

**Minutes of the
Litchfield Budget Committee Meeting
Held on November 10, 2016**

The Litchfield Budget Committee held a meeting on Thursday, November 10, 2016 at Campbell High School, One Highlander Court, Litchfield, NH 03052.

PRESENT: C Couture (Chair), K Douglas (Vice Chair), C Pascucci, A Cutter, D Miller, R Keating, K Bourque (Selectmen's Representative), P Izbicki (School Board Representative), T Brown (Town Administrator)

Absent: J Bourque

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Couture called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

• PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

2. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

3. REVIEW/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA

Mrs. Couture announced over the last several weeks there have been changes to the budget review schedule for the school district. She confirmed that this evening the Budget Committee will be reviewing the following budgets: Technology, Special Services, Business and Transportation.

Mr. Cutter requested a brief member input prior to the budget review.

4. REVIEW/ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

The November 3, 2016 minutes were not available.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Couture announced the following correspondence was received: FY18 School Board Recommended Budget object, function and location reports; an updated spreadsheet from Mr. Cutter; a letter from Susan Jozitis regarding the music program at LMS; a letter from Vicki Varrick about the Library status; an anonymous email asking about the Superintendent's salary, for which Mrs. Couture provided the date the Budget Committee will be reviewing Salaries & Benefits and to let the person know she will not be answering any emails; questions about tonight's presentations from Mr. Miller and Mr. Keating.

• Member Input

Mr. Cutter commented he received the Excel file of the FY18 School Board Recommended Budget and completed an analysis. He indicated he looked at cross horizontal analysis based on

accounts (i.e. how much is being spent on workshops, utilities, travel, supplies), which is difficult to decipher going page by page. He provided a summary of the data he assembled. Mr. Cutter explained this summary helps aggregate the information. He commented he looked at a certain list of accounts that are key to consider for reductions. He indicated he analyzed three year averages and historical data back to 2010. Mr. Cutter noted with this in mind this summary page translates to 163 individual accounts that can be reduced. He commented it is up to the Committee to decide how they want to apply reductions. He indicated he is comfortable with these reductions.

Mrs. Couture commented Mr. Cutter sent this to her ahead of time. She acknowledged that Mr. Cutter has done much comparing of object accounts and results of changes this committee made last year and what the School Board did after that. She noted it is a good chart and provides a valuable look at the big picture. Mrs. Couture indicated that a line by line review is important and people need a chance to make their motions. She commented this summary is important to consider these items when final voting arrives.

Mr. Cutter commented the revised FY18 budget is at or above what is budgeted for FY17. He indicated just looking at the excess that does not include salaries and benefits or transportation.

Mrs. Couture asked if it is possible to prepare this as a template so we can use it for our own information for final voting.

Mr. Cutter indicated he would like guidance regarding whether he should hold his reductions until final voting and see what the committee does and discuss it at the end or make 163 individual motions for reductions.

Mrs. Couture commented we need to go line by line. She indicated everyone should have the opportunity to weigh in on the budget.

Mrs. Douglas agreed that the Budget Committee should review the budget line by line.

Mr. Miller commented that the cuts would have to go to individual object accounts as the district would like to know where to apply those reductions.

Mr. Cutter commented there are 163 individual lines.

Mrs. Couture indicated the Budget Committee will use this as a guide, but will review the budget page by page.

6. BUDGET REVIEW:

Mr. O'Neill provided responses to questions received from the Budget Committee:

Q: Regarding FTE positions.

Mr. O'Neill provided an FTE analysis that includes a breakdown by location and categories of employees. He indicated the data used is from 2012-2013 through 2016-2017 and is taken from October 1 data we send to the State.

Q: Regarding class and student counts.

Mr. O'Neill provided actual CHS class and student counts with notes on the data that point out combined classes. He indicated there are some classes with lower numbers that we run as they are critical courses.

Mr. Cutter asked about the question Mr. Miller asked. Mr. Miller indicated when looking at the numbers for the schools this type of data is helpful. He commented that he used to look at this type of data when he served on the School Board. He explained the data shows if we are getting value for what we spend.

Q: Request for Technology Plan.

Mr. O'Neill provided a copy of the 2014-2017 Technology Plan for the Budget Committee. He indicated Mr. Pelletier feels we have done what we said we would do in the plan.

