# REGULAR MEETING OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE "MINUTES"

PRESENT:

MAYOR MITCHELL, MR. AMARAL, MR. COTTER, DR. FINNERTY

MR. LIVRAMENTO, MR. NOBREGA, MR. OLIVEIRA

**ABSENT:** 

NONE

IN ATTENDANCE:

DR. DURKIN, DR. DEFALCO, MS. BETTENCOURT, MS. EMSLEY, MR. O'LEARY,

MR. CARVALHO, MR. TETREAULT, MS. WALMSLEY, MRS. DUNAWAY (Recording

Secretary)

The School Committee Student Representative, Gina Connor, was present.

#### Approval of Minutes:

The Committee voted, on a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Oliveira, to accept the following School Committee meeting minutes as follows: (Supporting documents labeled "3")

- Executive Session:
  - \*2015: 4/13, 10/21, 12/14
  - 2016: 2/17, 3/14, 5/9, 6/13, 10/24, 12/12
  - 2017: 1/11
- Facilities Sub Committee: November 9, 2016
- Regular Meeting: February 13, 2017

# Superintendent's Report (Dr. Durkin):

(Supporting documents labeled "4")

Dr. Durkin presented her preliminary Fiscal Year 2018 Budget. She explained that it was separated into three parts:

- 1. District Improvement and the acceleration needed
- 2. How the budget was built
- 3. How the budget will be balanced

The definitions of terms were reviewed by Mr. O'Leary as follows:

<sup>\*</sup>Mr. Cotter abstained from voting on the Executive Session minutes from 2015.

## **Definitions/Glossary**

- Cost center: A school or department that sets a budget
- Enhanced Budget requests: Cost center manager requests that are above a level funded budget
- Accelerated Budget requests: Large investments needed to support rapid achievement gains at school and district level.

  Level Service Budget: Abudget that covers all operations from the previous fiscal year, including cost increases.
- Net School Spending: Spending level that meets minimum state requirements on eligible items.
- Foundation Budget: Legally required spending target that includes state aid, and local contributions from the city
- Foundation Budget Review Commission -FBRC: WA Legislature's blue ribbon commission that recommended changes to the imperfect minimum targets Massachusetts' districts currently

Dr. Durkin stated that she is presenting a Level Service Budget but it will consist of higher costs. Accelerated and Enhanced Budget requests were also reviewed. She stated that the funds proposed by the Governor, in his budget, are less than in previous years.

Dr. DeFalco joined Dr. Durkin and Mr. O'Leary in giving the presentation.

Mr. O'Leary reiterated that the proposed increase in Chapter 70 funds in the Governor's budget are the lowest in several years – an historical low.

Dr. Durkin expressed that with a level budget, including enhancements, the budget would amount to \$145,000,000. Enhancements would include added ELL teachers, reading specialists and middle school science materials. She said a level service budget would amount to \$135,000,000. The increase from FY17 will rise due to higher negotiated salaries, health insurance costs, charter school tuition and tuition for out of district placements for special education students. Income is expected to decrease from sources such as Chapter 70 and Circuit Breaker funding. She went on to say that Alma del Mar Charter School was granted 90 additional seats and that this addition will also impact the budget.

The following slides were reviewed with the Committee:

# **NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Preliminary FY2018 Budget Presentation March 9, 2017 I. District Improvement and Acceleration

ii. Building the FY18 Budget

III. Steps to a balanced budget

# I. DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT AND **ACCELERATION**

- A. State & Local Context
- B. District Accountability
- C. District Improvement

### A. State & Local Context FY18

- Governor's Budget does not significantly address Chapter 70 Foundation Budget Review Commission FY16 Chapter 70 Increase is at the lowest level in many years
- Unfunded charter seat expansion will present a significant budgetary challenge and the gap between charter assessment and charter reimbursement will grow close to \$15m per year
- Cost increases greater than inflation or Chapter 70 growth, such as health insurance, retirement assessments, special education tuttion, and special education behavioral and therapacitic services.

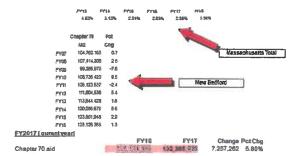
# B. District Accountability

- Movement toward achievement gains at the elementary level
- Successful foundation for redesign of the middle schools (AL programming dual enrollment teacher bus-in)
- Increased 4-year graduation rate for <u>Herr Bedford High</u> School
- At Level 4 and Level 5 schools progress is noted by DESE Continued belief from DESE in New Bedford's strategy
- Persistent and successful trackrecord for both competitive grant <u>awards and external investments</u> (ELT, Nellie Mae, DESE, MTLC, Bell, TFA, MLSC, CTE)

# II. BUILDING THE FY18 BUDGET

- A. Calculating Net School Spending
  - B. School based budgeting
    - C. Level Service budget

# Chapter 70 increase trends



# C. District Improvement

- District team has <u>renegotiated each contractual agreement</u> (Unit A Contract/Unit B Contract/Para Contract with AFSCINE CBA pending for FY 18) to better meet the needs of students and employees
- District wide <u>curriculum purchases</u>: Envision, Reading Street
- Since 2013, New Bedford Public Schools has invested in extended learning time for students, maintained stable class sizes, implemented turnaround models at Hayden McFadden, John A. Parker, and New Bedford High School
- District has embarked on a preventative maintenance and capital improvement process to address safety, and facility wear and tear

# Public Budget presentations

- · March 9, 2017 Finance Sub-Committee budget discussion
- Superintendent's Preliminary FY18 Budget on Monday, March
  13th
- March 16, 2017, and March 23, 2017 Budget Workshop with Level Timo Budget
- April 10, 2017 Final Budget Presentation to the School Committee
- May 8, 2017 Budget Hearing and vote by School Committee

In regard to the Pubic Budget presentations, Mr. O'Leary stated that the objective was to prepare the Committee for the budget process and to ultimately arrive at a balanced budget.

# A. Calculating FY18 NSS Consertison to FY17 Britishnert 13.468 13.414 135 1.159 Faundation audges 13.774.9312 144.951.392 1.159 Faundation audges 13.734.9312 144.951.392 6.786.820 4.300 Faundation audges 13.398.8307 7.774.981 171.2946 8.778 Faundation audges 13.398.835 37.774.831 171.2946 8.778 Faundation audges 13.398.835 37.774.831 171.2946 8.778 Faundation audges 13.398.835 37.774.831 171.2946 8.778 Faundation audges 13.398.835 37.784.831.20 4.300 Figure 3.488.835 3.47.283.878 5.770.034 3.833 Faundation audges 13.398.835 3.47.283.835 3.47.283.835 3.833 Faundation audges 13.4888 3.



Dr. Finnerty asked if Net School Spending (NSS) can be calculated ahead of time and referred to the recent communication from the state. This particular communication declared that the city did not meet their NSS obligation.

Mr. O'Leary explained that a target is set in the budget process and the total of all expenditures (both the district's and the city's shared costs) are submitted to the state in an End of the Year (EOY) report. The target amount can only be forecasted during budget time. If the state determines that the expenditures were under the foundation amount, a letter is sent stating that the City did not meet Net School Spending.

Mr. Oliveira asked what the process is for recapturing the funds. Mr. O'Leary explained that the amount is applied to next year's NSS and fiscal year budget.

Dr. Durkin commented that the district is looking toward narrowing the gap and working through the process to properly forecast the amount so the district can have the appropriate funds for that fiscal year. This process has to be closely worked on with the city.

Mr. Amaral asked if the NSS shortfall amount compounds if it is not met from year to year. Mr. O'Leary responded that the overall target moves up. There is also a penalty if the city falls short of 95% of the NSS. This is the starting point of the budget process. The Business Office works with the CFO of the City to determine the target amount and to build and forecast for the budget.

Mr. O'Leary continued that each principal and cost center manager builds their budget and they are asked to forecast a level service budget and an enhanced budget. If all enhancements were budgeted, the amount would be \$145,000,000. The hard work begins by looking at what is ultimately needed by each cost center to arrive at a balanced budget. Mr. O'Leary explained that with a Level Service Budget, the total would be \$135,000,000 and that amount will have to be reduced to balance the budget.

