

DUDLEY-CHARLTON REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Meeting of the Budget and Finance Subcommittee
Wednesday, April 6, 2022, 3:00 PM
Via Video Conferencing

MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM

2. Approval of Minutes

A motion by C. Kabala, second by C. Carmignani to approve the minutes from the February 2, 2022 meeting was passed unanimously.

K. Laferriere – Yes

C. Kabala – Yes

C. Carmignani - Yes

3. FY23 Budget – Update on meetings with towns

On Monday March 28, 2022 the District presented its budget to the Board of Selectmen and Finance, Appropriations and Advisory Committee in the town of Dudley. The presentation went well and we believe that the leaders present understand the fiscal situation the District faces for FY23 (and in the future). At the end of the presentation there was an unofficial communication that recognized an override was needed to help the town afford the FY23 District request. Based on the numbers from the town, their budget recommendation is short \$278,947 from the second tier District budget (3.23% increase budget which saved the foreign language positions at the middle schools). It was not clear if it was this amount, or the lower 2.92% budget increase (which included the reduction of foreign language at the middle schools) that would be subject to the override.

Ultimately, the fact that the leaders in the town of Dudley recognize the need for the District budget to grow at a level greater than current revenue supports is a huge win. Now that the discussion of need is behind us, the next step is to determine the best course of action to gain voter support.

As a last note, it appears we have support in Charlton for at least the 3.23% budget increase. The Finance Committee has actually approved the full School Committee request (4.03%), but they will be meeting with the Board of Selectmen for a final discussion on April 13, 2022.

4. Fees – Drivers' Ed

We have a request from the Drivers' Ed Coordinator to increase our fees from \$625 to \$700 with the intention to implement the increase before the summer program.

Private companies range anywhere from \$800-1200.

Its unclear when the last increase took place, but is estimated to be around 2019 when the road test and registration fees were combined. Increasing the fees now would allow the program to become mildly profitable to help with car replacement needs.

A motion by C. Carmignani, second by C. Kabala to support the Drivers' Education \$75 increase in order to support the program and car maintenance was approved unanimously.

K. Laferriere – Yes

C. Kabala – Yes

C. Carmignani - Yes

5. Future Agenda Items

The next scheduled meeting will be May 4, 2022 via video conferencing.

Add “General Funding Sources” and “Capital Operating MSBA” as a future agenda item.

6. Adjourn

A motion by C. Carmignani, second by C. Kabala to adjourn the meeting at 3:38 PM was passed unanimously.

K. Laferriere – Yes

C. Kabala – Yes

C. Carmignani - Yes

“...to advance the knowledge and well-being of our children and our community.”