Q: Regarding why Spelling City is included in the GMS budget.

Mr. O'Neill asked Mr. Thompson to respond. Mr. Thompson commented that Spelling City is still used at GMS. He indicated this is related to the question about the decrease in the Reading Supplies budget. He explained that the district moved to a centralized text acquisition plan. In 2017 we budgeted for a specific textbook and were not sure we would be accepting it as a pilot (Journeys program). Mr. Thompson commented the Reading Specialist requested to bring back Spelling City as it is believed to be a great program for students to learn spelling patterns. He noted we also had a request for 80 grade 1 dictionaries. He indicated we reduced the request to 40 dictionaries so we could keep Spelling City in the budget.

Mr. O'Neill responded to questions about LMS:

Q: Regarding the Spanish and Computer Literacy programs and counts.

Mr. Lecklider commented we offer two levels of Spanish: Spanish 1, which is equivalent of the high school program, and Intro to Spanish, a beginning level course. Computer Literacy is taught in grades 6 and 7 and consists of using applications. He noted Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is integrated into that course.

Q: Great East Festival.

Mr. Lecklider indicated it is a tradition with the music department. He commented that as part of the festival, we go to Canobie Lake Park for the day and the travel budgeted is for transportation.

Mr. O'Neill commented the numbers are not real numbers just for programs for children. He indicated we are trying to make a better product for our children and make it possible for them to succeed.

- **Technology**

Mr. Pelletier presented the FY18 Recommended Technology budget. He commented this budget includes year one of a five year equipment replacement plan and to equally distribute replacement costs of equipment and computers with an annual cost of \$130,000 to \$150,000 depending on the year. Mr. Pelletier explained the large difference between this year and FY17 numbers is because 1) the 5 year plan was not included in FY17 because there were many infrastructure items that needed to be addressed and we had a generous donation of laptops as well; 2) we were able to use end of year funds to purchase one time cost items (phones at CHS and LMS, switch upgrades, smart board and projector replacements). He indicated that the cost of the 1:1 initiative is incorporated in the FY18 budget.

Mr. Miller asked if the \$300,000 spent in June 2016 was unexpended funds. Mr. Markiewicz indicated that unexpended funds were used.

Mrs. Couture asked about the benefit of Chromebooks and where they are going.

Mr. Pelletier explained Chromebooks run on Chrome OS and login with a Google account that is free. He indicated students and staff are given access to Google Drive, which is free on the cloud. He noted the Chromebook is like a Chrome web browser with a keyboard attached. Mr. Pelletier commented the Chromebooks can be managed centrally (for testing) and software does not have to be loaded on each individual machine. He indicated the cost difference between Chromebooks and laptops is substantial. He noted with mainly research done in the classrooms, Chromebooks boot up very quickly in comparison to a Windows machine. He indicated they are great devices for quick internet access, collaboration and sharing.

Mrs. Couture commented the 1:1 initiative students purchased Chromebooks. She asked why so many are included in the budget.

Mr. Pelletier commented there is more and more online testing and there is need for the devices. He indicated sharing the computer labs interferes with instruction. He explained that the Chromebooks are to supplement in the buildings and in some we are adding them to give students more access to information they do not have. Mr. Pelletier indicated the school purchases the Chromebooks for the 1:1 initiative and the incoming freshmen use the Chromebooks like textbooks.

Mr. Cutter asked for an explanation of a Chromebook cart. Mr. Pelletier indicated it is a charging station that has 30 Chromebooks in it.

Mrs. Couture commented she understood that smart boards were being phased out. Mr. Pelletier indicated smart boards are being phased out as far as the company is concerned. He noted we are replacing them with Epsom interactive projectors that cost much less.

Mr. Miller commented Chromebook cart with 30 devices is budgeted for LMS. Mr. Pelletier indicated we would like to build one so any teacher can use it. He noted the other is for devices for the teachers.

Mrs. Douglas asked about the life of the devices. Mr. Pelletier indicated that Chromebooks can be used for 4-5 years and Google supports them for 7 years.

Mrs. Douglas asked what the cost would be for next year. Mr. Pelletier indicated that the cost includes the software license.

Mr. Cutter asked if there is a plan to phase in Chromebook carts. Mr. Pelletier indicated Windows carts will be replaced with Chromebook carts in key strategic areas where Chromebooks make more sense than Windows machines. He commented if more technology is needed we will replace them as they come up.

