

Islesboro School Committee
Budget Workshop
Thursday, March 6 at 9 am in Supt's Conference Room

AGENDA/MINUTES

Attendees: Julie Reidy, Laura Houle, Bill Boardman, Mike Boucher, Shey Conover, Heather Knight and Supt Joe Mattos

1. Review/Approve Minutes from February 27 Budget Workshop
 - *Minutes reviewed and approved with recommended edits.*
 - ***Supt Mattos will have Minutes posted on ICS website.***

2. Review new 14/15 Budget (March 6 DRAFT)
 - *Supt Mattos stated that recommendations for changes made at the February 27 Budget Workshop had be incorporated into the March 6 Budget Draft. The committee reviewed on page 12 the impact these changes on the proposed budget:*
 - *Operating Budget - increase 5.01% (line 1);*
 - *Town Appropriation - increase 5.82% (line 8);*
 - *Total School Budget - increase 1.83% (line 18);*
 - *Total Town Appropriation – increase 2.13% (line 19)*
 - *Total School Tax Liability – increase 2.18% (line 24)*
 - *Questions and discussion:*
 - *What is # of island and Magnet students who require SE services? Of the 24 SE students, three are Magnet students.*
 - *Professional Credits/Workshop/Contracted Services – Concern was expressed by Supt Mattos that these accounts, which are used for professional development purposes had been reduced by approx. \$5000 from 13/14 budgeted amounts. Specifically, he is concerned that implementing a new standards-based diploma system will require a significant amount professional development. These 14/15 funds might not be sufficient. It was recommended that:*
 1. ***Heather provide the school committee at the March 12 Budget Workshop with a more specific breakdown of costs for these three accounts for both the secondary and elementary cost centers.***
 2. ***Heather provide the school committee (at their May school committee meeting) with a 1-3 yrs. plan (draft), developed by the Lead Team for implementing a standards-based diploma system. This plan would include a timeline for achieving specific outcomes, tasks and activities associated with these outcomes, and identified funds needed to support these tasks and activities.***

3. Discuss recommended changes to 14/15 Budget
 - *The school committee discussed the following yet-to-be quantified budget items:*
 - *Teacher Salaries – still being negotiated*
 - *Teacher and staff Health Insurance Benefits – still being negotiated*
 - *Teacher Retirement – still being discussed at state legislature*
 - *Stipends for extracurricular and co-curricular activities – still being negotiated*
 - *Ed Tech I Position – discussion on need to reinstate this position*
 - *Request from PreSchool Program – More discussion on this request to fund additional day for Pre-Kindergarten students - \$5800. Should this be in Town or School budget?*
 - *Magnet Program Tuition Revenue – It is expected that there will be 28 Magnet students enrolled at ICS in 14/15. This would produce over \$100,000 in revenue. Question – Should the 14/15 budget reflect actual Magnet tuition costs? Presently the budget shows Magnet tuition as \$100,000. **More info on Magnet Tuition will be presented by Supt Mattos at March 12 Budget Workshop.***
4. Discuss 14/15 budget related issues
 - *Capital Improvement Reserve Fund – There was discussion and questions as to who maintains these funds and how these funds are accessed. Supt Mattos believed that a budget article was approved at the last town meeting allowing the school committee to expend these funds without voter approval. It was not clear if the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund is in a separate school (versus town) account, which generates interest. **Supt Mattos will contact Janet Anderson about this.***
 - *Capital Improvement Reserve Fund – School Committee members discussed whether or not funds should be raised for the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund this year, since there is approximately \$80,000 in funds available in MCF account for school construction. It was recommended that a long range (20 years?) maintenance plan be created that identifies future capital improvement needs. **This issue was referred to the School Facilities Committee for further action.***
5. Next Budget Meeting – Tuesday, March 11 at 5:15 PM or March 13 at 9 am
 - *It was recommended that the next Budget Workshop be scheduled for Wednesday, March 12 from 3-5 pm.*
 - *It was also recommended that March 11 School Committee meeting be rescheduled to Tuesday, March 18 in order to allow more time for budget development. Hopefully the school budget will be approved at the March 18 school committee meeting. Once the school budget is approved, Sally needs about a week to create the budget articles and have them reviewed and approved by DWM. The budget needs to be submitted to the town before the end of March.*
6. Adjourn
 - *Meeting adjourned at 10:59 am.*