

A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Tuesday, June 13, 2023, in the Board of Education Conference Room, 47 Main Street, Ellington, CT.

The meeting was called to order at 2:31 p.m. by Liz Nord.

PRESENT Liz Nord, Chair, Jen Dzen, Miriam Underwood, Steve Viens

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT Dr. Scott Nicol, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Brian Greenleaf, Director of Finance and Operations
Mr. Anderson Rawlins, Director of Athletics and Wellness
Dr. Kristy LaPorte, Director of Special Services
Ms. Sara Spak, Special Education Supervisor

AGENDA ITEMS

Athletics Discussion

Mr. Greenleaf and Mr. Rawlins provided an update to the committee regarding the use and staffing of the weight room and technology to support student-athletes in their training by providing a year-round strength and conditioning program. The position would be a stipend position and the technology would be used on a trial basis. This would allow student-athletes to safely utilize the weight room and have the technology to track their progress and adjust according to their needs. Additionally, collaboration with the booster clubs to continue to add revenue while enlisting the help of parent and student volunteers.

MOTION

First: L. Nord

Second: J. Dzen

Pending confirmation from the Superintendent regarding a source of funding, the Board authorizes the administration to revise the pay rate of the Weight Room Supervisor position.

Motion carried unanimously.

2023-2024 Update

Ms. Spak and Dr. LaPorte discussed the conversion of outsourcing for a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant (COTA) for the hiring of a full time Occupational Therapist. Mr. Greenleaf notes that in addition to the clinical benefits discussed, there will be a savings of approximately \$7K-\$30K depending on the benefits. The committee felt this should go to the Board.

Ms. Spak provided data on the increased need within the Preschool enrollment. Current numbers of students with special needs are approximately double what they have been in recent years. This trend is reported to be the same across the region. The request is to add an additional classroom at approximately \$120K-\$150K. Mr. Greenleaf highlights several sources of funding (not within the General Fund) which will be utilized to cover this cost for one year. Through the budget process, it will need to be determined if an additional section is needed more permanently. The committee was comfortable bringing this to the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

First: M. Underwood

Second: S. Viens

To adjourn the meeting of the Finance Committee (4:45 p.m.)

Motion carried unanimously.