

Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee
January 5, 2021 7:30 PM
Remote Meeting via Zoom

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA

DATE: March 29, 2021
TIME: 9:35 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance

Liz Goss, Anne Helgen, Geoff Lubien, Paul Rickter, Jack Weis

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the joint morning meeting with the School Committee Finance Subcommittee on December 1, 2020, and the evening meetings of the Education Subcommittee on December 1, 2020 and December 8, 2020 were approved, subject to some clean-up of a few typos.

Review of Summary Report on Other Towns' Budget Components

The group first reviewed the most recent version of the proposed staffing, compensation, and out-of-district tuition tables. Other than a few minor editorial changes, the only substantive changes were to add a column for Q2 21 actuals to the proposed staffing table, and to make clear that the starting and ending totals on the salary changes tables (the first and last rows of those tables) reflected cumulative annual salary expenses.

The group then reviewed the yeoman's work that Liz did in condensing the prior memo that Anne had prepared very thoroughly researching the school budgets for other towns. The group agreed, however, that we needed to further refine this written product to better target it towards the School Committee and the School Department administration, specifically focusing on explaining our rationale for our recommendations and advocating for our proposed additional tables.

Next Steps

Liz, Paul, and Jack will work on refining the narrative to target it more specifically to the School Committee and the School Department administration. Anne and Geoff will work on selecting several examples of staffing/compensation tables and special education tuition tables to include in an appendix to the report to demonstrate and support that what we are recommending is very consistent with what other comparable school districts are including in their annual budgets. Both groups will distribute their updated materials by January 17th.

Next Meeting: January 19, 2021 at 7:30 PM.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 PM.