

Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee
March 20, 2023 6:30 PM
Town Hall, Conference Room #4 and Remote via Zoom

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

DATE: July 20, 2023
TIME: 9:19 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance

Bill Anderson, Paul Rickter (remote), Laurie Slap, Matt Taylor, Jack Weis

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 PM.

Discussion of FY 24 Warrant Committee Budget Report

We reviewed and finalized the proposed sections of our chapter of the Warrant Committee report and assigned individual subcommittee members responsibility for individual sections as follows:

- Matt – Enrollment/Staffing
- Bill – Budget Overview
- Laurie – Federal Funds (FY 24 and beyond)
- Paul – Staff Reconfiguration/Redeployment
- That leaves SPED/OOD and Union Contracts as unassigned sections. Jack will follow up with Anne to see which section she prefers, and he will take the other.

The group then discussed a timetable for completing a first draft of our chapter of the report by the April 14th due date to Geoff Lubien. The specific steps and timing are as follows:

- March 28th – Meet to have each subcommittee member discuss what they think are the key points they want to make in their section. This will allow others to weigh in before individuals spend a significant amount of time drafting.
- April 2nd – Each subcommittee member completes a first draft of their respective sections.
- April 6th – Meet to discuss our respective comments to the initial drafts of each section.
- April 12th – Revised drafts of each section due to Jack.

Discussion of FY 24 School Department Budget

The discussion then turned to the memo and material that Tony DiCologero had distributed on March 15th regarding projected FY 24 OOD costs and revenue sources. The two key points that the subcommittee discussed were that:

- The costs are based on the number of known students, with no additional students enrolling in OOD programs beyond those that are already identified. In addition, the costs assume that the distribution of OOD students by type of facility is the same as the current distribution.
- The projected FY 24 Circuit Breaker revenue estimates seem overly conservative. Although the total projected FY 24 Circuit Breaker revenue of \$2.8 million is the highest amount over the 10-year analysis period, the projection assumes the same reimbursement percentage as FY 23, a year when the district experienced a dramatic increase in OOD enrollments. Even if the state per-student reimbursement rates don't increase to reflect the state-approved increases in FY 24 tuition rates, it seems difficult to believe that Belmont won't see a

substantial increase in Circuit Breaker funds to compensate for the 20+% increase in OOD enrollments that we experienced in FY 23.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 PM.