

Budget Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 1, 2024
4:00 p.m., Central Office

Attendees: Jessica Barnes, Allan Gordon, Stacey Haskell, John Holmes, Will Seavey, Nick Raymond, Superintendent, Trish Hayes, District Accountant.

Elect Budget Committee Chair

John Holmes motioned to nominate Will Seavey, seconded by Jessica Barnes. The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Process and Background

Superintendent Raymond presented the background of last year's budget process and the changes for this year's budget process. He wanted budget committee meetings to begin earlier than last year to allow the committee more opportunity to ask questions. The district's administration began gathering budget information in November. Once they have prepared their budgets, Nick and Trish begin individual meetings with each administrator. At this time, all but two meetings have been completed. The final two meetings will be completed next week. The committee will receive a list from the administrative team of all their desired requests. Administrators are also required to submit a form when requesting a position or new program.

ED - 279

Superintendent Raymond reviewed the ED-279 with the committee. He highlighted the areas with changes or that impact the calculation the district receives such as student population and state valuation which drives the subsidy.

Budget Committee Meeting Schedule.

February 8 - Budget Committee overview, 4:00 pm at Central Office
February 29 - Budget Committee overview, 4:00 pm at Central Office
March 13 – Articles 8, 10, 11 at 4:00 p.m, Hampden Academy-Library
March 28 – Articles 6,7,15 at 4:00 p.m, Hampden Academy-Library
April 3 – Articles 4,5,9 at 4:00 p.m, Hampden Academy-Library
April 10 – Articles 1,2 at 4:00 p.m, Hampden Academy-Library
April 25 – Revisions to Articles at 4:00 p.m, Hampden Academy-Library
May 1 – Board of Directors final review of FY25 budget
May 15 – Board of Directors signs budget referendum documents
June 6 – District budget meeting at Hampden Academy-Gymnasium, 7:00 p.m.
June 11 – Budget Validation Referendum & election day

Other

- Consider additional funds set up
- Would like to set up a reserve fund to cover the 30% for the Weatherbee SRRF fund \$346,137
- Second fund to replace the central office. That amount is not established yet. The bids

will close approximately February 14, 2024.

- A Special Ed reserve account should be considered. The amount has not been established yet.

Reviewed priorities for possible use of excess budget.

- Central Office renovation
- Security system similar to Bangor School Department
- Reeds Brook façade renovation
- Reduction in assessment to towns

Meetings for small budget committee:

- Collect amounts for priority items
- List out requests – positions/programs
- Articles – 8,10,11 and more
- Fund balance

Next meetings:

February 8, 4:00 pm at the Central Office

February 29, 4:00 pm at the Central Office

The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

cc: Board of Directors