#### B. School based budgeting: Preliminary Requests

Parketing budget	Fri 7 Budget				
Salaries & Wages	\$96,910,914	\$99,707,A75			
Special Ed Tultion	\$9,774,000	\$4,864,000			
Stallings .	\$5,603,997	\$3,603,997			
General Expenses	\$11.986.454	\$16.524.868			
Total NSS	5116,275,365	\$124,699,835			
Man NSS	S10,224,635	\$10,269,390			
Pate)	\$126,500,000	\$154,869,225			
Enhancement Requests	\$11.275,000	\$10,551 292			
Total with Enhancements	\$197,775,000 **Size,500,000	\$145,420,517			

## What is <u>not</u> included in the FY 18 Level Service Budget

<ul> <li>All Enhancement Requests from cost center</li> </ul>	5
<ul> <li>10 Reading Specialists</li> </ul>	\$650,000
<ul> <li>3 Teaching/Learning/Specialists</li> </ul>	\$150,000
• 5 Unified Arts Teachers	\$250,000
• 12 ESL Teachers	\$720,000
- Science Curriculum Materials (5-8)	\$750,000
<ul> <li>4 Social Studies Curriculum Libraries</li> </ul>	\$100,000
- 300 Leveled Classroom Libraries	\$350,000

\$260,000

19 Elementary Student Success Centers

Mr. O'Leary went over the school based budget information and stated that the district has little or no control over health care, retirement, charter school and special education costs. He noted that transportation costs are not included in the NSS calculation.

Dr. Durkin and Dr. DeFalco explained the pivotal role of Reading Specialists and Teaching & Learning Specialists along with other teaching and curriculum areas that are *not* included in the FY Level Service budget and stated that there are not nearly enough staff to cover the needs of students. ESL and Unified Arts teachers are also needed along with Science Curriculum material. Dr. DeFalco explained the need for the Social Studies curriculum and leveled classroom libraries. He also stated that the proposed additional Student Success Centers to be added to schools came from the Ad Hoc Committee on Discipline and School Climate that was formed last year on the recommendation of the Mayor and the Committee.

To a question by Dr. Finnerty, Dr. Durkin and Dr. DeFalco responded that the Science Curriculum will be aligned with the state standards and that the social studies curriculum will be constructed that way also.

# What is included in the FY 18 Level Service Budget

<ul> <li>Covered SRG Grant loss</li> </ul>	\$196,000
Reading Specialists FTE #14	Title: 1
<ul> <li>Teaching Learning Specialists FTE#23</li> </ul>	Title 1
<ul> <li>VCT tile / maintenance projects</li> </ul>	\$120,000
<ul> <li>Year 3/3 Envisions math curriculum</li> </ul>	\$335,275
<ul> <li>Information Technology projects</li> </ul>	\$320,500
<ul> <li>Collective Bargaining Agreements</li> </ul>	\$2,571,282
<ul> <li>Special Education cost increases</li> </ul>	\$2,686,620

# III. STEPS TO A BALANCED BUDGET

Mr. O'Leary and Dr. Durkin explained what is included in the Level Service Budget noting that the FY18 budget will cover the loss of the School Redesign Grant currently budgeted at the high school. Other items in the Level Service category were reviewed.

To a question by Mr. Oliveira in regard to IT projects, Mr. Tetreault, (IT Manager) answered that more funding for technology maintenance is needed as well.

# Local Budget (core) Trends

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Non-dalony	26,282,660	88,886,817	\$3,018,072	\$2,442,040	2.0%
tini Sadjan	\$126,466,665	\$118,800,000	\$126,004,845	\$1\$8,112.01E	tas

# Where did the increase in Chapter 70 Funding Go?

Major Category	Description	Budgeted increase
9000	Special Ed Tuition	1,090,000
2800	Psychological Services	1,875,000
1000 - 4000	Salaries & Wages	2,796,561
Total		\$5,761,561

Mr. O'Leary reviewed the Local Budget trends noting that the Special Education costs have driven the budget very high and also stated the Circuit Breaker funds will be lower than in past years to aid in offsetting costs.

