

Present: Joe Phelan, Mark Fleischhauer, Elizabeth Raum, Diane Lyons.

6100-**Annual Budget**-No changes

6110- **Budget plan**-No changes

6113-**Dissemination of budget recommendations**-No changes

6120-**Budget Hearing**-No changes

6150-**Budget transfers**- The committee asked Tom Burnell his thoughts on changing the dollar amount from \$5,000 to \$20,000 and he is in favor of this. The policy currently states that any transfer over \$5,000 must be approved by the BOE. The committee feels that this amount is relatively low and supports this change.

6210-**Local Tax Levy**-No change

6215-**Senior citizen's exemption**-Tom will get the committee the sliding scale chart to review

6220-**State Aid and Federal Funds**- No change

6231-**Tittle 1 programs and services**-No Change

6240-**Investments**-No Change

6251-**Sale and lease of districts properties**-Change Business administrator title

6254-**Nonresident tuition**-Should we change this policy so we do not have to use the states scale? The policy currently states, and it is our practice to use that scale. If we take that out of our policy we would need to set a rate that could be higher or lower. The committee would like the full board to weigh in but was not in support of lowering the amount. The group felt lowering the amount might entice new students but did not seem fair to taxpayers.

6255-**Gifts and private grants**- Tom will review to update language to reflect our current practice. (We do not use individual accounts)

6270-**Borrowing**-No changes

6600-**Fisical accounting and reporting**-Change business official title

6605-**Reserve funds**-No Change

6610-**Inventory and control of fixed assets**- Tom will need to review this policy to see if it matches our current practice.

Respectfully submitted by Diane Lyons

Curriculum Committee Minutes - February 28, 2018

Attendees: Deirdre d'Albertis (by phone), Marvin Kreps, Joe Phelan, Jaclyn Savolainen, Laura Schulkind

Health Curriculum

Marvin talked about our health curriculum (primarily at the high school level) with regard to Title IX, and noted that two main related pieces are social health and violence. NYSED says we should be teaching a connection between mental health and physical health with an enhanced understanding of attitude and behaviors that promote health, well-being, and dignity for all persons. NYSED acknowledges we are already teaching that topic some but they want an expansion of it. NYSED Student Support Services has commissioned a study and survey that should lead to more direction for us, with results anticipated around April.

The curriculum on violence being taught in the HS now covers a lot of territory – sexual violence, physical violence, bullying, cyberbullying – but we need to review that teaching to make sure we are in line with current thinking and best practices, particularly revisiting the topic of affirmative consent. Now is an opportune time to improve conversations around these issues. Rather than focusing on victims and perpetrators, we would like to be moving towards thinking about dignity, responsibility and respect. Hopefully, the classroom conversations can be more engaging, nuanced, and complex. Ideally, we would give students the tools they need to navigate the landscape rather than terrifying them. There are three female teachers who have volunteered to get involved in revisiting the health curriculum conversation. This is also an opportunity to get some clubs involved (gender equity and diversity clubs), and rework teacher training on Title IX and DASA. (Jaclyn's post-meeting note: April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center has resources that are worth exploring: <https://www.nsvrc.org/saam/sexual-assault-awareness-month> .)

Summer Curriculum Work

Marvin noted that a few things are percolating regarding summer curriculum work and professional development. By the end of the school year, all the teachers should be aware of the new state standards. Over the summer, maybe we can start looking at how teachers will phase in new pieces of the standards. Marvin will announce before the budget vote an invitation for new summer projects. Since there are tight budget constraints, we will have to prioritize work gradually. As a district, we try to encourage summer work as an opportunity for fueling the engines of innovation while recognizing we have financial limitations. Maybe we cut proposed projects down in scope or hours. We will try to affirm our principles while tightening our belts.

Marvin also talked about the process for choosing and implementing a new elementary school math product – emphasizing the difference between textbooks and curricula. All the math products will have far more materials than we can use, so choices need to be made about what to include in an organized way, rather than "freewheeling it".

We also discussed opportunities for developing projects that RSF may be able to fund.

Next meeting: April 5, 2018

Agenda items: Update on health curriculum and preview of how we can use Forecast5 for curriculum purposes.

4.3.3

Long Range Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

February 26, 2018

Attendees: Deirdre d'Albertis, Diane Lyons, Laura Schulkind, Joe Phelan, Tom Burnell

Security

The group began the meeting discussing the potential for community requests for full time security guards and/or SROs. Tom will work up what those costs would look like, but, if it was decided that we needed more security personnel, there are many options to consider. Would an SRO be preferable to a full time employee? How would that be funded? Should the state cover such costs and provide services for schools? Tom will look into whether or not funding for security can be put forward as a separate voter proposition. If it can, would a proposition need to be passed with 50% or 60% +1 approval?

We discussed the national school walk out on March 14. Joe advised the committee that the Principals, Student Council Advisors and Student Council representatives are working together on a plan.

Brochure

Deirdre worked up the second draft of the district brochure. Some data needs to be collected from Ed Davenport and/or the Guidance department, but it is ready for Communications to start working up a layout.

2018-19 Budget

Our Administrators are considering plans for redeploying current staff to fill the vacancies left by our retiring faculty. Additional changes will likely be required. We discussed instructional, non-instructional and administrative changes, summer hours, club offerings, creative ways to offer electives for maximum participation, and appropriate use of chaperones at events and on field trips. Tom continues to work on the list of non-mandated expenses. He expects it to be ready for review prior to the March 6 Coffee with the Board.

The committee would like the Finance committee to provide suggestions to LRP as they more directly oversee budgetary funding.

