

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DEIRDRE BURNS
DEIRDRE d'ALBERTIS
MARK FLEISCHHAUER
DIANE LYONS
LISA ROSENTHAL
LAURA SCHULKIND
RICHARD WALKER**

OTHERS PRESENT:

**THOMAS BURNELL, JOSEPH PHELAN,
MEMBERS OF THE PRESS, MEMBERS
OF THE PUBLIC**

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED BUDGET

President Fleischhauer called the Hearing to order at 7:04 pm.

Superintendent Phelan reported that the Board has adopted a budget that will go before the voters for their consideration at the Annual School District Election and Budget Vote on Tuesday, May 17, 2016. The Budget Newsletter has been delivered to the Post Office and the community should expect to receive the newsletter within the next day or two.

As required by New York State, Superintendent Phelan reported on the Three Part Budget Summary for the proposed 2016-17 school budget. The budget is broken down into three parts: Administrative Budget, Program Budget, and Capital Budget.

- The Administrative Budget
 - includes all expenditures that support the administration of the district
 - includes all expenditures that support other functions except programs and capital
 - represents a budget-to-budget decrease of 0.46%
- The Program Budget
 - includes all expenditures that support academics and extra-curricular activities
 - represents a budget-to-budget increase of 2.51%
- The Capital Budget
 - includes all expenditures for the physical support of the District
 - includes expenditures related to debt service
 - represents a budget-to-budget decrease of 2.21%

Superintendent Phelan reported that the District is projecting a 1.44% spending increase, which is just \$38 below the maximum tax levy cap limit of 1.26%. With a number of districts across the State having to override the tax levy cap limit just to get to a 0% increase, this is good news for Rhinebeck. The District aimed to make reductions to budget requests in areas that would have the least impact on student programs and services. The District website has been updated with budget information for voter review prior to the May 17 budget vote.

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to close the hearing and recess until 7:30 pm for the Board of Education Regular Board meeting.

**VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker);
0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

REGULAR MEETING

1.0 Call to Order

President Fleischhauer called the meeting to order in the High School/Middle School Library at 7:30 pm.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2016 Regular Meeting.*

**VOTE: 6 AYE (Burns, d’Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind);
0 NAY; 1 ABSTAIN (Walker); 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED**

3.0 Public Comment

None

4.0 Reports and Discussion

4.1 Summer 2015 Board Meeting Schedule

The Board reviewed the proposed summer Board meeting schedule. Superintendent Phelan asked Board members to supply him with vacation schedules in order to plan for meetings and workshops this summer. The Board briefly discussed topics for summer workshops, including Board goals and a discussion of declining enrollment.

4.2 Board Committee Reports (Personnel, Finance, Communication, CDEP)*

Personnel Committee

Lisa Rosenthal reported that the Personnel Committee discussed upcoming negotiations with the RTA, which will be further reviewed with the Board during executive session. The Committee also discussed changes to the format of the annual Superintendent Evaluation. The Committee reviewed the NYSSBA model evaluation form and discussed the merits of the HEDI criteria and the detailed rubric. The Committee will evaluate the Council of School Superintendents model evaluation next and will compare both models to the existing evaluation.

Finance Committee

Deirdre Burns reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the District’s credit card policy with a draft policy going to the Policy Committee. The Committee

discussed the increased costs related to class coverage when teachers, instead of substitutes, cover a class.

The Committee reviewed a 5-year financial model and discussed the difficulty of speculating about costs when projecting a budget in the future. With so many elements of the budget that are out of District control, the Committee was not convinced that so much speculation would provide accuracy. The Committee deems it more valuable to have discussions on the parts of the program that the District can control, such as planning around declining enrollment which will drive curriculum and staffing.

Communications Committee

Deirdre D'Albertis reported that the Communications Committee discussed the possibility of a social media policy as teachers are requesting social media accounts which would relay information outside of the District's website. The policy would impact how staff communicates with students through social media. Discussion turned on how to make the District website more easily accessible through the possibility of using an app.

The Committee discussed the possibility of a "task force" to discuss the future of the District. A one-day round table with various stakeholders to discuss declining enrollment and budget cuts in light of an uncertain fiscal climate is being considered, to be held on or about September 10, 2016.

CDEP Committee

Laura Schulkind reported that the CDEP Committee worked with Dr. Jaeger to review information received from faculty over the last several Superintendents Conference Days. The entire professional faculty has been given an opportunity to participate in the process. The challenge will be how the District will support the development and oversight of the plan. The CDEP team will, as a pilot, manage for this year.

5.0 Comments

5.1 Good News

Laura Schulkind reported that the BMS Band concert was both wonderful and entertaining.

5.2 Old Business

None

5.3 Public Comment

None

5.4 Other

Deirdre Burns suggested that the Board consider submitting a resolution through NYSSBA for advocacy/relief from the State in the area of requiring districts to fund health costs for students who attend private schools at the parents' choice.

6.0 Action Items

6.1 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the following consent items:

6.1.1 Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the CSE and CPSE recommendations.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.2 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to accept the resignation of Deb Wasylichak, Guidance Aide, for the purpose of retirement, as stated, effective the close of business on July 29, 2016.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.3 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the list of Poll Inspectors and Chairperson (Betty Lou Bautz, Barbara Joyce, Christine Livesey, Karen Kasius, Kathy Cassens, Linda Janow, Jane Hoffman, Tami Zepnick-Holtzhuetter, Howard Mackie, Deb Highley, Dawn Harrington, Sue Waters, Meg Todisco, Susannah Renzi, Laura Magley, Betsy Zubroff, Lorraine Swack, Rosemary Hanson), with additions, and to give the District Clerk permission to fill additional positions as necessary.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.4 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the permanent Civil Service appointment of Teresa Costakis as School Nurse, effective May 10, 2016.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.5 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve as a final reading and adoption of modifications to Board Policy #4730 – Homework. (See attached.)*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.6 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve 2015-16 budget transfers, in accordance with Board of Education Policy #6150. (See attached.)*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

6.7 Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the Board voted to approve the selection of the textbook The Language of Composition (Shea, Scanlon & Aufses, Bedford/St. Martin's Press, 2013) for the AP Composition (AP English 12) course.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

7.0 Proposed Executive Session

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to enter Executive Session at 8:37 pm for the purpose of discussing particular persons and negotiations with a particular bargaining unit.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board appointed Joseph Phelan as Clerk Pro Tempore.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Burns, seconded by Rosenthal, the Board voted to return to Regular Session at 9:32 pm.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

8.0 Adjournment

Motion by Rosenthal, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:33 pm.

VOTE: 7 AYE (Burns, d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Lyons, Rosenthal, Schulkind, Walker); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
May 10, 2016
Hearing on the Proposed Budget
Regular Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Ann Bovee
District Clerk

Joseph Phelan
Clerk Pro Tempore