Seymour Board of Education  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES  
Zoom  
7:00 pm

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:  
Kristen Harmeling  
Ed Strumello  

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:  
Beth Nesteriak

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:  
Michael Wilson, Superintendent of Schools  
Vonda Tencza, Associate Superintendent  
Sherry Holmes, Business Manager  
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk  
Kris Boyle

I. CALL TO ORDER  
A. Pledge of Allegiance  
Ms. Harmeling called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT  
Please note: If you would like to have a public comment read into the minutes, please email your brief (300 words or less) comment along with your full name and address to harmelingk@seymourschools.org by no later than 6:30 pm on Monday, February 1, 2021.

None

III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION  
A. Financial Management Summary  
Ms. Holmes said she heard from the State regarding the ESSER 2 grant at 4:00 on Friday. We were notified that we are eligible for $1,019,026 from this grant. Ms. Holmes said the focus of this grant is remote learning, which means we will be able to cover the Distance Learning teachers through the end of the year. She said Health Aides will also be covered under this grant. The money from this grant will be available through the end of the 2023 fiscal year. Ms. Holmes said we will do our best with what we have been given. The focus is to continue to make the buildings safe for our students and staff. More updates will be forthcoming from Ms. Holmes. Now that we know we are eligible for the funding, we must apply for the grant, formulate a budget, submit the information and wait for approval. Ms. Holmes said in February she will start work on a budget projection. Mr. Strumello asked if the floating nurse position could be covered under the ESSER 2 grant and Ms. Holmes responded that she could certainly look into it and get an answer from the State. He also wondered if this grant can help our food services situation and Ms. Holmes said they were very clear that this grant should not be used for Food services. However, there may be some grants coming available that Ms. Brooks can apply for. Ms. Holmes said we will continue to look for solutions for food services. Mr. Strumello said he was a little concerned that CABE has not advocated for this problem. Ms. Holmes said CASBO and CAPSS are aware of the situation and helping to work toward a solution. Ms. Harmeling said she was a little concerned or scared that this grant runs through 2023. Ms. Holmes reminded her that most grants are for a two year period. Mr. Strumello and Ms. Harmeling said the committee needs to collaborate for the budget presentation. He suggested a working session. We will need to have a clear understanding of what is left over and how it will be spent. Ms. Harmeling asked if we will be able to bring on staff to make up learning deficits. Ms. Holmes said she will check into this. She also confirmed the date of February 8, 2021 as the date for the Board of Finance presentation.

MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the Financial Management Summary ending January 31, 2020  

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello  

MOTION PASSES: 2-0
IV. REPORTS
A. Chairman’s Report
Ms. Harmeling had no formal report but reiterated that the committee should get together to collaborate on the BOF presentation.
B. Superintendent’s Report
None

V. PUBLIC COMMENT
Please note: If you would like to have a public comment read into the minutes, please email your brief (300 words or less) comment along with your full name and address to harmelingk@seymourschools.org by no later than 7:15 pm (or as determined by the Finance Committee Chair and announced during the meeting) on Monday, February 1, 2021.
None

VI. ADJOURNMENT
MOTION: (Mr. Strumello/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adjourn

AFFIRMATIVE: Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk

The Public is invited to participate in a listen only mode using the link below:
YouTube Link
https://youtu.be/KgFOFs-SoU1