# WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL

**WLCS Budget Committee Meeting Minutes**
**Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the MS/HS Media Room**

**Committee Membership:** Chair Leslie Browne (Facilities Committee Rep.), Vice Chair Karen Grybko, Secretary Lisa Post, Pam Altner, Mary Guild Edwina Hastings (School Board Rep.), James Kofalt (School Board Rep.), William Ryan (Facilities Committee Rep.), Christine Tiedemann.

The Agenda was as follows:

1. Call WLC Budget Committee to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Review and Approval of March 28, 2017 Meeting Minutes
4. Budget Focus Areas:
   a. Monthly Reporting of Expenditures
   b. Technology Integration
   c. Facilities Use
   d. Strategic Planning Group
5. Other Business
   a. Schedule next Budget Committee Meeting
6. Adjournment of Budget Committee

*Members Present:  Chair Leslie Browne Lisa Post, Pam Altner, Mary Guild Edwina Hastings, James Kofalt, Christine Tiedemann.*

*School Board:  Chair Harry Dailey*

1. The Budget Committee was called to order by Chair Browne at 7:05 p.m.

2. No Public Comment

3. Review and Approval of March 28, 2017 Meeting Minutes
***A Motion was made by Mary Guild to accept the minutes as written, Seconded by James Kofalt.  Voting:  All in favor with one abstention (Harry Dailey).***

4. **Budget Focus Areas:**  Chair Browne discussed the coordination of focus areas between this committee and School Board and asked Chair Dailey if the School Board has made their appointment and set their agenda.  Chair Dailey indicated that he favors a Strategic Planning Committee and that committee assignments will be part of the May School Board meeting.  He felt it was important that both boards are on the same page with their focus as well.  He stated that a clear message came from the citizens this budget season that a return on investment was expected by the taxpayers.  Chair Dailey wants to focus more intently on fewer items while planning forward to the months and years ahead.  Pam Altner questioned what was on the forefront for the School Board.  Chair Dailey indicated student achievement along with Senate Bill 193 (which establishes education freedom savings accounts for children between 5 and 20 years of age).  A broad discussion of the impacts of this legislation on our school district's finances and education of our students ensued.  The funding for this legislation will come from the NH State "adequacy grant funds" paid to the school district by the "Average Daily Membership" of students.  This is approximately $3,600 per pupil and would allow families to receive 90 percent of their child's portion of the adequacy funds in an education savings account to use for alternative school choices and may have a negative impact on public school districts.  After much discussion, it was thought it would not affect the 2017/2018 budget year but we would keep apprised of the outcome of the bill.
   a. **Monthly Reporting of Expenditures:**  We reviewed the General Fund Revenue and Expense Reports along with the Food Service Income Report received from the SAU Business Office.  Chair Browne reported Lise Tucker indicated to her that the SAU does anticipate another deficit, but smaller than last year and that the reports reflect an unanticipated fund balance of $ 192,618.78 (25,515.69+ 177,539.61 - 10,436.52).  The SAU is still encumbering for

54    professional development and spring repairs and she indicated this number would change.  They are hopeful it will
55    fall within 1.5% of the budget for a year end fund balance of $ 184,179.54.  The committee felt this was helpful and
56    wanted to receive these reports on a monthly basis along with the Budget Transfers, Technology Review and
57    Capital Improvement Plan updates.  It was requested that the School Board Agenda and content be emailed to the
58    Budget Committee members.
59    b. **Technology Integration**:  Chair Browne and Chair Dailey suggested this fall under the auspices the Strategic
60    Planning Committee.  James Kofalt questioned if the School Board was providing oversight of the adoption of the
61    technology and suggested that we formulate our questions in order to receive the information we want:  1. What
62    kind of information are you getting? 2. What else do we want from that and what is planned for monitoring? 3. Is
63    there a better way to measure its use?  He felt that we need to establish disciplines that effect future budget
64    decisions.
65    c.  **Facilities Use:** This would also fall under the Strategic Planning Committee.
66    d. **Strategic Planning Group:**  Budget Committee members felt this sub-committee should be formed with both
67    School Board and Budget Committee members and that the two boards need to work cohesively together with
68    clear expectations.  A goal should be to drive costs down and value up.
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70   5. **Other Business**:
71    a. The next Budget Committee Meeting is scheduled on Wednesday, May 24 at 7:00 in the MS/HS Media Room.
72    b. Chair Browne mentioned that Tuesday, May 16 is the Celebration of Learning and encouraged Committee
73    members to attend if possible.
74    c. Chair Dailey suggested that the Board and Committee look into student population by town to see if the articles of
75    agreement could be changed, review and discuss unreserved fund balances in addition to reviewing the number of
76    members on the Board and Committee in future meetings.
77    d. James Kofalt informed the Committee that the "School District Governance Association of NH was hosting a
78    budget workshop in Manchester on April 22, 2017 the guest speaker is Peter Bragdon, former Executive Director of
79    HealthTrust, former President of the NH Senate.  To register contact Donna Green at 603-513-1647.  Also, the First
80    Annual General Meeting of SDGA NH is May 20, 2017 the keynote speaker will be NH Commissioner of Education,
81    Frank Edelblut.
82    e. Chair Dailey informed the committee that the Curriculum Coordinator position start date is July 1, 2017.
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84   6.  The Budget Committee adjourned at 8:37 p.m.
85   *A Motion was made by James Kofalt to adjourn the Budget Committee, Seconded by Christine Tiedemann. Voting:  All in*
86   *favor.  Motion passed.*
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88   Respectfully Submitted,
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90   Lisa Post, Secretary
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FINAL 05/25/2017