

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL - BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES FOR November 28, 2012

1 into the office for signature shortly. Most of their proposal will be at WLC and a little bit at
2 FRES. There will be a 15 year commitment at WLC and a 5 year commitment at FRES. Their
3 first work will be to evaluate the buildings determining what needs to be done, then a plan will
4 be prepared. If the School Board decides not to go ahead with the work then there will be a
5 fee of around \$10,000. If they proceed with the work then it will be neutral and will be paid off
6 over the 15 year contract.

7
8 They also discussed not proposing a warrant article this year for FRES until they have a solid
9 long range plan. Presently they have not come to any agreement as far as what to do in the
10 future.

11
12 **b. Negotiations Subcommittee** – None at this time.

13
14 **c. School Board Rep.**

15 Mr. Ball went to the meeting last night where there was discussion on the effect that the
16 Affordable Health Care Act will have on the budget. Be prepared to understand that this will
17 have a very big impact on the budget. There was also discussion on the Warrant and how
18 to address the articles of agreement.

19
20 Dr. LaPlante stated that by next week at the joint meeting he is hoping to have some
21 answers to be able to put numbers to the information that has been eluding us. What we do
22 know now is that the District is considered to be a large employer. Therefore any employee
23 who works 30 or more hours a week we are required to provide them with health insurance.
24 The Affordable Health Care Act will begin in January 2014 which is part way through the
25 2013/2014 school year.

26
27 There are a number of ways to deal with it. The District can't afford to pay the lion's share of
28 a high plan so they are looking for a low cost plan that the can be affordable. The affordable
29 definition has changed and now states that healthcare costs can't be any greater than 9.5%
30 of their income. If it exceeds this amount and they can get subsidized insurance through the
31 exchange which we will then then be subject to a \$3,000 fine for each employee. This could
32 become like a domino effect if many of them leave.

33
34 If health insurance is not provided to the employees then there will be a \$2,000 fine for
35 every employee. The first 30 employees will be exempt but every employee after that will
36 have the \$2,000 fine totaling up to \$180,000 for the group. It's a lot of money to spend and
37 we don't get anything for that money spent.

38
39 The 3rd option is to reduce the number of hours down to 29.5 hours and we won't have to
40 offer health insurance. But there would be a loss in continuity of teaching because most of
41 them work 34 hours a week right now. Reducing hours would mean that we will have to
42 provide for half a day coverage from another assistant. Right now there are 5 students that
43 need a 1 on 1 aide so we would need to hire 2 people. But these kids would have to interact
44 with 2 different people now but it is very difficult for them to work with just one. In addition it
45 maybe impossible to recruited someone to work only 2 or 3 days. Plus they will have to
46 work with all different kids and each one has very different requirements. There are too
47 many down sides, so the amounts have been anticipated and already put in the budget.

48
49 They are considering polling the employees to see who would take the insurance but at this
50 point they don't know. In addition there is no guarantee that they will stay and there could be

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL - BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES FOR November 28, 2012

1 another that would change from single to family. They are considering providing for single
2 plans only or having a high deductible plan. This will have to be done through bargaining.
3

4 Dr. LaPlante stated that the School Board wants to change the Articles of Agreement to be
5 able to adopted language providing them with the flexibility to move students from one
6 school or another. There was discussion about printing an explanation stating that changing
7 the Articles will not have any impact on the financial arrangement and it will remain in force
8 as it is for now. This will provide a record to go back to and for future boards looking back to
9 check on the language to see why and how.

10
11 Mr. Ball also added that the expense report year to date shows a surplus so there is
12 confidence that there won't be a deficit appropriation.
13

14 **d. Superintendent Search Committee – Leslie Browne**

15
16 Ms. Browne stated that they will meet again on December 6. The School Board Association
17 will be Posting by this weekend.
18

19 **6. Review of proposed budget**

20
21 Ms. Browne thought this budget was a good start, and we are in a much better place than
22 last year. Ms. Grybko had a question about a slide bullet showing buying books for the
23 middle school but they had to buy reading material at LCS. Buying 12 books for LSC can't
24 possibly break the budget. It was determined that a couple of the items in the presentation
25 had accidentally been combined on the same line. The intent was that the ms/hs bullet was
26 due to the 6th grade moving from the elementary schools to the HS so the budget needed to
27 change with them. LCS needed to have new books so that they are now matching up with
28 the FRES classes.
29

30 Mr. Whitehill asked about the reduction of principal at LCS but questioned that there is now
31 a full time secretary. Dr. LaPlante stated that 15 minutes was added to her day so that there
32 is someone there all the time. She is full time anyway. There will probably be a head
33 teacher appointed with a small stipend for next year.
34

35 Mr. Roemer stated that the number we usually present is the last number at 2.54% but it
36 was only presented as 0.87%. If we get less money how does that decrease the %? Over
37 the years, Dr. LaPlante has worked putting many budgets together. The budget is the total
38 budget, not to break it apart, this piece and that piece. The warrant articles also have to be
39 paid for by the taxpayers. A Zero based budget includes everything; there might be an
40 increase in one part of the budget and a reduction in another part of the budget. They
41 worked hard to get as close to zero as possible. The total is up 0.87% from last year but
42 then they had a \$45,000 reduction in the insurance which when subtracted out is down to
43 0.47%. This budget includes everything except Obama and SPED, but in reflection they
44 should have also requested New Hampshire Retirement Fund.
45

46 Healthcare will see a savings and SPED is down this year which offsets the other parts of
47 the budget. A significant chunk of the increase in the budget is from the 3rd year of the
48 Collective Bargaining Agreement. The NH Retirement Fund has fallen totally upon the
49 Districts to come up with the 35% funding since the State voted to eliminate their

WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL - BUDGET COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES FOR November 28, 2012

1 contribution at the last legislature. The employees pay for only 7% and the district comes up
2 with the rest now.

3
4 Mr. Roemer state that the night of meeting we got another summary sheet unfortunately
5 neither has a version date so it is difficult to determine which one is which. He requested
6 that when the newest summary sheet and comparison by object code sheets come out that
7 they have a date or identification. Ms. Browne asked to get a sheet identifying which code is
8 for which school, ie 12 is LCS etc.

9
10 Mr. Roemer asked that other than the raises for non-collective bargaining agreement are
11 there any other items potentially to be added to the budget or are there any other budget
12 warrant articles. At this point the Support Staff Contract isn't going to be huge. At the
13 School Board meeting the Library position was discussed but there are no other budget
14 warrant articles at this time. Until there is a formal plan for FRES they won't be doing a
15 warrant. The maintenance of effort will be accomplished without impact on us financially by
16 using the Honeywell plan. There was a question about the potential of setting up a fund to
17 capture some of the unexpended funds for help with the building grounds or renovation or a
18 new building in the future. Right now there is \$230,000 in the SPED fund and that seems to
19 be a good catastrophic number.

20
21 There was discussion about putting the Principle position on a warrant article for the voters
22 to decide. To put funding attached to that would be a step backwards if put it on as a
23 warrant.

24
25 **7. Prepare Questions for Joint Meeting on December 5th**

26
27 Check with Mr. Davidson to see if Mr. Roemer's question has been forwarded.

28
29 **8. Other Business - None**

30
31 **9. Adjourn**

32 The next meeting will be on December 5, 2012 at 6:30 PM location Media Center. A
33 motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Whitehill and seconded by Ms. Browne;
34 all in favor. The School Budget Committee was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

35
36 Respectfully Submitted,

37
38
39
40 Dawn Tuomala, Secretary