



**OFFICE OF THE
Advisory Board
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March 21, 2018

Present: Christine Muir, Kieran Meehan, Bob Nelson, Harold Simmons, Leo Tometich, Adria Fischer, Walter Alterisio, Ron Mikol, Leah Basbanes
Also attending: Town Administrator Tracey Hutton

This was a joint meeting of the Advisory Board, Board of Selectmen and GDRSD School Committee.

Dr. Chesson provided details of the MSBA process and the feasibility study. The school district can cap the cost at \$750,000 in the request for proposals; several professionals within MSBA as well as various architects have agreed that this is a reasonable price. Reimbursement from MSBA is estimated to be 48.27%, making the net cost of the study \$362,025. The School Committee has already voted to pay for this from E&D (excess and deficiency). The reimbursement would go directly into the general fund and does not necessarily have to be used to replenish E&D. The study will likely take 12-18 months to complete. E&D balance is currently \$1.65 million.

The school committee then gave an update on the budget process. On March 14, the budget was approved and included funding the feasibility study. The approved budget also cut the family cap for athletics from \$2400 to \$1200. The loss of revenue from this cut is offset by a \$32,000 reimbursement from eRate for a project at Florence Roche. (The eRate reimbursement for the high school broadband and telephone system replacement is not expected before summer 2018.) The approved budget also decreased the assessments for both towns in order to aid Groton in funding an additional police officer on their force, who would serve as a second School Resource Officer (SRO). The cost of two SROs (one is already in the district) is approximately \$160,000. Dunstable is being asked to contribute approximately \$15,000 towards the second SRO's salary. It is unclear how that process works.

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.