## Reviewing Budget Factors FY2018

- Sped Out of District Placements/ Circuit Breaker trends
- FTE #Increases
- · Entitlement grants IDEA / Title 1/Title #
- · Utilities Energy ESCO
- · City ACA & Health Insurance
- · Major Cost Centers incl NBHS , middle schools
- · Pre Buy/ Reductions
- Sped Stabilization Fund

# **APPENDICES**

Mr. O'Leary stated that at future budget sessions, he proposed looking at matching the budget costs with revenue. Budget items to consider will include: Special Ed. out of district placement, Circuit Breaker, staffing structures, grants, energy projects, health insurance breakdown, high school and middle school cost centers and how we can lower the \$135,000,000 level service budget amount. Pre-buy options and a review of the Sped. Stabilization Fund will also be included.

Mr. Livramento asked if more clarification on budget terms could be given to make it clear for the Committee and the public. These terms could include explanations of Circuit Breaker, Net School Spending, etc.

Mayor Mitchell suggested that a glossary of the relevant terms be placed on the School Department website.

To a question by Mr. Amaral about the estimated breakage amount for the year, Mr. O'Leary stated that it may be approximately \$1M. Dr. Durkin described breakage as a term used for when a teacher or staff member leaves the district having a high salary and a replacement is hired at a lower salary.

That funding situation is referred to as "breakage". She also said that those dollars are carefully monitored.

Mayor Mitchell asked if cost center managers could articulate their needs and that narratives be given to the Committee ahead of time. He continued that an explanation of what is needed will give the Committee a better understanding of cost center budgets. Mayor Mitchell added that listing a total of all staff members in each category would also be helpful.

Mr. O'Leary stated that it is the intent to submit cost center summaries and they will contain descriptions of the MUNIS lines and the Full Time Employee (FTE) numbers in each category.

Dr. Finnerty asked if school cost centers could be presented at one meeting and other cost centers at a separate meeting. Dr. Durkin explained that principals have very little in terms of discretionary funds and perhaps representatives from each school level could present rather than every principal.

Mr. O'Leary reiterated that most principals have only one or two percent of their budgets to use for discretionary funds noting that there are fixed costs for salaries, utilities, etc.

Dr. Durkin also commented that with a Level Service Budget, principals do not have much to work with in regard to those funds.

To a question by Dr. Finnerty regarding fund raising and how it is accounted for, Mr. O'Leary responded that student activity funds are listed in the budget. The principal submits a request for funds. He reviews and approves (as Business Manager) of expenditures from that fund. PTO funds however, are not accounted for in the district budget.

Dr. Durkin mentioned that the following appendices were provided to the Committee for reference.

### **Budget Process FY2018**

- September 2016 Forecast, reconcile class size reductions, absorb breakage savings, review pre paid services
  October 2016 Use enrollment counts to estimate revenue
- December 2016- Prepare projected expenses for the upcoming year -contractual increases for salaries, contracted services, & other costs
- December 2016- Solicit cost center budgets at level funding of services. Salary & Wages pre populated
- January 2017- using these revenue and expenditure estimates, the district's administration prepares a preliminary budget forecast
- January 2017- Analyze and report on leading budget factors SPED, Technology, Maintenance, OT, unbudgeted, overruns,
- February 2017 Schedule Committee Budget Workshops

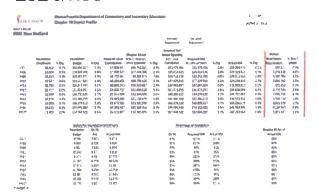
#### Budget Process FY2018

- January 2017 Completion of FY 2018 phase 1 budget entry
- February 2017 Cost Center Enhancement Requests review
- Level Service plus Needs Budget will be entered into MUNIS by February 1, 2017
- Business Office compiled, reviewed and printed Phase 1 Budget by February 14, 2017
- February 8 Finance Committee to discuss the Governor's Chapter 70 numbers and Budget calendar
- Budget adjustments and Phase Two Budget -February 24, 2017.
- March 9, 2017 Finance Sub-Committee budget discussion
- March 16, 2017, and March 23, 2017 Budget Workshop with Level Two Budget
- April 10, 2017 Budget Presentation to the School Committee May 8, 2017 Budget Hearing and vote by School Committee

