

Ad Hoc Committee for Inter-district Education Cost Sharing
Programming Sub-Committee
Special Meeting

January 5, 2022

7PM

Call to Order: Chairman Bisson called the Meeting to order at 7:06PM.

Roll Call: Rose Bisson, Wendy Sears, Juan Arriola, Cassidy Martin

Additions to the Agenda: none

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Juan Arriola, seconded by Wendy Sears, to approve the December 1, 2021 Minutes with the following amendment: under General Discussion "...the information provided on Scotland Elementary School's building capacities derived from the *most recent renovation and construction project plan*." Minutes were approved as amended by general consent.

General Discussion

Wendy Sears presented a draft of the *Combined Budget Model* spreadsheet with the median salary figures for current classroom teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators in Hampton and Scotland schools. Chairman Bisson will supply the median salaries, or averages if necessary, for Hampton's current instructional staff, PK through 6th grade teachers, special teachers, paraprofessionals and administrators. There was discussion on categorizing the budget items, as each of the school's budgets label some items differently. It was decided that the more detailed budget format might be useful in determining the way to combine the items from the two schools; Chairman Bisson will forward Hampton's more detailed budget format. Wendy Sears suggested that an appendix with additional items, such as stipends for retiring teachers, be included. By general consent, it was decided that a work session to address these issues was needed, and a Special Meeting was scheduled for January 13 at 7PM. Chairman Bisson will remind Superintendent Olah to respond to Ms. Sears' request for information on the school's multi-age grouping educational model.

Chairman Bisson reported that the school's insurance agent is anticipating a possible 12 – 14% insurance increase next year; the amount should be negotiated by March. Questions remain on insurance coverage for part-time employees in both schools. After discussion, it was agreed that, while the cost of insurance for all eligible employees must be included, the current enrollment in insurance coverage for employees in both schools must also be included. Members agreed with Wendy Sears' suggestion that the average, and highest, enrollment figures of the last three years be researched and included as well.

Chairman Bisson reported that Superintendent Olah will check the blue prints for Hampton school's physical capacities. It was decided to limit the capacity findings to classrooms. Chairman Bisson noted it will be helpful if the formula developed for determining square footage required per student is the same for both schools. It was also noted that the current Covid guidelines require three feet per student. Chairman Bisson also reported that a recent *Willimantic Chronicle* article misrepresented the committee's charge; Cassidy Martin volunteered to locate the article and forward it to members.

Audience for Citizens: none.

There being no further business, the special meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Dayna McDermott Arriola