

**SPECIAL MEETING (Monday, June 3, 2024)****Members present**

Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

**Member absent**

Meredith Schindler

**Meeting called to order at 5:37 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Board President

Action: A. Roll Call of Board of Education Members

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Dr. Celeste Hawkins, Board President

3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA

Action: A. Acceptance of Agenda

... MOVE THAT the Board of Education accept the agenda, as presented.

Motion by Sharon Lee, second by Yvonne Fields.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Aye: Dr Celeste Hawkins, Gillian Ream Gainsley, Sharon Lee, Yvonne Fields, Maria Goodrich, Jeanice Townsend

4. PRESENTATIONS

Presentation: A. Budget Hearing Presentation

YCS Director of Business Services and Finance, Damien Butler, will share the Budget Projection for the YCS for 2024-2025.

Click [here](#) to view the presentation (this is the corrected presentation).

**Dr. Hawkins:** What's the proposal build on?

**Mr. Butler:** It is built on the current pupil amount. I didn't want to use one proposal and then a different one is accepted. We are expecting to see a slight increase.

**Dr. Hawkins:** So it will change after the budget is approved.

**Mr. Butler:** Yes. And we will then do an amendment probably in October once the budget is published.

**Trustee Gainsley:** The revenue is what we pay the bond with?

**Mr. Butler:** Yes.

**Trustee Gainsley:** So there are no taxes paid on that bond? It says "Excess of Expenditures Over Revenue." Should it be Under Revenue?

**Mr. Butler:** Now that the student loan is paid, we no longer have that problem. Yes. It should be. We are not in the hole.

**Trustee Gainsley:** This is local revenue that we get to carry over to next year?

**Mr. Butler:** Yes.

**Trustee Gainsley:** The state paid the school bond?

**Mr. Butler:** Yes.

**Trustee Townsend:** The budget is based on our student count. What is our student count?

**Mr. Butler:** The number I used was 3740, information from my student data based off of last year's count.

**Trustee Gainsley:** What is the timing of receiving the state aid? Will it hit the summer taxes or will it be next year?

**Mr. Butler:** We have a meeting with the Treasury next Monday and we will talk about the timing. Initially, they wanted it before June 30th, so we would see it this year.

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** They have paid off our portion. We don't deal with the tax part. It is between the treasury and the county. They paid off the school debt in April. Maybe it's a timing issue.

**Trustee Gainsley:** That makes sense that the tax bills were issued before the money was paid. That is helpful to know and it sounds like it will be fixed the next time.

**Trustee Townsend:** Debt service, 5.6 million, general fund expenditures, the debt service to be on existing bonds, correct?

**Mr. Butler:** Yes.

**Trustee Townsend:** Now that the Willow Run debt is paid off, we don't have to burrow anymore, the current tax base will now cover it, correct?

**Mr. Butler:** Yes. We do not anticipate a state aid note this year.

**Trustee Gainsley:** Why is it so high then? Our operating debt is paid off. Is that projection included because that seems like a lot of debt service?

**Mr. Butler:** This is based off of what we paid this year. It may drop. There will be changes but this is a conservative outlook so we know we can cover upcoming payments.

**Vice President Lee:** You aren't anticipating it to be that high?

**Mr. Butler:** I think it will stay steady. There will be some changes due to payroll and the pending payments that we have coming. I wanted to stay conservative.

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** Since we still have bond debt, PFM hasn't given us our new numbers yet. We meet with Treasury Monday. We don't know what our new rate is.

**Trustee Gainsley:** It sounds like negotiations are still going on.

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** They are ongoing.

**Trustee Gainsley:** We anticipate flat revenue and we are hoping to pay our staff more, has that been calculated in or did we keep everything flat?

**Mr. Butler:** That was calculated in.

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** We know benefits are calculated to be much higher.

**Trustee Gainsley:** So the additional salaries and benefits are built into this budget even though we kept the revenue flat?

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** Yes. We know there will be a lot in the amendments because there are so many variables that we still don't know.

**Trustee Townsend:** The SEEK grant covers Grizzly Learning Camp?

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** Yes.

**Trustee Townsend:** It's not a renewable grant?

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** It is not renewable but we can count on it through next year but Dr. Coscarella is going to D.C. and hoping to hear it can be renewed but right now it can't be. There's no funding for it. We have one more year for the LEAP grant.

**Trustee Townsend:** 2025-26, correct?

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** Yes. We are still looking for funds for that. ESSERs has ended and we have found ways to work around that and we are not in a fiscal cliff like others.

**Vice President Lee:** For food service, you mentioned they haven't planned to upgrade the kitchens. We aren't in jeopardy of losing the money if we don't use it, are we?

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** We would be but we have plans to upgrade. We have plans to upgrade but sometimes you have to do repairs. We haven't been able to get the new things because we have to do the emergency repairs. We have been spending it. The bigger upgrades cost more money and that is what we want to spend the money on like at Holmes and the high school but we have had to do the repairs also. We do have the money and there is a plan to spend it.

**Vice President Lee:** We can't use other grants.

**Dr. Zachery-Ross:** Food service money can only be used for kitchens, etc.

**Mr. Butler:** We can only use food service money for food service. The small repairs impact the larger projects. There is a spend plan in place.

**Trustee Townsend:** With all the improvements we have made with the audit, we should be able to meet the report deadlines going forward, right?

**Mr. Butler:** Yes. We have brought back our contractor to start working on the 2023-24 audit to help us oversee the project. We are creating better processes.

## 5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Information: A. Guidelines for Public Comment

Public Comment Protocol | Pursuant to Board of Education Policy 0167.3

\*The Board recognizes the value of public comment on educational issues and the importance of allowing members of the public to express their view.

\*Please limit statements to three (3) minutes duration.

\*Participants shall direct all comments to the Board and not to staff or other participants; no person may address or question Board members individually.

\*Remarks shall be made in a respectful and professional manner.

No public comments.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.