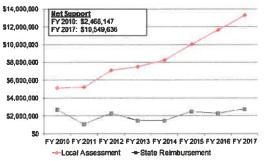
# City ACA & NSS

- Indirect CostAgreement In accordance with CMR 10.04, and MGL Ch 70
- Admin Cost agreement between the Schools and the City
- Review of Net School Spending charges from the City.
- City Offices charge 41% of costs to the school department under ACA
- The City is self insured. The city makes payments based on the claims submitted by school department employees.
   The costs are back charged to the schools through ACA

### ESE & NSS



#### City of New Bedford - Charter School Assessments



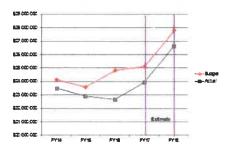
Source: New Bedford CFO

City of New Bedford, MA Administration Calculation (per ACA)

Department	FY 2015	FV 2016	FY 2017 Comments
Auditer	\$370,760	5378,530	5184.711
CFO	66,031	70,809	78,378
Treasurer	736,890	765 195	767,521 Total less Tax Title & Court Costs
MOS	611,806	528,085	597,032 Dir Asst Dur data ungur & payto
Peschanica	262.885	251,965	260.657 Total less possage & telephone
Selicites	357,129	330,318	378.359
Ande	250.000	250,000	250,000
Personnel	235,500	242,786	259,099
EAP & Unemployment	185,000	350,000	350,000
Tetal	100,070,52	\$3,167,688	\$3 345,760
Advala Allocation:	\$1,241,482	51,270,019	\$1.354,448
School Department	\$116,400,000	\$118,500,000	\$126,500,000
General Fund.	\$286,785,471	\$295,563,270	\$312,480,598
Relative Shape:	48,6%	48.1%	49.5%

#### City of New Bedford - Healthcare, FICA, Life Ins.

· City health ins. increase could be as much as \$5.1 million



#### City of New Bedford -Charter School Expansion

The Commissioner and Soard of Education approved an increase of 50 seats to Ama Del Mar Chartar School. This will bring Amara maximum enrollment from about 280 to 350.

Affilia to may charge defined. The waiting may be added to may charge defined to make the first year. Aims and other charters submit pre-entralment reports in Nerch 2017 and their PVS a licolations from New Beofficed to the first year. Aims and other charters submit pre-entralment reports in Nerch 2017 and their PVS a licolations from New Beofficed Ch. 70 and their PVS a licolations from New Beofficed Ch. 70 and their pvS and their super-entralment will be higher if the expansion is approved. However, the 50 student expansion conton will be eigher for 10% charter freshment and about a conton to the eigher for 10% charter freshmentenered about a conton to the chypentral fund in PVIS. (Beyond PVIS, the reinhoursement. And that come to the chypentral fund in PVIS. (Beyond PVIS, the reinhoursement about the second and the s

## End Of Year Reporting FY16

- The FY16 per pupil expenditures are now available here: http://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/statistics/ppx.html.
- State's Edwin Analytics guide http://www.mass.gov/edu/docs/ese/edwinanalytics/guide.pdf

## **Definitions/Glossary**

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- Net School Spending: Spending level that meets minimum state requirements on eligible items.
- Foundation Budget: Legally required spending target that includes state aid, and local contributions from the city
- Foundation Budget Review Commission FBRC: MA Legislature's blue ribbon commission that recommended changes to the imperiod minimum targets Massachusetts' districts currently

Mayor Mitchell voiced his concern in regard to unfunded mandates issued by the state including funding for Charter Schools. He expressed his appreciation for the hard work in creating and working on the budget.

#### **Public Comment:**

Jacqueline Bariteau Tavares – Concern about school climate.

