Seymour Board of Education
FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
August 1, 2022
Seymour Middle School
7:00 pm

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:  Chris Champagne
                                        Kristen Harmeling
                                        Beth Nesteriak

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:                 Dr. Susan Compton, Superintendent of Schools
                                        Salvatore Bucci, Business Manager
                                        Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk

I. CALL TO ORDER
A. Pledge of Allegiance
   Ms. Harmeling called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:09 p.m.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT
Public Comment provides the opportunity for the public to make a comment. It is not a
dialogue between the Board and the public. Based upon what is heard during Public
Comment, the Board may choose to add a topic to the agenda. If questions are posed that the
Chairman is able to answer, those questions may be addressed under the Chairman’s
Comments portion of the agenda. The Board will not discuss personnel matters. Comments
should be respectful and no longer than 3 minutes in length so that all who wish to comment
may have the opportunity to do so. All public wanting to comment will need to state their name
and address for the record prior to addressing the Board. None

III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION
A. Financial Management Summary – August 1, 2022
   Mr. Bucci indicated that the August 1st report is in two parts. The first part provided an
   overview of the FY22-23 budget set-up, as well as changes in procedures and controls
   going forward. He also discussed the limited expenditures that typically occur in July
   and August, which explains the limited year-to-date expenditures data reported for the
   month of July. The second part of the report was an update of the results for the FY21-
   22 school year. Mr. Bucci indicated that additional invoices were received after the July
   11th board meeting, primarily relating to legal fees, some of which dated back to March.
   When these and other additional expenditures were added, the amount of the shortfall
   for FY21-22 increased to $629K. Mr. Bucci then indicated that he had included in the
   financial report an updated transfer request to the Town to cover the shortfall and asked
   that the request be referred to the full board for approval. Dr. Compton then commented
   that she would be taking the lead on trying to get a handle on legal bills, especially
   relating to Special Education. She also said that she is aware of the legal expenses that
   will be associated with collective bargaining. Mr. Champagne then asked where legal
   fees are located in the financial report. Mr. Bucci commented that they were included in
   account 330, which historically has also been used as a dumping ground for
   expenditures that had no specific category. Mr. Champagne asked if a separate line
   item could be added to the financial report for legal fees since these costs are
   significant. Dr. Compton agreed and explained that we walk a fine line between being
   aware of the costs and keeping ourselves legally protected. Mr. Bucci then said that he
   would create a separate line item for legal fees for future reports.
MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the transfer request to the Town in the amount of $629,000 which will negate the previous transfer request

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Nesteriak

MOTION PASSES: 3-0

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Ms. Nesteriak) to recommend to the full Board the approval of the August 1, 2022 Financial Management Summary

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Nesteriak

IV. REPORTS
A. Chairman’s Report
Ms. Harmeling requested that an invite be sent to the members of the Finance Committee to attend the Board of Finance meetings at the end of each quarter. Dr. Compton agreed.

B. Superintendent’s Report
None

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: (Ms. Nesteriak/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adjourn

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Ms. Nesteriak

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk

YouTube Link:
https://youtu.be/K4cxtqJlwGE