

UXBRIDGE SCHOOL COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 2, 2018

UXBRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

School Committee Members in Attendance:

	Present	Absent
Matt Keane, Chair	X	
John Morawski, Vice Chair	X	
Stephanie Fernandez, Secretary	X	
D. Brett Pomeroy,, Member	X	
Jen Modica, Member	X	
Debbie Stark, Member	X	
Heidi Happy, Member	X	

1. Call to Order: 7:02 Call to order
7:05-John Morawski came

2. Public Comment:

Holly Black -recommended looking into Taft Council's Needs.

Another parent discussed concerns with new busing times (sent email).

3. Superintendent Search- Dorothy Presser from MASC will discuss the search process. WE will extend the search deadline.

-Showed advertisement (pamphlet) and recommended parameters of the search committee (passed out a draft committee profile).

- Deadline for the search committee: Begin meeting two week before the February Break (Thursday, February 8 for initial meet up with Dorothy Presser and February 15 to finalize questions and select semi-finalists).

-Agreed as a committee to have two school committee representatives to participate in the search.

3-5 candidates

Teachers: UTA

Parents- letter of intent off application

Principal and Central Office- Decide amongst themselves

Community member - letter of intent off application

4. FY2019 Budget Review

Supt. Carney reviewed powerpoint on UPS website: FY19 Budget Interview

Minutes 1/2/18

Budget is variable due to SC requests in upcoming meetings. These variabilities come into play when SC votes to make changes to the budget and incorporates School Council requests into the budget. This will be during the next meeting - 1/16/18

-All SC goals have been taken into careful consideration- optimizing class sizes at elementary levels will range from 19-22 in FY19.

Brian Hyde discussed the FY19 Budget Process

- All Collective Bargaining units are in mediation.
- Reviewing Chapter 70 funding
- Reviewing SEL mandates which are often unfunded
- 0 retirements at this point for FY19
- Increase in behavioral population

Definition of a Needs Based Budget was delivered: A proposal from the administration to the school committee that reflects needs and priorities identified by Principals, Directors and Central Office.

- Discussed grants we are receiving FY19.
- Discussed school choice funds which is roughly \$300,000
- Discussed circuit breaker reimbursements which is roughly \$700,000.
- Discussion on variations on budget- out of district placements, medical, and transportation
- Capital maintenance- each building will have a maintenance person.

Timeline:

January 11- Brian Hyde and Kevin Carney will meet with FinnComm for Budget review

January 16 Public Forum, 6pm

Feb 6 vote on the budget

May 9 town meeting

School Council Requests for FY19 Budget - Please see attached.

New Teachers:

Grade 2 Teacher, Foreign Language Teacher (HS) , Engineering Teacher (HS) and Facilities Person for one of the school buildings.

5. Old/New Business

Old Business:

Pam Yukna's report follow up- Dr. Drolet (title 6/9 coordinator) did a follow up on reports in the past and currently. Dr. Drolet did not report any hostile reports in any buildings. Dr. Drolet did a training.

Website update-1/16

McCloskey staff follow up
Budget hearing - for the public explain 6-7

New Business:

UHS Hacking- follow up for 1/16

6. Next School Committee Meeting -January 16- 6-7 Budget Hearing-UHS Library
January 16-7pm

7. Adjourn

8:55 PM- John Morawski made a motion for the committee to move into executive session with no business to follow. Stephanie Fernandez seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Debbie Stark - yes, Jennifer Modica-yes, Brett Pomeroy- yes, John Morawski- yes, Heidi Happy- yes, Stephanie Fernandez- yes, and Matt Keane- yes.

8.. Executive Session:

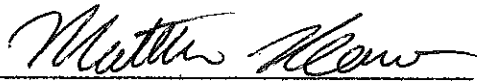
Union Contracts

Approve Executive Session Minutes

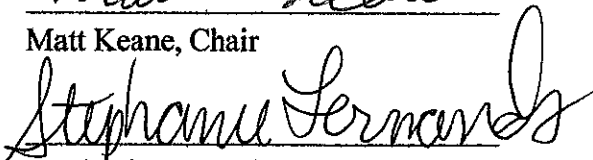
Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Fernandez

School Committee Members:

