

GROTON-DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE  
Budget and Finance Meeting Minutes  
High School Library  
January 12, 2010 – 7:00 PM

A. Manugian called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

**Present from School District:** J. Frey, J. Sjoberg, A. Manugian, B. Erickson; P. Funch, Dr. Genovese, C. Jeannotte, R. Hoyt, P. Myerson, R. Goguen, D. Diggins, S. Marcus-Cohen, K. Cochran, S. Silverman, M. Branco

**Present from Dunstable:** R. Mikol, D. St. James, H. Simmons, C. Muir

**Present from Groton:** F. Dillon, P. Cunningham, R. Hughson

**Handouts:** Agenda; Slides “Groton-Dunstable Regional School District Joint Budget & Finance/Town Officials Meeting, FY11 Preliminary Budget” from January 12, 2010; Slides “Review of Previous Budget Reductions”

**District-wide review of reductions from FY08 to Present**

The Superintendent provided a review of the reductions made to the budget over the last 3 years and reviewed the impact of these reductions.

**Boutwell Budget Request**

- R. Hoyt presented Boutwell budget request.
- Question on Boutwell budget. No longer has money to replenish books or supplies (lost in 2008-2009), now looking to outside sources to replace funding at a reduced level.
- Most of the grants that affect the Early Childhood Center are less volatile grants.
- Note biggest increase is in Special Educational aid. Believe this is a currently hired aide to meet current need.

**Swallow Union Budget Request**

- P. Myerson presented Swallow Union budget request
- Question on Misc. Payments line (1293). This is to pay teachers that come early for early morning math tutoring.
- Continuing focus on funding that is being filled by grants or parent organizations (APT, PTA's, PTO's, etc.)

**Florence Roche Budget Request**

- R. Goguen presented the Florence Roche budget request
- Question on textbook drops. This is primarily due to reading program.

**Middle School Budget Request**

- S. Silverman presented the Middle School budget request
- Question on Prof. Dev. Substitute. Reason for increase is to cover increased Prof. Development.
- Dr. Genovese mentioned Secretarial staff number seems like it did not include the change in hours of secretaries. This line item will need more research.

**High School Budget Request**

- S. Marcus-Cohen presented the High School budget request.

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- Question variability. Belief is a large portion of this is shifting of costs between accounts to align with new budget/accounting methods.
- Question on bump in 1565, Maintenance of Equipment. Much of the bump is shift from line 1416, Purchase of New Computers (line is now 0).
- Question on private school returns? Seems like there is some. Lost about half as many students to private schools this year as last.
- Ten percent increase on utilities is a soft number. Need to line up with what towns use for assumptions.
- B. Erikson mentioned process has improved much over last few years.
- The Superintendent indicated that all salary numbers will need to be reviewed and scrubbed prior to the next meeting to be sure they are accurate.

**Next Meeting Agenda**

- Worked on agenda for the 26<sup>th</sup>. First pass in slides.
- P. Cunningham mentioned would be nice to add RTTT funds information to 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- F. Dillion mentioned adding a slot to go over 2010 conditions.
- F. Dillion asked about Ch. 70 funding issue where Federal government filled in the State short falls. Current belief is that the State will roll forward from the cut foundation budget, not the Federal supported budget.
- Dr. Genovese will bring DESE budget to the next meeting.
- Question on House 1 release. Belief it will occur after the 26th meeting.

Next meeting is scheduled for 26-Jan. Next Budget and Finance standard business meeting will be 29-January at 9:00 am Prescott.

J. Sjoberg made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 8:55pm and J. Frey **SECONDED** that motion.  
**MOTION passes 3:0:0**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Jon Sjoberg