

OLD SAYBROOK MIDDLE SCHOOL
60 Sheffield St.
Old Saybrook, CT 06475
(860) 395-3157

The Old Saybrook Board of Education met in Special Session on Tuesday, February 7, 2017, at the Old Saybrook Middle School Library, Old Saybrook, CT 06475.

Board Members

Kelley Kennedy
Eileen Baker
James Henderson
Phil Broadhurst
George Chang
Karen Brodeur
Alan Hyla

Others

Jan Perruccio, Superintendent of Schools
Julie Pendleton, Dir. Operations, Facilities & Finance
Kathy Bai, Dir. of Pupil and Professional Services
Amity Goss, Dir. of Curriculum, Instruction, & Assessment
Sheila Riffle, Principal at Old Saybrook High School
Joseph Anastasio, Associate Principal at Old Saybrook High School
Mandy Ryan, Principal at Old Saybrook Middle School
Matt Walton, Associate Principal at Old Saybrook Middle School
Heston Sutman, Principal at Kathleen E. Goodwin School

Invited Guests: Old Saybrook Board of Finance Chairman David LaMay and Board of Finance Members Brad Thorpe, Breckinridge Lindley, Barry O’Neill, John O’Brien, Carol Rzasa, and Thomas Stevenson

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board Member Baker called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m. in the Old Saybrook Middle School Library and Superintendent Perruccio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board of Education

III. JOINT DISCUSSION WITH THE BOARD OF FINANCE

2017-2018 Proposed Board of Education Budget Discussion

Superintendent Perruccio and Director Pendleton presented the Superintendent’s proposed 2017-2018 budget to the Board of Finance at the regular board meeting on February 7, 2017. This budget has been reviewed by the Board’s Budget and Fiscal Committee.

Superintendent Perruccio began by spotlighting 2016-2017 celebrations for the district, which include:

- Strategic Plan
- Personalized Learning
- Standard Based Practices
- Universal Screening Assessments in Reading and Math
- Integration Model in Social Studies and English-Language Arts
- Professional Collaboration
- Math Pilot

- Personalization of Professional Learning
- Successful Negotiations with Teachers
- Facility Projects Completed

Superintendent Perruccio reviewed the district's Budget Goals for 2017-2018, which are derived from the district's strategic plan. The strategic plan directs the district to support:

- Personalized learning
- Increased authentic learning experiences
- Innovation
- Creativity
- Critical thinking
- Collaboration
- Global relationships
- Cultural awareness
- Opportunities for regionalism
- Professional development designed to meet staff learning needs
- Use of technology to create learning environments
- Learning flexibility through student climate and voice and anytime learning

Superintendent Perruccio then reviewed the budget planning process with the Board of Finance, which includes: strategic plan review, identifying and prioritizing classroom needs, discussing goals and challenges with the Budget and Fiscal committee, analyzing enrollment projections, identifying cost saving opportunities, and seeking revenue sources/protecting revenue sources already in place.

Superintendent Perruccio first presented the Sustained Services budget, which is the budget needed to continue the exact programs from the current academic year. This budget calls for a 2.88% increase over this year's budget or \$733,403. Next, the Superintendent presented the Initial Administrators' Budget, which includes all of the requests from their schools for various programs and resources. This budget calls for a 1.60% increase over this year's budget or \$408,193. Finally, the Superintendent presented the Superintendent's Budget, which reflects cost savings that were found in the Administrators' Budget. This budget calls for a 1.30% increase over this year's budget or \$329,831. Cost savings and prioritization enabled the Superintendent's proposal to represent a much smaller increase than the Sustained Services budget.

The major budget drivers continue to be personnel costs, health insurance benefits, special education tuition, transportation and capital maintenance and equipment.

Superintendent Perruccio and Director Pendleton reviewed budget highlights for the year related to areas where the district has been able to realize savings and areas that have added additional cost. The Superintendent and Director Pendleton also looked at particular line items that made the most significant percentage/dollar increases or decreases from last year.

The presentation continued with a discussion regarding unknown financial items and actions the district may take to mitigate the impact of those unknowns. The following items have been identified as potential “unknown entities”:

- Funding and other revenue reductions
- Health insurance costs and Affordable Care Act
- Unanticipated maintenance repairs
- Outplaced students
- Charter and magnet school tuitions

The presentation concluded with a review of each strategic plan goal and the dollars associated with moving those goals forward. The district is looking to include a certified school to career teacher, which will help with authentic learning experiences and the internship program.