Mr. Byron asked if you would want to phase in certain quantities so you do not have to buy them all at once. Mr. Pelletier commented there are current carts and renewals will be phased.

Mrs. Izbicki commented we can replace the device after five years or keep it for seven as Google will provide support. Mr. Pelletier commented Google supports software upgrades for seven years.

Mr. Byron asked about staggering purchases by school or individual laptops per school. Mr. Pelletier indicated it is based on age. He noted some equipment that is over 10 years old has not yet been replaced and older equipment will be replaced in FY18. He commented at CHS labs were purchased one year and some carts at another school. He indicated we are basing it on age and not by school.

Mr. Cutter commented it is unrealistic to think this is a one time cost. Mr. Pelletier commented in 2018 we are replacing 90 computers in the entire district. He noted we are presenting carts for every five years, but we have devices in the district currently that are old and need to be replaced.

Mrs. Couture commented that there are items in the CHS Equipment Replacement budget that were in the budget last year. Mr. Pelletier indicated we pre-purchased many of those the year before and we have projectors that are dying and need to be replaced.

Mrs. Couture commented what we budgeted for last year was done using end of year funds. Mr. Pelletier affirmed.

Mrs. Douglas asked why we are going from a self-funded 1:1 initiative to taxpayer funded.

Mr. O'Neill commented there are several reasons including the concern by parents on directing them on what they could use. He indicated if we are going to look at computers as critical

instruments for all our children we have to consider equity and have computers without students having to purchase them. He noted we have developed curriculum that requires technology and we are no longer mandating parents to purchase them. Mr. O'Neill commented these devices are much like textbooks we have to purchase.

Mrs. Douglas commented last year she said she could support this program if it stays as it was, but now it is the taxpayers' cost and a large expense. She indicated it is nice to have, but a choice the taxpayers should be allowed to make. She stated it is a programmatic change and the district is asking taxpayers to buy something they were not asked to buy before.

Mr. Miller commented \$30,000 is being requested for Chromebooks and it appears that will be requested per year for each class that comes in. He indicated they will have to be replaced and it will be a never ending cost.

Mr. O'Neill commented if we are going to be an excellent district we have to recognize our children are growing up in highly technical environment. He indicated textbook costs will diminish over the years. He noted computers are critical to their education and their requirement to use them in post-secondary education.

Mr. Byron commented that it was mentioned there were concerns from parents regarding being dictated to for devices. He indicated it was not mentioned if there were concerns from parents about the cost of the Chromebooks.

Mr. O'Neill commented last year was a self-electing volunteer program where they chose to purchase the devices and were fine with the requirement. He indicated when trying to expand the program into the student population parents had concerns they had already purchased the devices and some parents expressed the cost was a concern. He noted that such as buying textbooks for student education, we have to purchase computers for the same reason.

Mr. Byron asked if it would not be a better compromise to buy a number of computers for students who do not have them and not have the taxpayers absorb the cost. Mr. O'Neill commented that he understands Mr. Byron's point. He indicated almost all curriculum districts are adopting require the use of technology. He noted in the long term the district has to look at the acquisition of devices for education.

Mrs. Izbicki commented Chromebooks are essential for learning. She indicated it is not a program change. She noted it is something we have to replace as they get older, but much research has been done that this is the cheapest form of laptop we can get. Mrs. Izbicki commented there is not another device with this type of cost for the technology and education the students need.

Mrs. Douglas commented if the taxpayers want to fund this, will the students take the devices home or will they be returned. Mr. Pelletier indicated that is being discussed.

Mrs. Douglas commented the devices should be turned in at the end of the year and if they want to take it home, they have to purchase it. She asked if we are outfitting students with Chromebooks, why are we buying carts? Mr. Pelletier indicated the Chromebooks are just for the incoming freshmen and we are not giving devices to all the other students.

Mrs. Douglas expressed appreciation for the information. She commented it does not change her position and we are looking at a massive increase.

Mr. Miller asked if there is a cost for texts for the devices.

