

RHINEBECK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
April 17, 2018
Public Hearing on the Proposed School Budget 2018-19 School Year
Regular Meeting

MEMBERS PRESENT:

**DEIRDRE D'ALBERTIS
MARK FLEISCHHAUER
ELIZABETH RAUM
LAURA SCHULKIND
JACLYN SAVOLAINEN
DIANE LYONS (arrived 7:02 pm)
STEPHEN JENKINS**

OTHERS PRESENT:

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

PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED SCHOOL BUDGET

President d'Albertis opened the public hearing on the proposed school budget for the 2018-19 school year in the RHS/BMS Library at 7:01 pm.

Diane Lyons arrived.

Superintendent Phelan stated that Assistant Superintendent Thomas Burnell would give a brief presentation as to the status of the 2018-19 proposed budget, and then to open the Hearing to public comment in regards to the budget.

Mr. Burnell reported that the State requires a budget hearing a week before the budget vote, but that the District, as in the past, has chosen to have an earlier budget hearing, before the adoption of the budget, in order to provide the community with a chance to participate in the budget development process.

Mr. Burnell reviewed trends in RCSD enrollment. He presented information showing the number of live births in our district, with the potential for kindergarten enrollment. Our district tends to have 13% more students' enrollment compared to the live births. He reviewed the Tier I reductions, in the amount of \$215,599 which will get us to the tax cap levy. We will only need 50% + 1 for passage of the budget.

Superintendent Phelan stated that the library clerk was removed from the Tier I reductions. The only staffing impacts are the decision not to replace the typist retiring from CLS and the retiring maintenance worker. At this point none of the 1.0 positions were reduced to .8.

Mr. Burnell stated they did add \$15,000 to the budget for overtime substitute work in case additional help was needed for the two positions that were not replaced. He also discussed the \$200,000 interest from a future bond anticipation note for the voter-approved capital project that was built into the budget. It doesn't affect the tax levy cap. Unlike last year, we are within the tax levy cap limit. Mr. Burnell explained the differences between a bond anticipation note (BAN), a revenue anticipation note (RAN) and a tax anticipation note (TAN). The Board discussed where the \$200,000 budgeted amount for 2018-19 comes from in terms of the \$700,000 BAN interest. It will be broken up into 3 portions per the recommendation from our financial consultants. This will slow down the impact to our taxpayers.

Deirdre d'Albertis opened the hearing to public comment.

Victor Britton, RTA Vice President, teacher, parent, wanted to reiterate that the English Department has taken a hit to the courses they offer. Looking to the future, he hopes for a better process next year with more staff inclusion.

President d'Albertis closed the public hearing at 7:20.

REGULAR MEETING

1.0 Call to Order

President d'Albertis called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 Motion to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2018 Regular Meeting*

2.2 Motion to approve the minutes of the April 10, 2018 Special Meeting – Executive Session*

Minor corrections will be made (name correction, add a word).

**VOTE: 5 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Savolainen, Schulkind, Raum); 0 NAY;
0 ABSTAIN; 2 ABSENT (Lyons, Jenkins)**

MOTION CARRIED

3.0 Public Comment

None.

4.0 Reports and Discussion

4.1 2018-19 Budget Development Update

President d'Albertis stated that the Board had been presented with a petition with over 100 signatures regarding the budget. She wanted to thank the members of the community who took the time to participate in the democratic process by articulating their position and sharing it with the Board. Particularly she wanted to address one comment that a parent wrote about keeping the commitment of quality education by not cutting or reducing positions. President d'Albertis wanted to speak to the audience and state that that has been a guiding concern around the Board table. It has been a difficult process to bring the budget to completion within the tax levy cap limit. It is important to acknowledge and recognize that the budget represents a snapshot in terms of thinking of an allocation of resources and the revenues coming into the district. We recognize that it is a dynamic document, and that there will have to be adjustments and changes as they arise considering all the factors that come into play within the district. The Board stands behind that commitment and it has guided them in a difficult time of trying to allocate resources. She does want to

thank all those who came forward and put such thoughtful suggestions before the Board.

4.2 Board Committee Reports (Long Range Planning, Curriculum, Finance, Policy, Communication)*

Long Range Planning Committee Meeting – Laura Schulkind reviewed the April 4, 2018 meeting minutes. The committee discussed the creation of a Citizens Advisory Committee, changes to the budget process in the future, internal audits, statistical and aspirational peers, and Forecast5.

Finance Committee Meeting – Liz Raum reviewed the April 5, 2018 meeting minutes. The Committee discussed the BOCES building project, RCSD workers compensation reserve, debt service and the 2018-19 budget development Tier I and II changes.

Policy Committee Meeting – Liz Raum reviewed the April 11, 2018 meeting minutes. The Committee discussed the policy #4526 after review with legal. The creation of a social media policy is being researched. The minutes gave a list of other policies reviewed with minor changes.

