April 1, 2019, the Business Manager should have a good perspective of the district's finances.

The Superintendent commented on the Parent Information Sessions that were held yesterday and Thursday at the Haverhill Public Library. She noted that no other urban city charges for all day kindergarten.

Both Attorneys Magliocchetti and Rosa indicated that free All-Day Kindergarten would support the literacy initiative and improvement of student achievement.

Ms. Marotta also commented that meetings had been held on Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) which would allow the district to offer free lunch and breakfast; she has been assured that the district was close to reaching the goal.

In reference to the food service contract, Mr. O'Connell replied that the food service bid had been updated and responses were due at the end of March.

It was the consensus of both the Superintendent and the subcommittee members to move cleargov agenda item to the regular meeting.

In reference to St. James School, Brian O'Connell was asked to broker a meeting to begin discussions on lease renewal with the Archdiocese of Boston by contacting the priest at St. James Parish.

Meeting concluded at 9:55 a.m.