Mr. O'Neill noted that Dr. Heon will answer that inquiry. He commented over time we can project we would decrease our dependency on textbooks as we increase our use of Chromebooks. He indicated 90% of the information people get comes through computers. Ultimately, education has to mimic what is going on outside of education. Textbook information is 4-5 years old and as children go on to college or the private sector they have to be faceted at getting that information quickly. Mr. O'Neill commented the more our children use that information and have access to it the better they are educated and prepared for the world.

Mrs. Couture commented when CHS first started, we asked the students to purchase the Texas Instrument calculators. She indicated we discovered the students could not afford them and we started buying sets for students who could not afford them. She suggested starting a similar program and perhaps some parents would consider buying devices for their students to use over the summer.

Mr. O'Neill commented that is an option, but it is not equitable. He believes it is up to the public school and is integral to our children's growth and learning.

Mrs. Douglas commented the textbook licensing fees are going to increase. Mr. O'Neill agreed that digital texts are expensive. He believes there will be savings over time. He indicated as students get used to using technology in class, textbooks will become used less.

Nate Cooper, teacher at CHS, commented as someone who has been using technology in the classroom for the last few years, his use of textbooks is almost non-existent. He indicated the amount of digital information and tools available to use is increasing. He pointed out he is not saying textbooks are obsolete, but he believes the abilities we can find ways to diminish textbook use with the abilities we have with this technology.

Mrs. Couture commented a textbook is out of date by the fifth year, but the Chromebook is not out of date by the fifth year.

Mrs. Izbicki indicated the amount of free resources out there is valuable.

Mr. Keating asked if the district has researched technology grants. Mr. Pelletier noted that Dr. Heon is actively searching, but it is difficult to know what grant will be available when that time comes when preparing a budget.

Mr. O'Neill indicated that some grant funds have been secured and that Dr. Heon will respond to that question.

Mr. Miller asked about what was budgeted for cell phones. He commented the (public or private – inaudible) sector does not provide cell phones as they are required to have smart phones.

Mr. Cutter commented telephone costs are increased across the budget.

Mr. Pelletier commented when we renewed our agreement with FairPoint, we did some network upgrades and they restricted our bill. He indicated there are some differences to pull from some other lines to align with what the costs are going to be.

Mrs. Couture asked if there is a requirement for people to have a cell phone. Mr. O'Neill indicated there are certain key people and security reasons why some people need cell phones.

Mr. Markiewicz indicated we have three custodial supervisors who need to communicate with the facility manager. He commented if they do not have a phone we have no way to contact them. He noted there are two facility managers who have cell phones as they are on call 24 hours and it is important to have a dedicated phone.

Mr. Miller commented it does not sound like you need a data plan. Mr. Pelletier indicated that flip phones break more with facility employees.

Mr. Cutter commented there may be a few key people who need cell phones, but that does not support the increase.

Mrs. Douglas asked for an explanation of Sophos, which is included in the IT budget. Mr. Pelletier explained that it is an excellent anti-virus that was used by the district prior to their agreement with Microsoft. He indicated that the Microsoft antivirus was not stopping viruses coming in.

Mr. Miller commented that \$50,000 is budgeted for an SAN. He asked if cloud storage has been considered. Mr. Pelletier indicated this SAN is for VMWare and cloud storage is not possible. He noted that it has to be extremely fast all the time. He commented that 100% migration would not be possible and we still have much sensitive data we cannot migrate. Mr. Pelletier indicated this SAN will be at the end of life before the end of next year. He noted three drives have been replaced this year and there is no support next year. He cautioned if we lose the SAN with no support everything is gone.

Mr. Miller asked what will happen if the budget is not approved. Mr. O'Neill indicated mission critical items will be addressed first.

Mr. Pelletier commented we are trying to get to a point where we can phase these out, upgrade connectivity between buildings and have more cloud storage.

Mrs. Couture commented we were warned about this last year.

Mr. Miller commented that there are 55 Chromebooks in total budgeted for staff. Mr. Pelletier indicated these are part of the replacement.

Mrs. Douglas asked how many UPS's the district has and if replacing one per year is the plan. Mr. Pelletier indicated that three per year will be replaced because of the life of the battery; however, we will only be replacing them at the age they need to be replaced.

Mrs. Douglas asked about cell phone reimbursement. Mr. Markiewicz commented the School Board approved guidelines for administrators to be reimbursed for use of their cell phones.