Curriculum Committee Meeting – Deirdre d’Albertis reviewed the April 5, 2018 meeting minutes. The Committee spent much of the meeting discussing implications of assigning middle school teachers to teach in the high school and high school teacher to teach in the middle school.

Communications Committee Meeting – Liz Raum reviewed the April 12, 2018 meeting minutes. The Committee discussed the budget brochure and reviewed the current Facebook page that was created.

Long Range Planning Meeting – Deirdre d’Albertis reviewed the April 16, 2018 meeting minutes. The committee reviewed slides from the Forecast5 presentation showing the RCSD story for the upcoming State-mandated budget hearing. Deirdre shared a document developed by the Blind Brook Rye School District entitled “Budget 101” that offers a comprehensive introduction to how the budgeting process works throughout NYS. The Committee formulated a draft charge to form a Citizens Advisory Committee.

4.3 Dutchess BOCES Administrative Budget Vote and Board Member Election*

Superintendent Phelan stated that a special meeting will be conducted on April 24, 2018 for the BOCES Board vote and administrative budget vote. There are four people for three seats. Mark Fleischhauer will try to find out more information about the candidates for the Board to make an informed decision.

5.0 Comments

5.1 Good News

Laura Schulkind stated that the high school play was fantastic! The sets, the students, the music were all wonderful.

Superintendent Phelan wanted to give a shout out to Sandy Kane who was pinch hitting for an ill student during the play and was totally fantastic. He also said that Cynthia Baer, Drama Club Director, set up the online ticket purchasing this year and it worked very well. He said it helps take a load off the front office staff from selling tickets.

5.3 Old Business

None.

5.3 Public Comment

None.

5.4 Other

Superintendent Phelan questioned whether there would be a Facilities Committee meeting this Thursday.

6.0 Action Items

6.1 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools 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.*

6.1.2 Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the Treasurers' Report (General Fund, March 2018; Extra Classroom Fund, March 2018).*

6.1.3 Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the resignation Elizabeth Romero from the position of Food Service Helper, effective April 9, 2018.*

6.1.4 Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept the resignation Mara Hermelee from the position of long-term substitute School Social Worker, effective April 16, 2018.*

6.1.5 Motion upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the schedule of Staff Pay dates for the 2018-19 school year. (See attached).*

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED

6.2 Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to adopt the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of

Schools, that the Board of Education hereby adopts the proposed Budget for the 2018-19 school year in the amount of \$33,920,159, and authorizes the following proposition to be placed on the ballot at the Annual Meeting on May 15, 2018:

"Shall the Board of Education of the Rhinebeck Central School District be authorized to expend the sums of money which will be required for School District purposes for the 2018-2019 school year, in the amount of \$33,920,159, and to levy the necessary tax therefore?"

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED

- 6.3 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to accept a grant award from the Rhinebeck Science Foundation, in support of funding for the BMS Week of Discovery program, as submitted by Mr. Henry Frischknecht, in the amount of \$2,880, as stipulated.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED

The Board wanted to thank Rhinebeck Science Foundation once again for their support.

- 6.4 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the list of additional emergency conditional substitute teachers and substitute non-instructional staff for the 2017-18 school year.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED

- 6.5 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve as a first reading the consideration of modifications to the following Board Policies: #4526-Use of Computers by Staff and Students; #6670-Petty Cash/Petty Cash Accounts; #6740-Purchasing Procedures; #6800-Payroll Procedures; #6830-Expense Reimbursement – Staff; and #6900-Disposal of District Property.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED

Two minor changes (typos) were requested.

- 6.6 Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve Mary Lehan and Terri Sikula to provide additional one-to-one aide support after school as required, at Rhinebeck High School and Chancellor Livingston Elementary School, respectively. (See attached.)*

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

- 6.7** +**Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, that the Board of Education hereby approves the contract with Dutchess County BOCES for the acquisition of computer/technology hardware, software, and related equipment through a three-year installment purchase agreement (IPA) commencing in the 2017-2018 school year with a total principal cost of \$144,356.09; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Rhinebeck Central School District will pay Dutchess County BOCES through its regular monthly billing cycle over the three-year period to commence during the 2017-2018 school year.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

- 6.8** +**Motion** upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to approve the appointment of Shiloh Martinez, Substitute Food Service Worker, to the position of 5.00 hour (8:30 am - 1:30 pm) Food Service Helper.*

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

7.0 Proposed Executive Session, If Necessary, Subject to Board Approval

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to enter Executive Session to discuss collective negotiations at 8:22 pm.

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted for Joseph Phelan as clerk pro tempore.

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to return to Regular session at 9:07 pm.

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT
MOTION CARRIED

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8.0 Adjournment

Motion by Fleischhauer, seconded by Schulkind, the Board voted to adjourn at 9:08 pm.

VOTE: 7 AYE (d'Albertis, Fleischhauer, Jenkins, Lyons, Schulkind, Raum, Savolainen); 0 NAY; 0 ABSTAIN; 0 ABSENT

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Whitney Druker
District Clerk

Joseph L. Phelan
Clerk Pro Tempore