

Budget and Finance Committee Notes
Monday, May 24, 2010, 5:30 PM

Attending: Board Members Collins, Garrity, Pascucci and Sockol; Administrators Duncan, Mikos and Petrizzo.

1. **2010-11 budget:** The committee discussed at length a list of proposed budget adjustments in response to the Township Committee's (TC) \$1,011,695.00 cut to the 2010-11 tax levy.

1. **Revenue increase** of \$425K, realized predominantly from changed negotiation assumptions for 2009-10.

2. **Staffing:**

a. **Breakage:** In addition to the budgeted 4 retirements, we are cutting \$225K for breakage from 6 additional retirements. This responds to the TC recommendation of using savings from the 4 additional retirements accepted on May 12, 2010, plus 2 more of which we have recently been notified.

b. **2010-11 pay freeze:** Thanks to the pay freeze accepted by all administrators, affiliated and non-affiliated, and the Holmdel Child Study Association, we will have savings of \$100+K.

3. **Contributions to medical benefits premiums:** In the absence of a Holmdel Teachers Education Association (HTEA) contract settlement, the 1.5% health benefits contribution will take effect. Net of the current contribution for dependents coverage, this will raise an additional \$134,795 to help offset the health benefit expense.

4. **After-school bus runs (4 PM and 5:30 PM):** Eliminating these runs (4 buses per run, covering all of Holmdel) would save \$62K. The committee requested ridership data. Depending on the data, the committee may recommend eliminating only one of the two runs, which would save \$31K.

5. **Pod Classrooms at HHS:** The 2010-11 budget included \$30K to replace the retractable room dividers in one of the three "pod" classrooms (one large space divisible into three classrooms) with sound-proof, permanent dividers. The project would enhance instruction by creating sound insulation between classrooms. This cut responds to the TC recommendation to postpone non-essential repairs.

6. **Athletic Stipends:** The Athletic Director will reduce Schedule B stipends by \$4,700, striving to minimize student impact.

7. **HHS Club/Advisor Stipends:** The HHS principal will reduce Schedule B stipends by \$10K, striving to minimize the number of students affected.

8. **Satz Club/Advisor Stipends:** The Satz principal will reduce club stipends by \$4K, striving to minimize the number of students affected.

9. **Village Field Trips:** The Village School principal will reduce the budget for non-curricular field trips by \$3K.

10. **Indian Hill Field Trips and Admissions:** The Indian Hill principal will reduce the budget for non-curricular field trips and admissions by \$12,300.

11. **Field Trips – Extended School Year:** The program director will reduce the budget for non-curricular field trips by \$900.

Please note: Thanks to all administrators and Child Study Association members taking a 0% increase for 2010-11, and administrators making cuts while limiting their impact on students, we have been able to realize savings of \$230+K, worth 4 teaching positions. This has allowed us to avoid further position cuts.

Mr. Petrizzo will also review our overtime costs to see if we can reduce them. Please note that much of our overtime is incurred in making our facilities available for use by community groups when schools are closed. Including utilities costs, we subsidize community group use of school facilities on weekends ONLY by roughly \$115K per year. This is net of the income received for facilities rentals.

2. **Other Items:** This year we will review the following areas for possible cost savings:

- transportation
- overtime
- telephone/communications
- health insurance
- pay-to-participate

Next Meeting: Monday, June 28, 2010 at 5 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Garrity