### Business Office Report (Mr. O'Leary): (Supporting documents – 6A)

Mr. O'Leary reviewed the financial reports with the Committee stating that 90% of the funds for supplies and contracts are encumbered or spent.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Dr. Finnerty, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve the following transfers:

## TRANSFER OF FUNDS 3/9/2017 **FOR APPROVAL**

FROM					то				
Org	Func	Obj	Descriptio n	Org	Func	Obj	Descriptio n	Amount	Reason
\$2135740	2357	520004	Profession al Dev Contracted Services	S1009541	3520	520004	Other Student Activities Contracted Services	30,000.00	To cover 2nd semester of Playworks
S2070546	3301	520004	Transporta tion PreK	S2060044	2800	520004	Psych Services Elementary Contracted Services	500,000.00	PreK Transportation combined with other routes
S0019560	9100	522190	Tuition MA Other Districts	\$2060564	9300	522210	Tuition Sped Private Elem Day	25,000.00	To cover Sped Tuition with excess in Regular Ed Tuition
S6159550	2340	540005	Supplies & Materials Sea Lab	S6159510	2305	511480	Overtime Sea Lab	2,000.00	Preparation for Summer Sea Lab, Interview, Mailings, Testing, Etc.

S2060710	2305	511110	Home Hospital Tutoring Salaries	S2069540	2440	520004	Other Instruction al Services Sped Contacted Services	27,500.00	To cover contracted services as staff is not always available.
S2068420	2110	511110	Sped Clerical Salaries	S2069540	2440	520004	Other Instruction al Services Sped Contacted Services	11,000.00	To cover iterpretation services
S2069511	2305	511110	DW Special Ed Teacher Salaries	S2060461	9300	522210	Tuition Sped Private High Residential	81,900.00	Salary Savings to cover Special Ed Residential Tuition
S2069512	2305	511110	DW Special Ed Facilitator Salaries	S2060461	9300	522210	Tuition Sped Private High Residential	20,800.00	Salary Savings to cover Special Ed Residential Tuition

#### **MSBA**

- Taylor School and Hannigan Schools are on target for completion.
- Statement of Interest (SOI) for ARPs has been submitted for the Brooks Elementary School.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Nobrega and seconded by Amaral, to accept the Business Office Report.

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to take Item 6D on the agenda, Student Representative's Report, out of order.

The Student Representative gave her report.

#### Personnel Report (Ms. Emsley) (Supporting document labeled "6B")

Ms. Emsley reviewed the personnel report with the Committee. She reported that there were 8 appointments since the last personnel report in February. There were also two retirements and six resignations listed; transfers totaled 24.

The Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY, on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, to accept the Personnel Report.

Several members gave reports.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

On a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a request from Michelle Giusti/ESL teacher, to travel to Willimantic, CT on March 25, 2017, to attend the

Massachusetts Association for Bilingual Education 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern New England Conference for Dual Language Programs. (Local Budget – Registration and travel approximately \$225)

On a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Amaral, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a request from Bernadette Coelho/Headmaster/NBHS, to hold the New Bedford High School 2017 Graduation Exercises on Thursday, June 8, 2017, at Dr. Paul Walsh Field (7:00 P.M.).

On a motion by Dr. Finnerty and seconded by Mr. Livramento, the Committee voted UNANIMOUSLY to approve a request to declare, in accordance with School Department Policy DN, a recommended list of surplus property located at the following locations: Paul Rodrigues Administration Building and Sea Lab.

At 7:30 P.M. on a motion by Mr. Oliveira and seconded by Mr. Livramento, the Committee voted to go into Executive Session for the following purposes:

- To discuss strategies with respect to negotiations with union personnel:
  - American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mayor Mitchell – Yes

Mr. Amaral - Yes

Mr. Cotter – Yes

Mr. Livramento - Yes

Mr. Nobrega – Yes

Dr. Finnerty – Yes

Mr. Oliveira - Yes

7 – Yeas

0 - Nays

0 - Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,

Lisa P. Dunaway

**Recording Secretary** 

Reviewed by,

Pia Durkin, Ph.D.

Superintendent, Secretary/School Committee

											15.