Tom reviewed naming conventions for the Board's traditional "Budget Workshop." He was advised by our legal counsel that we can't call it a hearing, but anything else is possible. The group is concerned that we send the correct message to the community about the fact that this 3 hour block of time is set aside for the Board to work exclusively on budget considerations with the administrators. Joe will make sure that all communications publicizing this meeting will convey that purpose and invite the public to exercise their right to be informed of the process. We are recommending that it be called the Board's "Budget Work Session."

Next Meeting: March 5

Agenda: non-mandated expense review

Additional Meeting: March 12

Agenda: recap Coffee and Budget Work Session

Respectfully submitted by Laura Schulkind

Long Range Planning Committee Minutes

March 5, 2018

Present: Deirdre d'Albertis, Diane Lyons, Laura Schulkind; Tom Burnell, Joe Phelan.

Safety and Security: Members of the Committee spent most of the meeting discussing the potential impact on long-range planning of recommendations coming out of the building-level Safety Committees (BMS/RHS and CLS) in response to heightened security concerns after the recent shooting in Parkland, Florida. A robust conversation is taking place within our community; we should be responsive. It is important that concerns be conveyed and considered with dispatch even as it remains best practice and clearly prudent to avoid overly detail-oriented planning in public session. Working with local law enforcement is imperative at the level of the superintendent as well as our safety committees. We discussed the use of safety audits in surrounding districts. How might NYS legislation begin to address school safety in future? What funding structures might become available and/or necessary for renewed investment in this area? Can we share resources with the Village as we face these challenges?

Coffee with the Board: In preparation for **Coffee with the Board** conversations anticipated on Tuesday, March 6, the group reviewed a few key principles to guide us collectively and individually:

- the District faces a budget gap at present of half a million dollars: cuts will be necessary and we need to share this information with all members of the school community and to listen to their responses/concerns
- the LRP committee has been meeting every two weeks since last summer: the group has examined RCSD as an organization, recognizing the need for economies in all parts of the organization
- the District strives in making difficult decisions always to preserve programs for students
- whenever possible, the goal to make reductions in staff through attrition (not replacing in cases of retirement or resignation)
- to the extent that it is possible, another goal is to keep positions "whole" rather than place employees on part-time contracts.

As a reminder, LRP has focused in year one on identifying immediate responses to budgeting challenges in consultation with stakeholders in the district as well as on projecting into the future anticipated trends in enrollment and school finance.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 8 AM in District Offices.

Respectfully submitted,

Deirdre d'Albertis

Communications Committee Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2018

Attendees: Elizabeth Raum, Jaclyn Savolainen, Laura Schulkind, Joe Phelan

Absent: Stephen Jensen

Invited Guests: Claudia Cooley, Phil Meltzer Rhinebeck Chamber of Commerce

Due to weather-related, power issues at the school, Claudia generously offered to host our meeting at the Chamber offices. She and Phil Meltzer, President of the Chamber, shared that the Chamber will be providing scholarships again this year for graduating seniors.

The majority of the meeting was spent brainstorming ways that the Chamber and RCSD could work together to build community and raise awareness about business opportunities in the Rhinebeck area. How can RCSD support local businesses? If classes and clubs are fundraising, how could programs be set up so that teachers are aware of opportunities? Is it possible to set up internships for students?

Other ideas exchanged included Community Service opportunities for kids - the Chamber and Rotary are both organizations that could use extra support. Would it be possible for these groups to sponsor Rhinebeck HS students to attend a monthly breakfast or lunch meeting to meet area business professionals?

How can RHS students support local events? The Hudson Valley Hot Air Balloon Festival will be at the Fairgrounds this year. Are there projects that students could be part of to promote the event and the town? Area walking maps? Other projects?

What other ways could business professionals engage with our students? Joe is going to put Claudia in touch with Mary Winkler in the Guidance Office to set up potential speakers during College & Career classes. Could local College Planning professionals run a program addressing interview etiquette, expectations in the work place, etc?

Claudia would continue to think of possible synergies.

She will also contact a few local realtors to find a good time to meet with the Communications committee to talk about their interest in having brochures and/or other information about the schools in their offices to share with potential buyers.

Next Meeting: April 12, 2018

Agenda: review draft brochure copy and data from RHS

Respectfully submitted by Laura Schulkind

Long Range Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2018

Attendees: Deirdre d'Albertis, Diane Lyons, Laura Schulkind, Joe Phelan, Tom Burnell

Forecast5

The meeting was spent reviewing multi-year achievement data for ELA and Math in grades 3-8 as well as Regents scores. It became clear that the Curriculum Committee will need to review this data in depth with Marvin Kreps on April 5 to provide context for the numbers:

- what does the grade level trending data show us?
- what does the cohort data show us?
- how do we understand these data points with an overlay of opt-outs?
- what do the disaggregated numbers show?

Understanding testing performance will help us drive limited resources to the appropriate supports. In reviewing the data, should emphasis be placed on prioritizing summer work that addresses student support?

The committee is mindful of the teachers' commentary regarding the types of students coming into our schools. Knowing the various levels we're dealing with, how do we change our practice to meet kids where they are and promote success?

Tom suggested that, in the future, these discussions should be happening in the fall to determine what adjustments should be made in the spring budgeting cycle.

It is clear to the committee that the Administrators should work with their staff to determine the best course of action for managing the budget, not only for the 2018-19 school year but into the future. Joe will work with Administrators to facilitate those discussions.

Next Meetings:

March 22, 2018 - review Administrator/staff recommendations

April 11, 2018 - academic performance recap (post Curriculum meeting)

Respectfully submitted by Laura Schulkind