

Duluth Public Schools Academy Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2018 North Star Academy Conference Room

Present: Hilary Hodgman; Ex-Officio, Tim Golden; Vice-Treasurer, Andrew Richey; Treasurer, Neil Byce; Immediate Past President Nikki Jensen, Ryan Welch

Administration: Bonnie Jorgenson, Crystal Palmer, Justin Terch, Billy Ward, Rachel Komarek

Public: None

Called to order: 5:28 pm

SPED Overview:

Billy and Rachel presented data comparing our SPED costs and staffing with 3 other districts. Discussion focused on developing a positive narrative for our program which supports our strong student to staff ratio and expenditures per student. SPED and Administration will draft a narrative and present to Executive Committee for review in anticipation of a forthcoming news article on SPED expenditures.

Budget Review:

Crystal presented the updated Budget supported with a short written synopsis of changes.

Cash Flow Review:

Crystal presented the cash flow report. We received 5 donations.

FY19 Budget Assumptions:

Crystal presented basic assumptions for FY19. Assumptions based on average enrollment of 1358.

Food Service Manager Job Description Update:

Crystal presented the updated Food Service Manager Job Description. Board Approval required.

July 1st Staff Benefit (while on leave) Change:

Justin presented procedure changes to staff benefit payments while on leave. Staff will be billed for benefit payments moving forward after July 1, 2018.

Health Care Renewal:

Crystal and Justin presented a status update in health care renewal. They are exploring several options including both self-insured and fully insured. Some questions as to the benefit of using an insurance broker and paying them a fee. Crystal requested committee approval to explore insurance options which hold costs current with FY18 (\$2.8mm). Approval granted. Justin and Crystal will begin presenting options to the committee as they develop. Given the timing, an additional Finance Committee meeting prior to the next scheduled meeting may be necessary review health care options.

Adjourned: 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Andrew Richey, Treasurer