

# GARDNER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

70 Waterford Street  
Gardner, MA 01440

Finance Sub-Committee Meeting  
Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
Zoom meeting at 12:30pm

## Minutes

Members Present: Mr. LaFreniere (Chair), Ms. Pelavin, Mr. Swartz

Members Absent:

Others Present: Ms. Yu (Business Administrator), Mark J. Pellegrino (Superintendent),

The meeting was called to order at 12:32pm by Mr. LaFreniere, the Chair.

Approval of the meeting minutes for April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Ms. Pelavin motioned and Mr. Swartz seconded, and the minutes was approved unanimously.

The Committee went over the Finance packet for the month of April. The Committee had a question regarding the deficit in legal expenses. Mr. Pellegrino explained to the Committee about the outstanding legal arbitrations. There were no other questions regarding the Expense report.

There is a discussion about whether to move forward with the Helen Mae Sauter project. Due to the pandemic, all non-emergency projects were put on hold. Ms. Yu will work with Mr. Wayne Anderson, the Facilities Director on a cost analysis to bring to the Committee for the decision-making.

Ms. Yu and Mr. Pellegrino showed the Committee FY20 Projected year-end savings worksheet. With lots of items not finalized, the savings total will be adjusted. In terms of revolving accounts, school food services are running at loss due to the pandemic. The School District Grants Manager Ms. Dunn is working with Katrina Bressani, the food service Director and Ms. Yu on grants application to help closing the deficit.

Ms. Yu has been working with DESE and other business managers at MASBO on the issue of paying the Transportation company when the schools are closed. At this point, there is no final guidelines yet. She will keep the School Committee updated with progress.

Mr. Pellegrino gave the Sub-Committee an update on FY21 level services budget, and the FY21 add list. These adds are critical to move the district forward to the right direction. It's possible that the Federal Government Funding will come, which hopefully will help close the budget gap. The School Committee is working closely with the City Council, the acting Mayor and City Auditor.

When the State Chapter 70 Fund gets released during the next few weeks, we'll have more certainty about FY21 Budget.

There is a gift of \$375 from a parent to Waterford Street School. The Finance Sub Committee recommended to bring this gift to the next School Committee for vote to accept, motioned by Ms. Pelavin, seconded by Mr. Swartz.

#### Adjournment

Ms. Pelavin made a motion, seconded by Mr. Swartz to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:12pm.