Mrs. Couture commented that there is \$160,000 that we budgeted last year that is not in the FY17 budget this year. She acknowledged there were year end purchases to pay ahead items in the FY17 budget. She indicated it made her wonder if at the end of this fiscal year the district is going to use money for projects and items we did not budget for. Mrs. Couture wanted to know what the end of year money was used for.

Mr. O'Neill indicated that information will be provided to the Budget Committee.

- **Special Services**

Mrs. Bandurski presented the FY18 Special Services Recommended Budget. She reported that there are 245 students needing Special Services in the district. She highlighted the major increases and decreases in the budget:

- Professional Services: increase due to nursing services for one student;
- Out of District Tuition: decrease because one student returned to the district and one moved out;

(She noted what has been budgeted for out of district tuition is based on what is current at the time. She cautioned that it is unknown if there will be more students requiring out of district services as IEP meetings do not occur until later in the year.)

- In-state Tuition: increase of 5% for the first year – the State (DOE) will determine the percentage in future years;
- Software license for Read and Write for Google is new (this is an extension of Google Docs and affords special services (i.e. spelling, vocabulary);
- Transportation: slight increase – providing transportation for CTE and out of district activities for one student;

- New and Expanded Positions: Special Services Tutor, Special Education teacher that is no longer covered under a grant, and a Special Services Coordinator, which will be placed on the warrant (*increase of 98 students*).

Mrs. Bandurski indicated the goal of the overall budget is continue to provide the level of special education to our students and the services they need to access the general curriculum.

Mrs. Couture asked if the Medicaid Billing Service recoups the cost of the nursing services for students. Mrs. Bandurski indicated it reimburses some, but has diminished over the years. She noted we can only get reimbursement if the student has multiple Medicaid paid services.

Mr. Cutter commented Professional Services has historically been over budgeted. He asked if Mrs. Bandurski had any insight into the increase. Mrs. Bandurski indicated budgeting is based on current needs and those needs can change, for example, if a student moves into the district or if a student moves or ages out.

Mrs. Izbicki indicated that services are required and driven by IEPs.

Mr. Cutter clarified that his comment was there is always an increase in professional services and by next year it will shift.

Mrs. Bandurski indicated there is no “fluff” in this budget and there is no way to know what will happen during the year.

Mrs. Couture asked what kind of conferences are held for psychology services. Mrs. Bandurski indicated there are many different problems students have and we need to be able to support them. These types of conferences and workshops keep school psychologists and social workers up to date on the latest information regarding those problems.

Mr. Miller asked why Professional Services in the Psychology Services account is so high. Mrs. Bandurski indicated that there have been several neuropsychological evaluations. She noted these come up during the year and are difficult to predict.

Mrs. Douglas commented for the last few years extra money has been budgeted for training. Mrs. Bandurski indicated the money was no longer budgeted for FY17. She noted teachers that had to continue the training had to do so through the LEA or self-fund.

Mr. Cutter commented transportation is another area that is always high. Mrs. Bandurski indicated that the budget was expended last year. She commented we looked at what we were providing because additional costs came up and there were additional needs.

Mr. O’Neill thanked Mrs. Bandurski for her presentation. He reported that he asked her to generate a budget based on current students. He noted it is typical to budget with built in

potential costs for the next year. He asked Budget Committee members to consider supporting adding money to the Special Services Capital Reserve Fund.

Mrs. Izbicki commented that she feels strongly for the Special Services Coordinator position and the expansion from part time to full time for the GMS Assistant Principal. She explained there are many identified students in our district and many meetings and evaluations that go with these students. She indicated an LEA is required to be at every one of those meetings. She noted if you are doing three meetings a day, you are constantly in meetings with much paperwork to be done. Mrs. Izbicki commented if those positions were in place currently, we would have a principal that would have the time to attend these meetings and get the services for the students that need them. She indicated it will have a huge impact on all students.

Mrs. Couture asked who else can be the LEA in addition to the Principal. Mrs. Bandurski indicated a guidance counselor or someone that can authorize the expense of the funds dispensed. She commented this falls on the building administrators. She noted there are only two people certified as disability specialists.

Mrs. Douglas asked if the Budget Committee supported the Special Services Coordinator, would that offset expanding the Assistant Principal's position. Mrs. Izbicki indicated that the School Board believe both positions are needed. She indicated the highest special education population is in the elementary school, especially with Kindergarten because these children come in from out of the district and you do not know what services may be needed.