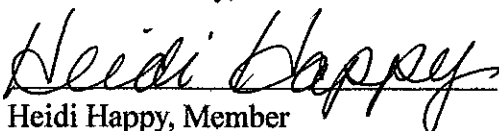


Matt Keane, Chair



Stephanie Fernandez, Secretary

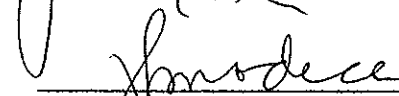
D. Brett Pomeroy, Member



Heidi Happy, Member



John Morawski, Vice Chair



Jen Modica, Member



Debbie Stark, Member

SCHOOL COUNCIL REQUESTS FOR FY19 BUDGET

Taft (PreK-3)

Due to the district consolidation into three buildings, some prior staffing and program needs have successfully been addressed that include Art instruction at the Kindergarten level and a full time Librarian. The Taft School Council is now advocating for the following positions to be reinstated into the FY19 UPS Budget after the positions were cut in previous years due to budget deficits. They include:

- **1.0 Reading Specialist for Grades K-2 - \$60,000**
- **6.0 Regular Education Paraprofessionals for Kindergarten - \$150,000**
- **1.0 Regular Education Paraprofessional for Grade 1 - \$25,000**
- **1.0 Regular Education Paraprofessional for Grade 2 - \$25,000**

TOTAL: \$260,000 – not yet included in FY19 Budget

The Taft School Council also requested the School Committee to adopt a classroom size cap of 20 students for Kindergarten and 22 students for Grades 1 and 2. While the School Committee has chosen not to adopt a classroom cap at this time, enrollment projections for the 2018-2019 school year project to be 19.1 students per classroom in Kindergarten, 22.6 students in Grade 1, and 20.3 students in Grade 2.

NOTE: To achieve the School Committee Goal of optimizing class sizes in the district, the Math Coordinator position needed to be removed from the budget to reinstate an elementary teaching position. The coordinator position can be added back into the budget if the School Committee opts to do so.

Whitin (4-7)

The district consolidation for next year provided the Whitin School with a full time Library/Media Specialist and Reading Specialist. These are two key positions that both Whitin and MMS have advocated for in the past and they do not add burden to the FY19 UPS Budget. There are no additional staffing requests.

UHS (8-12)

While the Taft and Whitin Schools are able to absorb additional grade levels without needing to expand staffing in their special subjects rotation (i.e. Art, Library, Physical Education, Computer), the scheduling needs of Uxbridge High School with an additional grade level will require a Spanish teacher, a Guidance Counselor for Grade 8 and upperclassmen internship coordination and management, and a Technology/Engineering Teacher for Grade 8. This expense has been absorbed in the cost savings of the McCloskey MS and it was anticipated.

Additional requests from the UHS School Council include:

- **1.0 Dean/Athletic Director - \$75,000**

TOTAL: \$75,000 – not yet included in FY19 Budget

NOTE: The Athletic Director position is a Unit A position in the Teacher's contract. For the past three years, no Unit A member has applied for the position. Therefore, a non-union employee working at the rate of approximately \$15,000 annually has held the position. UHS administration and School Council are advocating for the position to be restructured within the Unit A contract to make the position more attractive if the School Committee is unsuccessful in negotiating the position out of the contract.

Special Education Department Request (could be included with Taft Council)
The Special Education Department is requesting the expansion of the PIERS Program (currently at the Whitin School) to the Taft School for the 2018-2019 school year. Due to the district consolidation and the ability to repurpose existing staff, it would require the district to add a 1.0 Special Education Teacher and a 0.4 School Psychologist for this expansion to be successful.

Additional requests from the Special Education Department include:

- **1.0 Special Education Teacher - \$52,000** – not yet included in the FY19 Budget
- **0.4 School Psychologist - \$24,000** – not yet included in the FY19 Budget

Total: \$76,000 – not yet included in the FY19 Budget

NOTE: As it was previously reported by the Pupil Services Director and based on current student performance, there is a documented need for a PIERS Program at Taft. There is a significant rise in the number of children with trauma and mental health challenges as well as an increase in foster care families in the area. It is reasonable to predict that this vulnerable population of children will continue to rise.

SUMMARY

To complete the needs-based FY19 Budget and to include all of the School Councils' requests following the School Committee's Budget Goals, an estimated \$411,000 would need to be added to the FY19 Budget Draft that was submitted to the School Committee on December 20, 2017.