

# WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE SCHOOL

## BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING- DRAFT MINUTES

Tuesday November 5, 2024, 6:32 PM, WLC Library

**Committee Membership:** Jeff Jones (Chair), Adam Lavallee (Vice Chair), Michelle Alley (School Board Rep), Bridget Mooney (Secretary) Jennifer Bernet, Phil Brooks, Alex LoVerme, Bill Ryan, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Vacant – Wilton

**Present:** Jeff Jones, Adam Lavallee, Michelle Alley, Jennifer Bernet, Phil Brooks, Alex LoVerme, Bridget Mooney, Jonathan Vanderhoof.

Staff were invited to present their portions of the budget, and those individuals are noted below.

**Absent:** Bill Ryan, Vacant – Wilton,

### **Agenda.**

Chair Jones called the WLC Budget Committee to Order at 6:32 PM.

Previous minutes were voted on for approval. Jonathan Vanderhoof made a motion to accept the 8/29/24 minutes as amended; seconded by Adam Lavallee. Jonathan abstained from the vote, all others aye.

Jonathan Vanderhoof made a motion to accept the 10/22/24 minutes. Seconded by Adam Lavallee. All ayes.

### Admin and Budget Committee - Bucket Presentation #2

Kristina LaPlante, Business Administrator, spoke of increases in teacher wages, the Reading specialist, and health insurance. She will have more tangible numbers on November 19. Questions: Jonathan Vanderhoof "how do you determine insurance for employees? Adam Lavallee "how many staff members are expected to reach max requirement this year?"

There was a discussion of the proposed sound and lighting systems for the cafeteria should the monies be in the budget or a warrant article for Town Meeting? Perhaps split the monies over multiple years. Perhaps it should be a capital improvement.

See the June 11th School Board Minutes for more information; Jeff Jones will provide this information to the committee.

Kristie said the curriculum coordinator was unable to come tonight and asked the committee if she should attend the next meeting. Committee felt it was unnecessary. Budget section was reviewed, and a short discussion ensued.

34 A full wage and Benefits discussion is scheduled for November 19, 2024.

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36 Tom Ronning, Principal WLC and Katie Gosselin, Assistant Principal WLC presented their budget increases  
37 and decreases for the 25-26 School Year. There was some discussion around sports teams' uniforms both  
38 students and coaches, funds for an additional play, weather summer field trips were necessary. Jonathan  
39 Vanderhoof made a motion to remove the \$5000 budgeted for the international trip. Jonathan explained  
40 that although there were educational aspects to the trip, he felt the taxpayers shouldn't be funding this  
41 item and the impact to the overall trip cost was minimal for students. Jeff Jones seconded the motion. After  
42 some discussion a vote was taken. There were two aye votes (Jonathan and Jeff) and seven nay votes. The  
43 motion failed.

44 Some discussion of the success of the Hall of Fame program and the suggestion to possibly expand it. Tom  
45 says there are an unprecedented sixty-six students interested in trying out for the Middle School Basketball  
46 and there may be a creation of a B Team.

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48 Bridgette Fuller, Principal for FRES and LCS explained there is a \$16,000 decrease overall in her FRES budget  
49 mostly due to curriculum; the ELA pilot program is less expensive. There is a very small increase in the LCS  
50 budget.

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52 Ned Pratt, Director of Student Support Services explained the difficulties of planning for a small cohort of  
53 divergent needs.

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56 Public Comment - there were none.

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58 Adam made a motion to adjourn, Alex second. All AYES. Motion passes, meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM.

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60 Respectfully submitted, Bridget Mooney, Secretary

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## FY '26 Budget Calendar

### **September 10 - Joint School Board/Budget Committee**

- Recap of FY24 budget/actual
- Discuss strategy for FY26
- Establish guidelines for Admin to build the budget

### **October 8 - Joint School Board/Budget Committee**

- Superintendent/BA presents first draft of FY26 budget

### **October 22 - Admin and Budget Committee **BUCKET PRESENTATION #1****

- October 29 - regular School Board meeting*
- School Board discussion of Warrant Article considerations*

### **November 5 - Admin and Budget Committee **BUCKET PRESENTATION #2****

- November 12 - regular School Board meeting*
- Goal is to have Warrant Articles finalized*

### **November 19 - Admin and Budget Committee **BUCKET PRESENTATION #3****

### **December 3 - Possible Joint School Board/Budget Committee**

- Attempt to wrap up FY26 Budget?
- Warrant Articles should be finalized

### **December 10 - Admin and Budget Committee *IF NEEDED***

- December 17 - