

Budget & Finance Committee Meeting

January 25, 2022

5:45 pm

Meeting Focus: Non-Instructional Budget

Present: Michael Brennan, Business Manager
John Chandler, Board Member (via zoom)
Lucas Christensen, Asst. District Superintendent
Dan Doyle, Transportation Supervisor
Kelly Firmbach, Board Member, Committee Chairperson
Steve Marotta, Director of Facilities/Operations
Mena Mazure, District Treasurer
Anne Schaefer, Board Member (via zoom)

1. M. Brennan opened the meeting by reviewing which portions of the budget fell into the “Non-Instructional” category, namely Transportation and Facilities and anticipated correlating State Aid. He conducted a brief breakdown of the budget codes for the benefit of new Committee members, and provided preliminary numbers, based on what he’s been provided to date.
2. Dan Doyle detailed the Transportation portion of the budget including the Bus Purchase Plan. Kelly Firmbach raised the question of whether changes to the number of students being dropped at school by parents, following the COVID outbreak, was enough to reduce the number of buses needed. Mr. Doyle replied that it was not, but that they were regularly monitoring those numbers in the event that it could. With regard to the bus purchase, Dan stated he’s been regularly receiving inquiries as to why we’re not purchasing electric buses instead of gasoline powered units; the response being that this is not yet a cost-effective option for the school, not only due to the initial cost of the buses, but also because of the residual costs of needed changes for utilization (infrastructure, charging stations, preparation for said stations, etc.). Mr. Doyle stated the possibility of electric vehicles will be revisited as the costs come down.
3. Steve Marotta previewed the Facilities and Maintenance categories of the non-Instructional Budget.
4. Mr. Brennan reviewed Debt and Benefits, as well as State Aid Updates. These areas, as well as all points from this Budget & Finance Committee meeting will be reviewed in detail by Business Manager-Michael Brennan at the February 1st, 2022 General Monthly Board Meeting, as well as be publicly available on the IchabodCrane.org website.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, 1/31/2022 Kelly Firmbach, Committee Chairperson

