

**Regional School District 13  
Board of Education  
Educational Resources Committee  
January 18, 2017  
CRHS Library Media Center  
Revised Minutes**

Committee members present: Bob Moore, Bob Yamartino, Jeremy Renninghoff, Nancy Boyle, Andrew Taylor

Administration present: Ron Melnik and Kathy Veronesi (Dr. Veronesi left to attend the Strong School band concert at 7:20 p.m.)

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. **Public Comment:** None.
2. **Approval of Agenda:** Mr. Moore asked for the agenda to be amended by moving item 6: Budget Process Update to item 4. The agenda was approved on a motion from Mr. Renninghoff; seconded by Mrs. Boyle.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Mrs. Boyle asked that the minutes be amended to include an addition to the item just preceding "Public Comment" at the end of the agenda to read, "Mrs. Boyle made a motion to move forward with two RFPs: one for a full facility with a bathroom fitted out and one with just bathroom units. The motion was seconded by Dr. Taylor and approved unanimously."
4. **Budget Process Update:** Dr. Veronesi reviewed the budget calendar and the topics of discussion on February 8th and 22nd, March 8th, 15th, and 22nd. The Public Hearing will be held on April 5th. Requests by members of the committee were made to include: specific links to student achievement, increasing time for discussion of various items, fewer presentations, having submitted questions from the Board in a shared document that are also on the district homepage and are further discussed publicly at BOE meetings, access to the complete budget request book, having the "Proposed Budget" book available on-line.

Mrs. Boyle requested that all administrators be present at all budget meetings as it is very helpful to have administrators present as it was last year when Mrs. Heckler was able to answer questions about the bookshelves.

Mrs. Boyle shared that teachers have approached her about the burden they experience with data collection requirement and asked that how we are addressing this matter is discussed. Mrs. Boyle wants to be sure that we remain focused on teaching and learning in our budget. Mrs. Boyle asked how other districts collect data and suggested looking at others' processes.

Mr. Yamartino indicated that in personal conversations with teachers from various states, they are all sharing the same sentiment.

Dr. Veronesi said that an agenda item would be added to Monday night's Student Achievement meeting to talk about the data collection and analysis process.

5. **Review 5 Year Capital Plan:** Mr. Melnik presented the current outstanding debt service schedule showing the reduction each year to elimination in FY 2024-2025. The debt service increases in FY 2017-2018 due to the short term financing of roof replacement at Brewster School. He also presented the estimated debt service on borrowing \$1,000,000 and \$7,697,210 at various repayment schedules.

Mr. Melnik presented a 5 year capital plan which incorporated district anticipated capital needs over the next five years along with the anticipated capital improvements recommended by Silver Petrucelli in their recent school evaluations along with some previous analysis done by DRA Inc. for John Lyman School. The priorities defined by Silver Petrucelli were used for the most part in assessing the item for repair or replacement. The plan indicated a \$7,697,210 three year need and a \$28,006,580 five year need. The plan did not identify those items which should be delayed pending possible renovation of various schools or closing of John Lyman. Some inconsistencies in the report were noted and needed to be checked. Mr. Moore agreed to work with Mr. Melnik on the report and at the request of Dr. Taylor to attempt to identify those items which would be included in school renovations and thereby deleted from this plan.

Mr. Yamartino offered to enter the data from this report and the DRA report on a spreadsheet he is using to project capital need for longer terms. Mr. Melnik will supply the data. Mr. Yamartino indicated that using this tool he was able to shift scheduled replacements to meet priorities.

Options for bonding were discussed including the investigation of applying for USDA grant or loan funding. Mr. Melnik will investigate this source of funding.

Dr. Taylor requested the information on the savings realized from the Korn School closing. Mr. Renninghoff thought it was about \$400,000 and Mr. Melnik would get the figures.

Mrs. Boyle asked for the format to reflect the cumulative costs at the end of the document in addition to the summary at the front. She raised several questions on the various bonding options and schedules. She pointed out that some items such as turf replacement appeared in each year's capital budget and should not be included in a bonding schedule.

The revised document will be brought back to the committee.

6. **RFP for the Field House:** Mr. Yamartino suggested that the RFP for the field house include the lighting for the fields. Mrs. Boyle strongly objected in that the ERC motion only includes the two options of the field house equipped with the bathrooms and the stand alone bathroom facility. The committee agreed to move ahead without the lighting. Mrs. Boyle raised concern that the RFP had not been prepared as yet and wanted assurance that the Field House would be brought to referendum before June. Mr. Yamartino indicated that the plan would be to go to referendum in a separate issue from the capital needs in concert with the town budget vote. Ron Melnik indicated that he had not gone out for RFP because drawings were incomplete and completed drawings are necessary for an RFP.
7. **Public Comment:** None.
8. **Adjournment:** Mr. Renninghoff made the motion to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Boyle at 8:35 p.m.