

RTM Education Committee Meeting Minutes

The RTM Education Committee met on Wed. Feb. 15, 2012 Room 201 in Town Hall at 8:00 PM.

AGENDA:

1. Jim Marpe presented an overview of the Board of Education's proposed operating budget of \$100,226,554 which represents an increase of \$2,131,436 or 2.17% over the 2011-2012 budget. This figure represents a \$331,000 reduction of the Superintendent's proposed budget. He explained the boards' process of reviewing each line item of the Superintendent's proposed budget with the goal of maintaining the high quality of the school system while addressing the need to keep the school budget "as close to flat" as possible.

2. During the course of discussion, questions were raised by committee members regarding specific reductions and modifications in budget areas that impact classroom instruction such as: staffing and technology as well as reductions and savings realized in non instructional areas such as: insurance, energy costs, maintenance. Collaborative efforts with the town and other school districts that have impacted savings also were noted. There was some discussion regarding the potential negative impact of any further cuts by the funding bodies on the quality and resiliency of the educational program.

3. No vote was taken at this time.

PRESENT:

RTM Education Committee: V. Heller, Chair; J. Klinge, P. Liebowitz, L. Mall, B. Meyers, P. Rossi, S. Rubin

Other RTM Members: Alan Bomes, Melissa Kane

Board of Education/administration: J. Marpe, Vice Chair; M. Gordon; M. McGovern; E. Whitney/

E. Landon, Superintendent; N. Harris, Asst. Supt Business; M. Cion, Dir. Human Resources

Members of the Public

Submitted by:

Velma Heller, RTM Education Committee Chair

Feb. 16, 2012