Mr. Keating commented that we live in a litigious society. He indicated having that oversight with another professional to ensure the district is doing what they are required to do by law is worth it. Referring to the Assistant Principal expansion, he noted you cannot do something part time that is full time. Mr. Keating believes this is critical.

- **Business and Finance**

Mr. Markiewicz presented the FY18 Business and Finance budget.

Mr. Cutter asked why there is a decrease in Professional Services. Mr. Markiewicz indicated that the items for the Superintendent search were removed.

- **Transportation**

Mr. Markiewicz presented the FY18 Transportation budget.

Mr. Cutter asked if the contract lists the rates to support the cost. Mr. Markiewicz indicated there is a schedule in the five year contract which reflects 5% increase per year.

Mr. Cutter commented the cost has increased an average of \$12,000 per year over a five year period. Mr. Markiewicz indicated this has much to do with limited providers.

Mrs. Douglas commented that she heard the CHS students will no longer be charged for transportation. She asked about the impact. Mr. Markiewicz indicated the reduction in revenue is approximately \$5,000.

Mrs. Couture asked with declining enrollment, when can we reduce a bus. Mr. Markiewicz indicated 7 buses are run at the high school and two other buses are long runs that service GMS and LMS. He commented that ridership decreases at the high school level when students get their licenses.

BUDGET VOTING:

- **Griffin Memorial**

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1011110013-610, GMS Science Supplies, by \$2,500

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

Mr. Cutter indicated he looked at actuals and expenses and believes that leaving \$13,000 in this line is more than enough to fund the needs.

Mrs. Izbicki commented that this is the cost needed for the newer program (PLTW) next year.

Mrs. Couture commented this line historically comes in lower. Mrs. Izbicki commented with this program there is no compromise in the cost.

Mr. Thompson indicated there are multiple modules for PLTW at every grade level. He noted we initially hoped to furnish all the modules this year, but the training schedule was disrupted. He commented the remaining two teachers finished their training 2 days ago. Mr. Thompson explained we bought modules for this year for everyone to implement at least one. He noted the Vex kits are pre-robotic kits. He indicated in order to complete the project in the next year we need the amount budgeted. He commented in FY19 the costs budgeted will only be for replacement kits. Mr. Thompson reminded the Committee that to date GMS has purchased the second module and spent over \$13,000.

Mr. O'Neill commented that the professionals that developed this budget have carefully weighted what we put in the budget. He indicated the professionals are the ones that should make the decisions on what we need. He noted he respects the Budget Committee and their hard work, but the professionals know what the students need. Mr. O'Neill commented if there is a reduction to be made it should be made by this side of the table.

Mr. Cutter asked what is the point of reviewing the budget. Mrs. Izbicki commented the purpose of hearing the budget is to understand it is not so easy a number to reduce. She indicated every penny impacts a child. She noted she would like to make sure her money is used wisely, but in a way that is best for the student.

Mrs. Couture commented that we cannot approve a \$2,500 reduction to this line, but it may be a larger reduction when we get to the end.

MOTION: by Mr. Miller

Move to amend Mr. Cutter's motion to reduce Account 1011110013-610, GMS Science Supplies, by \$600

SECOND: by Mrs, Douglas

Mr. Miller was concerned that there will be an ongoing expense of \$10,000. He commented that he understands it is a new piece of curriculum, and in his experience on the School Board there are always consumables that come with curriculum materials.

Mr. O'Neill commented if you are going to teach a course with children engaged, it is the cost of doing business.

VOTE: 6-2-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1011141000-610, GMS Co-Curricular Supplies, by \$600, which reflects the removal of the Destination Imagination supplies

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

VOTE: 8-0-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mrs. Douglas

Move to reduce Account 1011141000-810, GMS Co-Curricular Dues and Fees, by \$1,600, which reflects the removal of the Destination Imagination dues and fees

SECOND: by Mr. Miller

VOTE: 8-0-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1011241000-272, GMS School Administration, Conference and Workshops, by \$300

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

Mr. Cutter commented that there is more budgeted than has been used in past years.

Mr. O'Neill commented these are essential for student growth for teachers and administrators. He indicated there are so many things that are changing and it is necessary to do in order to be effective.

