

GARDNER PUBLIC SCHOOLS

70 Waterford Street, Gardner, MA 01440
Finance Sub-Committee Meeting
Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 5:00pm

Minutes

Members Present: Mrs. Pelavin, Mr. Swartz. Mr. LaFreniere

Members Absent:

Others Present: Mr. Mark Hawke, Director of Finance & Operations, Dr. Mark J Pelligrino, Superintendent

Mr. LaFreniere called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

A motion was made by Mrs. Pelavin and seconded by Mr. Swartz to approve the minutes of the April 4, 2023 Finance Subcommittee meeting. So voted.

Expense Report Review:

The Committee reviewed the Expense Report. Mr. Hawke noted the following:

GHS

Substitutes continue to increase in the negative and will be adjusted at year end.
Electricity shows negative due to a higher encumbered amount than budget.

GMS

Substitutes (reg and spec) continue to increase in the negative and will be adjusted at year end.
Gas is negative and will be made up at year end.

GES

Substitutes will likely go negative next month while special education substitutes are already negative.
Electric is negative due to the high encumbered amount.

District

Management and Info systems is negative because we increased our bandwidth which increased our annual cost.
Out of District Tuition will continue to go negative and will be made up at year end.
Professional Services continues to go negative as the district required an outsourced SLP.
Legal Expenses (spec ed) continue to grow negatively.
Gas is over budget and will be made up at year end.
Plowing and sanding is negative and I hope will not continue to grow as we should be past winter.

Mr. Swartz noted the rising Out of District Placement costs. Discussion ensued. Other questions were posed and answered.

Projects Update:

Watkins Field concession/restroom work is almost complete. The base coat of paving was put down last week. Top coat is expected this week. There is also one electrical panel that was ordered over a year ago and still hasn't arrived.

July 1, or thereabouts, the Varsity Softball and Baseball fields should have dugouts being installed. This was delayed by the late snowstorm.

New Business:

Declaration of surplus property:

Discussion around declaring HMS along with the land around the Big Chair, Stone Field and the playground behind ESS surplus occurred. It is planned to have a map presented depicting all of this land ready for the Facilities/Finance meeting in June. All of this land is one parcel on City Parcel Maps. Special Education is slated to vacate HMS on or about June 5.

The next meeting will be June 6, 2023 at 5pm.

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.