

APPROVED

Dresden Finance Committee

Monday November 5, 2012

Hanover Town Hall

Hanover, NH

Present: Kristi Fenner, Mike Gerling, Heidi Postupack, Cheryl Lindberg, Peter Christie (left at 6:35), Nate Stearns, John Ruth, Mary Fowler, James Dwinell (Chair)

Absent: Joshua Durst (there are currently 2 vacancies on the NFC), Kevin Cotter, Daryl Press

Also Present: R. Carpenter (sitting in for K. Cotter), Don Buck (public)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:35PM

Agenda Items Discussed

1. Review/amendment of agenda
There were no comments on the agenda. Add October minutes
2. Public comments on items not on the agenda
No comments from the public
3. Minutes of DFC Meetings
Minutes of DFC meeting of May 14, 2012 – need correct spelling of Nate Stearns. Motion made by M Gerling to accept as amended; seconded by C Lindberg. Approved
Minutes of DFC October 15, 2012 – motion made by C Lindberg to approve; seconded by N Stearns. Approved
4. Update on teacher contract negotiations
R Carpenter reported that there is nothing to report; there are meetings ongoing.
5. Update on SAU budget
None
6. Update on Dresden budget
Dresden Guidelines were adopted by the school board. The end of this week budget books will be distributed. 11/27 will be the first Dresden deliberation meeting of the School Board. There will most likely be 3 iterations of the budget. Current projections indicate continued reduction in student population. Middle School: current 398; projected to be 375. High School: current 736; projected to be 729. Members of the committee expressed concern regarding the continued projection of per-pupil cost increase. It was suggested that the Quick Model needs to be revisited given the potential projected decline in enrollment. It was suggested that a mechanism needs to be developed that looks toward declining

population, i.e., left-over fund balances and or one time expenses that are baked in.

There was concern from the committee that there has been refusal by the staff to provide cost-per-pupil information as requested by the Finance Committee. It is felt that this hampers the work of the Committee.

7. Discussion of DFC position on budgets and/or teacher contract

There was a discussion regarding the need to look as to how to deal with projected declining enrollments. It was discussed that declining numbers in the HS are harder to deal with given the split classes. Class sizes are harder to manage than they are at the elementary level.

Motion by C Lindberg “To support last year’s Finance Committee statement which we made regarding the Teachers Contract, that the teacher contract agreement results in NO increase in total compensation from the current year level, with an eye towards the reduction in the Dresden premium.” Seconded by H Postupack. Approve 6; Oppose 2; Abstained 1. Motion carried

Motion by C Lindberg “That the Finance Committee NOT support the guidelines that the Dresden Budget Committee have given to the School Board of 2.25% – 2.75% increase year over year.” Seconded by K Fenner. Approve 4; Oppose 2; Abstained 3. Motion Failed.

Motion N Stearns that we have another meeting within next weeks
Seconded M Fowler Approved

8. Next meeting scheduled for December 10, 2012 in Norwich

The Chair will circulate proposed meeting dates for a special meeting to be held within the next two weeks, and select a date based upon member availability

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM Motion made by K Fenner
Seconded by J Dwinell

Submitted 11/5/2012

Michael Gerling

Secretary