

RSU #63 Board Meeting and FY21 Budget Hearing

Date: June 15, 2020

Location: Holbrook Middle School and Remotely

Minutes

Remote Dial In Phone Number: 1-484-841-5850 PIN: 110237675#

RSU 63 Board Member(s) Physically Present:

Town of Holden: John Hutchins, Cherie Faulkner, and Holly Whitmore

Town of Clifton: Linda Graban

RSU 63 Board Members Remotely Present:

Town of Eddington: Steve Carr (arrived at 6:45pm)

Town of Holden: Heather Charity (arrived at 6:45pm)

Town of Eddington: Christina McLeod (arrived at 6:45pm)

RSU 63 Board Member Excused Absent:

Town of Eddington: Charles Barker, Jr.

Chair, John Hutchins called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

A flag salute was conducted and a moment of silence was observed.

John Hutchins introduced Cherie Faulkner as the new Holden Board Member.

Recognition and/or Awards of Students, Staff, and Others: Superintendent Smith and Principal Modery recognized the Grade 8 student award recipients.

Susan Smith recognized and thanked Richard Modery, Holbrook Middle School Principal. He has been the Principal at Holbrook since 2008. He has always handled situations calmly with kindness and compassion. He goes above and beyond for the students and staff at Holbrook and implemented many new programs at Holbrook. John Hutchins, Board Chair thanked Mr. Modery for his service to Holbrook Middle School and read a letter of appreciation.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Holly Whitmore to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2020 Special Board Meeting.

Roll Call Vote: Steve: Yes; Christina: Yes; Holly: Yes; Linda: Yes; Heather: Yes; Cherie: Yes; John: Yes

7 Approved; 0 Opposed

Acceptance of Gifts and Donations: CHEFS received an \$800 grant from Good Shepherd Food Bank and other monetary donations this week. Northern Light Child and Community Health donated 200 bags of dental supplies. We received a \$5000 McKinney-Vento Grant for homeless student support and supplies. The Mason's Seminary Hill Daylight Lodge donated 34 bikes and helmets to the Holden and Eddington Elementary Schools for their Bikes for Books Program. Greg Hawes donated \$250 for the elementary schools end of year celebration.

Presentation: Superintendent Smith reviewed the FY21 Budget Summary. There is a 1.2% (\$125,927.63) increase over the 2019-2020 Budget. State funding to RSU 63 will increase by \$130,499.60. Local assessments to towns will decrease by (\$10,112.97). Clifton decrease is \$2,458.21 (-0.3%); Eddington decrease is \$10,598.42 (-0.6%); and Holden increase is \$2,943.66 (+0.1%) due to an increase in the State's evaluation of Holden property. All cost centers except facilities are decreased. There are improvements needed at all three facilities. Bigger projects will remain on hold until things settle down and we know what the needs will be for re-opening the schools in the fall. Bonds have been looked into for big projects (ie. moving boilers out of the basements at Holden and Eddington, reconfiguration of pick-up/drop-off at Holbrook). Funding from the State (approximately \$1.3M) is available to improve the indoor air quality at all three schools. A referendum vote in November is

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needed to receive these matching funds and an interest-free loan. Superintendent Smith reviewed the cost center comparison showing how RSU 63 budgets and spends money compared to the State.

Questions and Comments from the Public: None

Questions and Comments from the Board: John Hutchins thanked Susan Smith, Kelly Theriault, and the Budget and Finance Committee for their work building the budget.

Dates of Next Committee Meeting:

RSU 63 Budget Meeting: Wednesday, July 1, 2020 at 7:00pm at Holbrook School and Remotely

Referendum Vote – RSU 63 FY21 Budget: Tuesday, July 14, 2020

Board Meeting – Monday, July 27, 2020 at 6:30pm, Holbrook Middle School and Remotely

Budget and Finance Committee Meeting: Thursday, July 9, 2020 at 5:30pm, Holbrook Middle School and Remotely

Budget and Finance: Nothing to add verbally.

Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Smith advised she met with RSU 63 Administrators today to discuss options for starting school in the fall. They reviewed the summer school guidelines, framework released by the Department of Education, subcommittees are being formed, and a draft planning timeline was created. The timeline will be part of the Board Minutes. Superintendent Smith anticipates final plans from the Department of Education and CDC on how schools should re-open in the fall to come out around the beginning of August.

RSU #63 Chair's Report: John Hutchins announced the Board will meet more frequently for at least the next few months. He stated it was the responsibility of the Board to make themselves available.

Acceptance of Reports: Motion to approve written and verbal reports from Budget and Finance, Superintendent, and Board Chair Reports by Heather Charity with a second by Linda Graban.

Roll Call Vote: Steve: Yes; Christina: Yes; Holly: Yes; Linda: Yes; Heather: Yes; Cherie: Yes; John: Yes
7 Approved; 0 Opposed

Old Business:

Approval of the Proposed 2020-2021 (FY21) RSU 63 Budget: Motion by Linda Graban with a second by Cherie Faulkner to approve the proposed 2020-2021 (FY21) RSU 63 Budget.

Roll Call Vote: Steve: Yes; Christina: Yes; Holly: Yes; Linda: Yes; Heather: Yes; Cherie: Yes; John: Yes
7 Approved; 0 Opposed

Fountas and Pinnell Reading Materials: Superintendent Smith advised the current reading materials are approximately 13 years old and need to be updated. The District started purchasing a few Fountas and Pinnell supplies with grant money. She recommends spending \$37,000 of the anticipated \$800,000 balance forward to update the reading materials and allow teachers time to get used to the new materials over the summer.

Motion by Holly Whitmore with a second by Linda Graban to approve the purchase of the Fountas and Pinnell Reading Materials.

Roll Call Vote: Steve: Yes; Christina: Yes; Holly: Yes; Linda: Yes; Heather: Yes; Cherie: Yes; John: Yes
7 Approved; 0 Opposed

New Business: None

Personnel Actions:

Resignations: None

Retirements: None

Reassignments: None

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Leaves: None

Elections: Theresa Richardson, Resource Room Teacher at Holden and Suzanne Schropfer, Life Skills Teacher at Eddington.

Motion by Holly Whitmore with a second by Linda Graban to approve the election of Theresa Richardson, Resource Room Teacher at Holden and Suzanne Schropfer, Life Skills Teacher at Eddington.

Roll Call Vote: Steve: Yes; Christina: Yes; Holly: Yes; Linda: Yes; Heather: Yes; Cherie: Yes; John: Yes
7 Approved; 0 Opposed

Appointments: None

Searches: PK-8 Computer Science Teacher, Part-time Speech Language Pathologist, Life Skills Educational Technician II or III, and Long-Term Substitute Speech Language Pathologist.

Questions and Comments from the Public: None

Questions and Comments from the Board: None

Adjournment: At 7:20pm John Hutchins adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by,



Susan M. Smith

RSU #63 Superintendent/Director of Curriculum and Instruction

Approved: July 27, 2020