

<p style="text-align: center;">BUDGET ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes - Monday, December 7, 2020</p>

Members Present: Chuck Allen, Karen Arthmann, Sheila Buck, Philip Chang, Maria Hamilton, Dan Knapp, Cheryl Lomedico, Jessica Mattice, Rhonda Morien, Ken Nelson, Gil Ong, Dave Patt, Betty Pum, Lauren Purvee, Pamela Reinhardt, Jim Schultz, Rachel Sherman, Dina Stathopoulos, Nhu Tran, Jessica Wackerman

Members Absent: David Drury, Dan Hentschel, Paul Hoak, Carl Kirchgessner, Nancy Kula, Bob Logel, Molly McLaughlin, Millie Sefranek, Brian Usselman, Nathaniel Wright

Ex-Officio Members: Mary Ann Exler, Nichole LaPlaca, Diane McBride, Andy Whitmore and Bo Wright

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS & CHARGE TO THE COUNCIL

Bob Logel will once again chair the Budget Advisory Council (BAC) for the 2020-21 school year. He was unable to attend this meeting.

Bo Wright, Superintendent of Schools, filled in for Bob. He began the meeting by welcoming the members and asking them to introduce themselves and their Rush-Henrietta affiliation. He also thanked them for their time and commitment to the BAC. He read the Charge to the Council and stated that this will be a unique and complex year for budgeting. Bo Wright expressed his appreciation to Mary Ann Exler, Budget Technician, and Andy Whitmore, Superintendent for School Finance and Operations, for their work in preparing the information for the group's meetings and the budgeting process.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT PROCESS FOR THE 2021-2022 BUDGET

Andy Whitmore, Assistant Superintendent for School Finance and Operations, reviewed the agenda for the meetings for the BAC and the flow chart of planned budget activities for both the BAC and the Board of Education. The BAC will meet four times this year.

BUDGET DEVELOPMENT OVERVIEW

Bo Wright stated that the goal is to develop a school budget that is educationally sound, equitable, and fiscally responsible. We will continue to emphasize the district priorities of equity and inclusion, mental health, instruction, and special education. The base budget for 2021-22 projects the cost of maintaining the level of programs and services provided the prior year and shows an increase of \$3.4 million which is a 2.5% increase over last year's budget. The budget contains increases for expenses related to the pandemic including purchasing personal protective equipment (PPE), overtime costs for cleaning and disinfecting, technology investments to support remote learning, staffing for two models of instruction - hybrid and remote, and increased unemployment claims.

This budget season, we face an uncertain fiscal environment caused by the pandemic. NYS is projecting a budget deficit of \$8 billion. Without a federal stimulus package that includes aid to school districts, we could be facing a \$10 million revenue shortfall.

PROGRAM AND SERVICE REVIEW

Andy reviewed the Program and Service Review document highlighting the areas with increases of 4% or more. He invited the members of the committee to review the detail of the document and email him with any questions so he can respond at the next meeting of the BAC.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

The next meeting will be on Monday, January 11, 2020 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Ann Exler, Budget Technician