

BOARD OF EDUCATION  
CANTERBURY, CONNECTICUT

Date: March 22, 2018

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Dr. Helen Baldwin Middle School-Media Center

JOINT MEETING WITH BOARD OF FINANCE

Approved 4-10-2018

BOE Recorder malfunctioned-therefore there are no audio minutes.

**A. Call of Quorum and Pledge of Allegiance**

In Attendance from the Board of Education (BOE): Vivian Thumser; Chairperson, John Gentry, Vice-Chairperson; Walt Petruniw; Tom Dufort; Bridgett LaBrecque

Absent: Nancy Duvall

Late: Leticia Velasquez 7:05 p.m.

Others Present: Lois DaSilva-Knapton, Superintendent; Ryan Earley, BMS Principal; Sarah Cary, Principal; Jodi Davis, Pupil Service Director; Janice Thurlow, Finance Director; Board of Finance Members

Vivian Thumser, Chairperson called the Board of Education meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. BOE entered into a recess at 7:11 p.m. for purpose of BOF meeting.

The Board of Education resumed their meeting at 7:30 p.m.

**B. Presentations**

1. 2018-2019 Budget Presentation to the BOF

Dr. Knapton spoke on the importance of the roof replacement project stating to the BOF chair how important it is and the fact it is a high ticket item. She then proceeded to present the budget. The Superintendent presented the 2018-2019 budget to the BOF, for a total of \$11,363,738 with a 1.6% increase to the BOF. Many conversations ensued as this was a joint meeting with the Board of Finance.

2018-2019 CIP budget was also presented \$357,500, with BOE amendments to their requests; a letter to the CIP Committee will follow-up these amendment requests.

Conversations included:

- 2017-2018 MBR = \$11,184,941 due to the MBR letter from the State received in February 2018
- Disagreement continues between BOE and BOF regarding the MBR noncompliance; BOE is following the State Statutes and believes additional appropriations are in order,

however, the BOF feels they may not owe any money. BOE is concerned that the Town may be required to pay the penalty which is double (\$501,672) the MBR noncompliance amount of \$250,836

- BMS roof replacement project
- MBR non-compliance
- Student enrollment numbers were questioned-the ED001 and OPM enrollment numbers do not match up
- Fund balance usage to cover expenses
- Explanation of Grants

### **C. Comments from Visitors**

- Many comments regarding Baldwin roof, membrane, metal, and neglectful behavior toward a capital asset. Other details discussed
- Questions regarding CES roof project; seemed more simple
- FOI requested emails between Mr. Lippke and Mr. Sulich were shared
- A community member asked for the resignation of Mr. Sulich due to his lack of communication with the towns people, and not being able to voice their comments
- MBR requirements
- *Tools for Schools* was mentioned by a community member and asked if Canterbury Public Schools uses this system
- A State Statute is under one million dollars it does not require Town approval, citizen thought this might be helpful information
- Citizens feel there is a great benefit for small towns and Direct Democracy
- Citizens are calling for a special meeting so the BOF can hear the roof presentation and take action to send it to Town meeting or referendum so the Town member's voices can be heard

### **D. Adjournment**

Motion      To adjourn at 9:05 p.m.  
By:            Tom Dufort  
Second:      Walt Petruniw

Respectfully submitted by:

Bridgette LaBrecque  
Acing BOE Secretary