

FINANCE MEETING MINUTESⁱ

New Bedford Public Schools
Paul Rodrigues Administration Building
455 County Street, Room 224
New Bedford, MA 02740
Also remote via NBPS website

Finance Subcommittee Meeting
September 10, 2020
6:00 – 6:45 PM

Present: Mr. Bruce Oliveira, Mr. Joshua Amaral, Ms. Colleen Dawicki (via Zoom)

Also in attendance: Mr. Andrew O’Leary, Ms. Theresa Cormier (via Zoom), Ms. Rachel Bento-Cunha
Absent: Mr. Thomas Anderson, Ms. Karen Treadup

The meeting commenced at 6:00 PM.

The minutes from the August 6, 2020 Finance Subcommittee Meeting were reviewed. Voted unanimously on a motion by Mr. Amaral and seconded by Mr. Oliveira to approve the minutes.

Mr. O’Leary discussed the currently \$179,162,500 budget approved by the City. Ms. Bento-Cunha discussed the difference of about \$26K from the originally approved School Committee budget of \$153. She stated that the additional funds are insurance costs that are now part of the School Department’s operating budget vs the City operating budget, like it had been in past years. Mr. Oliveira and Mr. Amaral spoke about possible unemployment costs due to COVID and about the need to monitor it.

Mr. O’Leary presented and discussed the August 2020 Function Code Report, General Expense Report and Salary Report. He pointed out that the reports reflect where we stand at the moment but that we will have a more accurate picture come the next Finance Committee meeting. He stated that the budget had just been uploaded and not all open purchase orders have even been entered yet. Ms. Bento-Cunha added that there was a lot of movement with regards to positions and therefore it was difficult to determine salary-wise how accurate we are on the projections. Mr. Oliveira added that usually by October the projections become more accurate.

Mr. O’Leary presented and discussed the Transfers. He highlighted that most of the transfers were due to additional Professional Development that the schools were doing in order to prepare for the additional distance learning guidance staff needed. Voted unanimously on a motion by Mr. Amaral to approve the Transfers and seconded by Ms. Dawicki.

Mr. O’Leary discussed the Capital Improvement Plan. He spoke about improvements such as HEPA filters and upgraded HVAC systems in various schools as needed.

Voted unanimously on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM.



Andrew B. O’Leary
Assistant Superintendent of Finance & Operations

¹ The **Open Meeting Law** requires public bodies to create and approve minutes in a timely manner. A “timely manner” is considered to be within the next three public body meetings or 30 days from the date of the meeting, whichever is later, unless the public body can show good cause for further delay