

Budget & Finance Committee

Subject: B&F Meeting Notes – 4/2/15

A meeting of the Budget and Finance Committee for the Holmdel Board of Education took place on April 2, 2015 at 12:00 pm. Below are the results of that meeting.

Attendees:

- Joe Hammer
- Robin Wetmore
- Peter Reddy (on phone)
- Barbara Duncan
- Michael Petrizzo
- Robert McGarry
- Anthony Gattini
- Thomas Duane

Agenda/Notes

- 2015/2016 Budget
 - Administration distributed two alternative recommendations for Budget additions for the 2015/16 budget. One with the rotating schedule included and one without.
 - Both alternatives had approx \$120K included for Chromebooks across all four schools.
 - High demand for chromebooks for the following reasons:
 - PARCC severely restricted use of chromebooks
 - Classroom instruction is disrupted as the chromebooks are not available to the teachers/students during PARCC testing
 - Increased use in classrooms has caused contention for computers
 - Increased usage of Google Docs and other Apps has driven need for more computers/chromebooks
 - \$120K Chromebooks investment has many benefits and aligns with District Goals
 - Goal #2 Tech in Classroom – Increases regular usage of technology in classrooms improving instruction and student access to information and allows for the infusion of technology-based STEM projects in Math and Science classes.
 - Goal #4 Instructional Time – PARCC testing at the high school will be cut from 6 weeks to just 1 week with the acquisition of these chromebooks maintaining the allocation of instructional time dramatically.

- District could use MCIA to fund these chromebooks limiting the impact to the budget to just the interest payment for this year(~\$15K) but the 2016/17 budget year's MCIA payments would increase
- ICR Teacher World Languages was intended to provide our Special Education students with other language choices besides Spanish
- Non-rotating schedule requests were for:
 - Replacement of smartboards, repairs to wireless microphone systems and A/V repairs
 - The Gale Research Online Database was intended to leverage the investment in chromebooks to augment our literacy curriculum
- \$55k was allocated for funding the Rotating schedule mainly to defray additional time allocations for existing teaching staff.
- Administration will give a presentation on April 22nd on the Rotating schedule. The committee recommended that the administration include the following in their presentation:
 - Project plan for the implementation of the Rotating Schedule
 - Costs – Fixed and variable costs
 - Risks to the plan and mitigation efforts
- Other Matters Pertaining to the Committee – None.
- **Next Meeting:** 4/24 at 1:30 p.m.