Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee
Joint Meeting with the School Committee Finance Subcommittee
January 5, 2021 8:00 AM
Remote Meeting via Zoom

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK BELMONT, MA

DATE: March 29, 2021

TIME: 9:34 AM

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance

Warrant Committee Education Subcommittee: Liz Goss, Anne Helgen, Geoff Lubien, Paul Rickter, Jack Weis

School Committee: Amy Checkoway, Mike Crowley, Tara Donner, Andrea Prestwich, Superintendent John Phelan, Assistant Superintendent Janice Darias, Finance Director Tony DiCologero, Director of Human Capital Mike McAllister, Michelle Reinhart

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:06 AM.

FY 22 Budget Update

John walked through a PowerPoint presentation that he was planning to present at that night's School Committee meeting covering some of the recent School Department budgetary history and its operational impacts before and after the 2015 override, as well as projecting how School Department operations might be impacted under scenarios where an override is either approved or voted down. He invited comments and feedback on the presentation.

He also walked through a very detailed appendix containing data prepared by Michelle Reinhart, a Harvard intern, presenting data comparing Belmont to 10 comparable school districts as well as to DESE state averages. The data reaffirmed the administration's long-held position that Belmont spends less per-student than most school districts and that Belmont's teacher ratios are lower than most districts (resulting in class sizes that are higher than most districts). John again invited comments and feedback on the information contained in the appendix.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:59 AM.