

Finance Committee Meeting
February 27, 2008
7:30 PM
Municipal Center – Selectmen's Conference Room

Present: Chairman, Lee Tarantino; Vice-Chair, Michael Thomas; Pasquale Barletta; Robert Bouchard; Thomas DeLuca; Wayne Graf; Paul Helmreich; Philip Zawasky.

Absent: Jackie Desrochers.

Call to Order

Meeting was called to Order at 7:40.

Dr. Ansay, joined by members of the School Committee, presented the FinCom with a PowerPoint presentation outlining the areas in which cuts will need to be made to meet the needs of the FY '09 budget. She discussed the implications that level funding will have on the schools. She pointed out which items are fixed costs, which programs are self-supported, and which programs/areas will see reductions in both supplies and personnel.

Dr. Ansay discussed both the increasing enrollment numbers as well as building maintenance needs as things to be considered. She pointed out the decreasing amount of state aid (Chapter 70). She predicts that these cuts will take 10 years to rebuild.

Mr. Helmreich asked Dr. Ansay whether or not the School Dept. FY'09 budget includes the funds needed to finance pay increases as a result of upcoming contract negotiations. She said that it does.

Dr. Ansay mentioned the possibility of requesting that the state release the \$800K in lottery aid that has been set aside. She said that this could give the town the time to come up with another solution to the budget problems. Both Mr. Helmreich and Mr. Golota (from the School Committee) responded saying that they didn't care for that idea because it was just a temporary fix. Mr. Golota said that he feels that the town needs to formulate a 5-year plan for improving fiscal matters, which will carry over to the schools.

Dr. Ansay stated that the state reimburses the town 70% of spending for SPED students, but first they subtract \$33K per student.

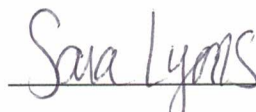
Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 3, 2008 at 7:30pm. Superintendent Lopes from Southeastern Vocational Technical High School will be in attendance.

Adjournment

Motion was made by Mr. Zawasky to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Second by Mr. DeLuca. Vote: Unanimous. **Motion carries.**

Respectfully Submitted by:



Sara Lyons, Finance Committee Secretary

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