Mrs. Couture commented those haven't changed in years and not everyone has scheduled them.

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

Mr. Cutter asked if the Budget Committee would rather have a global reduction for the 272 and 580 accounts. The Budget Committee consensus was in the affirmative.

MOTION: by Mrs. Douglas

Move to reduce Account 1011272500-519, GMS Co-Curricular Transportation, by \$1,800, which reflects the removal of the Destination Imagination transportation

SECOND: by Mr. Miller

VOTE: 8-0-0

The motion carried.

- **Litchfield Middle School**

MOTION: by Mrs. Couture

Move to reduce Account 1021110000-640, LMS Textbook Replacement, by \$400

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1021110009-643, LMS FACS Periodicals, by \$150

SECOND: by Mr. Miller

Mr. Cutter indicated his reduction is based on average expenditures.

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mrs. Couture

Move to reduce Account 1021141000-610, LMS Co-Curricular Supplies, by \$1,110, to reflect the removal of Destination Imagination supplies

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

Mrs. Douglas commented that Lego Robotics was self-funded and it is now in the budget. She indicated that it is a concern when these types of programs are added to the budget without asking the people.

Mr. Keating commented they had so many students participating they needed a second team. He indicated parents had to pay \$30 each.

Mrs. Couture commented it was decided that Destination Imagination can be removed. She noted that she looked at the Lego Robotics website and they expect the students to fundraise.

Mrs. Douglas commented that she is philosophically making a motion to reduce LMS Co-Curricular supplies by an additional amount.

MOTION: by Mrs. Douglas

Move to reduce Account 1021141000-610, LMS Co-Curricular Supplies, by \$2,210, to reflect the removal of Destination Imagination and Lego Robotics supplies

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

Mr. Lecklider commented that LMS is trying to keep up the STEAM program and Lego Robotics is the feeder system to the high school program. He indicated it is an important component to their program

VOTE: 3-4-0

The motion fails.

VOTE on the original motion to reduce Account 1021141000-610 by \$1,110: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1021212000-610, LMS Guidance Services Supplies, by \$500

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

VOTE: 6-2-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1021241000-534, LMS School Administration Postage, by \$500

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

- **SAU and School Board**

MOTION: by Mrs. Couture

Move to reduce Account 1001231100-810, School Board Dues and Fees, by \$1,193

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

Mrs. Couture heard that the NESDEC affiliation was to acquire a different number for enrollment projections and that they were no different than those provided by the NHSBA. She added since we are not looking for a Superintendent next year we do not need to keep NESDEC.

Mr. O'Neill indicated that he has always used the NESDEC projections and likes the way they are prepared. He commented that he understands the rationale behind the reduction.

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1090232000-534, SAU Postage, by \$450

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mrs. Couture

Move to amend the motion to reduce Account 1090232000-534 by \$890

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1090232000-610, SAU Supplies, by \$500

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

Mr. Keating asked if the Superintendent is going to participate in the Hudson Litchfield Rotary. Mr. O'Neill indicated he is already a Rotary member in another town and cannot commit to the membership.

MOTION: by Mr. Keating

Move to reduce Account 1090232000-810, SAU Dues and Fees, by \$600

SECOND: by Mrs. Douglas

VOTE: 8-0-0

The motion carried.

MOTION: by Mr. Cutter

Move to reduce Account 1090232000-890, SAU Miscellaneous, by \$150

SECOND: by Mr. Miller

VOTE: 7-1-0

The motion carried.

Mr. O'Neill announced that the tentative increase in health insurance for the district with the holiday premium is approximately 9%. He indicated he will provide the exact number next week.

7. REPORTS

- **Town**

Mr. Byron reported that he was told the town has a health insurance increase of \$20.8%.

- **RSA 32:22; Review of Expenditures**

8. MEMBER INPUT/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Miller noted he will not be at the next meeting. He indicated he would still like to participate in the Technology budget.

Mrs. Couture indicated if the decisions made next week are not what you anticipate, you are still able to make reductions at the final voting.

9. PUBLIC INPUT

There was no public input.

10. ADJOURN

MOTION: by Mrs. Douglas

Move to adjourn the meeting

SECOND: by Mr. Pascucci

VOTE: 8-0-0

The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 17, 2016

Recorded by: Michele E. Flynn, Recording Secretary