Members of the Board of Finance asked Superintendent Perruccio, Director of Operations, Facilities and Finance Pendleton, and the Board of Education questions about the proposed budget.

Board Chairman Kennedy arrived at 6:29 p.m.

Board Member Brodeur arrived at 6:50 p.m.

IV. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS CONTINUED

Student Representative Reports

The Board of Education Student Representatives reported the following:

- Boys and Girls Track won the Shoreline Conference. Devyn King broke the school record in long jump
- Girls and Boys Basketball both qualified for the state tournament
- Amnesty International Club is holding a fundraiser where student can purchase a carnation for \$1.50 and roses for \$3.00. Profits will support the club
- Old Saybrook won a Unified Sports basketball game against Westbrook

Correspondence

- CAFE’s Day on the Hill: March 8, 2017, 8:30AM
- Shipman and Goodwin Employment Newsletter
- Old Saybrook High School Rambler

V. MEETING MINUTES

Baker/Brodeur

“Move to approve the January 17, 2017, Regular Meeting Minutes as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-0)

VI. EDUCATION ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Field Trip Request – National Association for Music Education’s All-Eastern Honors Festival

Board of Education policy requires that overnight field trips be approved by the Board of Education. The proposed National Association for Music Education’s All-Eastern Honors Festival has the support of the building principal and superintendent.

One Old Saybrook student has qualified to participate in this event, which takes place between April 5 – April 8. Our student will travel to the Atlantic City Convention Center. There will be two days of rehearsals, which will culminate with a concert on the morning of Saturday, April 8. The cost for this trip is \$500, which is borne by the student. The student to chaperone ratio is 1:1, as Mr. Conti will be accompanying the student on the trip.

Baker/Broadhurst

“Move to approve the National Association for Music Education’s All-Eastern Honors Festival Field Trip, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-0)

2017-2018 Proposed Board of Education Budget

Superintendent Perruccio briefly discussed the budget process and reminded the Board of the total budget increase and where the district is seeing line item increases and line item reductions. She stated that the administration believes that the presented budget is respectful and gives the district the ability to move the strategic plan forward.

Baker/Broadhurst

“Move to approve the 2017-2018 Budget, as presented, and adopt it as the Board of Education’s Budget”

MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-0)

How to advocate for legislative action impacting budget

Chairman Kennedy discussed the Governor’s budget recommendations that will impact our budget: ECS Cuts, retirement funds pushed back to municipal budgets,

potential additional action from the Governor, and/or legislation. These actions can have a significant impact on small towns, which means that Old Saybrook needs to have a plan to proactively advocate for the district. Chairman Kennedy suggested that the Board should begin looking at ways to engage state representatives and develop strategies for future communication and advocacy.

The Board discussed different possibilities and options regarding advocacy for the district and working with local legislators/other boards of education in the future regarding legislative issues that will impact the budget.

Field Trip Request – CT Drama Association Festival

Board of Education policy requires that overnight field trips be approved by the Board of Education. The proposed CT Drama Association Festival trip has the support of the building principal and superintendent.

This trip will depart to Westhill High School in Stamford, CT from Old Saybrook High School at 1:15 p.m. on March 10th and will return on March 11th. The trip will cost approximately \$90.00 per student. The teacher to student ratio will not exceed 10:1 and there are currently 15 students planning to attend.

Brodeur/Hyla

“Move to approve the CT Drama Association Festival Field Trip, as presented”

MOTION: CARRIED (7-0-0)

VII. COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS

Audience of Citizens

No citizens addressed the Board of Education.

VIII. REMINDERS

- Old Saybrook/Westbrook Choral Festival and Concert – February 8
- High School PTO Meeting – February 8 – 7:30PM
- Hypnotist Show @OSHS – February 9 – 7:00PM
- Grade 8 Band Day/Band Day Concert – February 15 – 7:00PM
- Hunger Dinner (Interact Club) – February 16, 2017 – 5:00-8:00PM
- Winter Break (School Closed) – February 20 - February 22, 2017
- Theater, Art, Jazz Night – February 23 – 7:30PM
- Board of Education Regular Meeting – February 28, 2017 – 7:30PM

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Henderson/Brodeur

“Move to adjourn at 7:35 p.m.”

MOTION: CARRIED (6-0-0)

Karen Brodeur, Secretary
Old Saybrook Board of Education

Minutes recorded and typed by:
Trent Gerbers, Executive Assistant
*DRAFT - Subject to approval at the next BOE meeting