

UNAPPROVED DRAFT 1/20/17	BOARD APPROVED 1/25/17	CORRECTIONS
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**Addison Northwest School District
Board Meeting
Wednesday, January 18, 2017
6:00 PM
Vergennes Union High School – Library**

Board Reps: Addison Laurie Childers, George Lawrence
Ferrisburgh: Kristina MacKulin, George Gardner
Panton: Diana Raphael
Vergennes: Sue Rakowski, Chris Cousineau, Mark Koenig, John Stroup
Waltham: Tom Borchert

Administration: JoAn Canning, Superintendent
Tonia Mears, Business Manager

Guests: Kara Griswold, Matt DeBlois, Stephanie Taylor, Jay Stetzel, Martha Kenfield, Elizabeth Armstrong, Tara Brooks, Nancy Ambrose, Peter Maneen, Margo Grace, Rose Wenzel

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chair Childers.

Amendments to the Agenda to add an executive session for the Board to discuss matters relating to contract negotiations, the premature disclosure of which to the general public would put the Board at a substantial disadvantage.

Public Comment:

R. Wenzel stated she felt the budget amount proposed previously was a good number for a consolidated budget.

Reports to the Board:

FY 18 Budget Presentation – Superintendent Canning shared correspondence from Brad James, AOE Education Finance Manager, regarding surpluses. *“Statute says that the current board shall carry the surplus forward to be used as revenue the following year (FY18). The current school district will not exist in FY18, the following year, as it will have been replaced by the ANW Unified School District. That means that the surplus should be under the control of the new unified school board, not the current school board, and should be used as a revenue for the FY 18 budget.”*

Discussion ensued about the audits. Drafts are in process. The audit management letters will be included in the Annual Report. Total net of about \$130,000 in surplus. Discussion of the

food service deficit was made and a plan to cover the amount. L. Childers asked for the five year plan on the food service to be presented to the Board by the fall.

Superintendent Canning reported that three board members (G. Gardner, C. Cousineau and S. Rakowski) reviewed the draft of the Annual Report and asked them to report to the Board their feedback. Overall, they are impressed and feel it is one of the best publications the District has put out yet.

Review of changes from last meeting: The administration was asked to reduce an additional \$100,000 out of the operating budget so that it could be voted on separately as a Capital Improvement Article. To stay under the threshold limit, this required the administration to make additional reductions. The third version of this budget is in the amount of \$21,027,029 which is a 1.25% increase over FY17. This is not a level program budget.

- Reductions include two elementary teachers
- A total of \$168,659 in other areas in elementary (building projects, SLP services for non-IEP students, reduce nurse aide, carpet and tile replacement, new security system, auto-scrubber, building repairs and food service transfer and a Special Education teacher)
- A total of \$225,109 from VUHS (intervention services, software for grading and reporting, .2 FTE reduction in both art and music, music equipment, goals and uniforms for athletics, operations building repairs, trainer and referee charges, and lighting on the field)

Superintendent Canning stated this was not the administrations recommendation. They would recommend the prior proposal (level program budget).

Motion was made by G. Gardner, seconded by S. Rakowski, to adopt the budget presented last week, with the separate article for the Capital Improvement Fund be covered by the surplus and any additional surplus be put back into the budget at the administrations discretion. Discussion ensued. J. Stroup commented that he felt the thresholds are punitive but could change and feels this is a responsible budget. So voted and motion carried.

Talking Points for the Annual Meeting – Superintendent Canning stated a brochure will be developed with talking points and will be inviting Susan Holson, Communications Specialist, to come to the meeting on January 25 to review.

Action Items:

Adoption of FY18 Budget – **Motion** was made by G. Gardner, seconded by S. Rakowski, to adopt the FY18 budget in the amount of \$21,116,289. So voted and motion carried.

Superintendent Canning thanked the Board for their hard work and supporting this budget.

Next Meeting Agenda Items:

Educational Presentation – Lynn Coale, Director of the Hannaford Career Center
Adoption of Policies
Talking Points for Annual Meeting
Set School Choice parameters
Follow-up on Ground Rules

Chair Childers stated she had spoken with the Board chair from the Hannaford Career Center and a representative from the SD Board will be needed for the PAHCC Board. This will be assigned at the reorganizational meeting in March.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by M. Koenig, seconded by T. Borchert, to go into executive session at 6:48 p.m. for the purpose of discussing matters relating to contract negotiations, the premature disclosure of which to the general public would put the Board at a substantial disadvantage, inviting the Superintendent. So voted and motion carried.

Motion was made by J. Stroup to end the executive session at 7:17pm. T. Borchert seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

M. Koenig made the **motion** asking Superintendent Canning to speak with ANTA to discuss early notification retirement incentives to offer teachers. G. Lawrence seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

T. Borchert made the motion to adjourn at 7:19pm. S. Rakowski seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Glory Martin

Recording Secretary