

**Budget Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, February 8, 2024**  
**4:00 p.m., Central Office**

Attendees: Allan Gordon, Stacey Haskell, John Holmes, Will Seavey, Nick Raymond, Superintendent, Trish Hayes, District Accountant, Kevin Kelly, Winterport Selectman, Matt Williams, Winterport resident.

Absent: Jessica Barnes

Article 8 – Transportation

Superintendent Raymond reviewed the article and explained the accounts within the article. This article is in draft form and will continue to be reviewed and revised. Nick will be working with the sending school units to review the transportation contract for tuition students. We will not be transporting students to Newburgh next year, so a savings of \$56,000. The purchase of a transportation van is included in the budget at an estimate of \$30,000. New this year is the inclusion of transportation for homeless students at \$2,000.

Special Education transportation costs are still under review and may be revised before the budget is finalized.

Article 10 – Debt Service

The amounts come directly from the ED-279 with the exception of the local share of the cost of building Hampden Academy.

Article 11 – School Nutrition

School Nutrition is not requesting any local support for the FY25 budget.

Fund Balance

Will Seavey addressed the priorities list for the use of the fund balance. Nick explained that the original four priorities established earlier have not changed: central office renovation, Reeds Brook facade renovation, reduction of the assessment to towns, security system (similar to Bangor).

Nick discussed the security system and shared an article that discusses panic button systems. Kenneth Trump was interviewed for the article. Mr. Trump was the person who completed the safety audit for the district in 2022. Will asked to get Brittany Layman's opinion on whether or not to proceed with this option. Brittany has already spoken with the leadership of Bangor School Department regarding their feedback on the panic button system. Nick will ask Brittany if she can attend the next meeting to report her findings.

Questions regarding the HVAC vent replacement were asked and answered.

A Special Education Reserve fund is also a priority for the committee.

The next meeting is February 29, 4:00 p.m. at the Central Office.

The meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.

cc: Board of Directors