

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL</b> <b>Meeting Minutes - Monday, January 23, 2023</b></p>
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**Members Present:** Sarah Boonstra, Levi Byrd, Andrea Catena, William Hall, Maria Hamilton, Dan Hentschel, Paul Hoak, Nichole LaPlaca, Carolyn Lewis, Brad Malone, Jessica Mattice, Ken Nelson, Lauren Purvee, Pamela Reinhardt, Jim Schultz, Millie Sefranek, Dina Stathopoulos, Lindsey Van Vilet

**Members Absent:** Chuck Allan, Karen Arthmann, Peter Caikauskas, Clay Harris, Nancy Kula, Alex Musso,

**Ex-Officio Members:** Scott Adair, Mary Ann Exler, Andy Whitmore and Dr. Pamela Kissel

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

**WELCOME, CHARGE TO THE COUNCIL, SCHEDULE AND AGENDAS**

Andy Whitmore, Assistant Superintendent for Finance and School Operations, welcomed the members of the BAC, and asked each member to introduce themselves and the stakeholder group they represent. He reviewed the charge to the council noting that the role of the council is to be advisory to the Superintendent. He also previewed the schedule and agendas for this year's meetings.

**BUDGET DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW**

Dr. Pam Kissel, Interim Superintendent gave the members of the council an overview of the budget development process. The goal of the budget process is to develop a school budget that is educationally sound, equitable, and fiscally responsible. The budget will maintain the quality and scope of effective programs/services, advance district priorities and provide support for learning recovery. Incremental resources will be provided to areas of need to ensure similar learning outcomes. The budget increase will be reasonable based on enrollment changes, inflation, state and federal mandates, and the state of the economy. The property tax levy increase will not exceed the state's property tax levy cap. We anticipate full funding of the district's Foundation Aid by New York State (increase of \$8.3 million for 2023-24). Federal stimulus funding will be winding down with \$3.1 million to be received in 2023-24 - a decrease of \$1.0 million from 2022-23. The budget will address increased need for mental health supports, wage escalation driven by labor shortages, and expansion of the continuum of Special Education services. Moderating the impact on taxpayers given the economic environment and funding reserves for long-range fiscal and program stability will continue to inform the budget development process.

**PROGRAM & SERVICE REVIEW**

Andy took the members through the Program & Service Review giving explanations for the areas of the base budget that increased or decreased more than 6% compared to the 2022-23 budget. The base budget includes 20 additional positions and an increase of \$8.3 million. He encouraged the members to email him with any additional questions. The questions will be reviewed and answered at the next meeting of the council.

**TOPICS FROM THE COUNCIL**

Members of the council brought up the following topics during the meeting:

- NYS mandate for electric buses and efforts to delay implementation
- Appreciation for funding the CALM Room at the Senior High School
- Planned realignment of resources for Special Education services and role of districtwide psychologist position
- Spending on co-curricular activities at intermediate schools and request for Music/Arts participation data
- Anticipated growth patterns for Roth and Burger

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next meeting will be on Monday, February 27, 2023 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Ann Exler, Budget Technician