

WILLIAMS BAY SCHOOL  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MONDAY, JANUARY 17, 2022

Board Members Present: J. Lothian, K. Nelson (virtually), D. Woss, P. Peyer, E. Nichols (virtually)

Absent: None

Administration Present: District Administrator Dr. W. White  
Elementary Principal Dr. A. Bond (virtual)  
Middle/High School Principal Mr. B. Mansky (virtual)  
Special Education Director Ms. K. McOmber (virtual)  
Business Manager Mrs. J. Frederick (virtual)

Guests: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

President J. Lothian called the meeting to order at 5:58 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

II. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discuss the 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 Budgets

Dr. White and Mrs. Frederick reviewed the Baird Forecast model and the assumptions that were used. Mrs. Frederick shared information regarding how schools are financed and highlighted what is contributing to the potential budget deficits in the upcoming years. Board members asked questions regarding enrollment projections, potential insurance rate increases, CPI for salary increases and inquired as to how other districts in the area are experiencing similar issues. Dr. White shared that almost all the districts around the area and state are facing declining enrollment and budget shortfalls. Dr. White presented the following Financial Priorities for 2022 – 2023 Budget and School Year to the Board for discussion:

- Retention and recruitment of staff
- Controlling expenditures and generating revenues
- Maintaining infrastructure
- Increasing community engagement

The discussion of financial priorities was followed by a conversation regarding the timeline for when decisions will be made. The first decision to be made will be open enrollment caps. The district should receive proposed insurance rates in March. Once this is received and decisions are made, then staffing, compensation, and other decisions will be able to be decided.

The Board discussed the budget projections for 2023- 2024 and beyond. Although there are many unknowns, it is evident that there will be a continued budget deficit due to declining in-district enrollment. The Board will need to consider ways to control expenditures and ways to increase revenues, including a potential referendum. Administration is developing a recommendation for the Board to possibly present a referendum question to the voters in November 2022.

Dr. White has scheduled a meeting with staff for Thursday, January 20<sup>th</sup> to review the forecast model and to share with them the timeline for making budget decisions. Mr. Lothian suggested that a survey be administered to staff to gauge how they are feeling about the initiatives that have been implemented. Mrs. Frederick suggested giving a survey to help determine budget priorities for salary and benefits. Dr. White indicated that the administrative team would work on drafting a survey for both areas.

B. Discuss Open Enrollment Caps

Dr. White shared that the Board would need to approve open enrollment caps at the January 24, 2022, Regular Monthly meeting in compliance with state statute. He shared that he would be recommending lowering the caps at 5K, 1<sup>st</sup> grade, and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade so that class sizes were maintained at level that insured an acceptable student-teacher ratio and sound fiscal management. The Board asked questions about the impacts of this recommendation. Dr. White shared that the cap could be raised if there was a significant number of open enrollment applications at a grade level that would warrant adding an additional section.

VII. ADJOURN

At 7:37 pm., D. Woss / E. Nichols motion and second to adjourn the meeting, carried 5-0.

Ed Nichols, Clerk  
WW: 1/18/2022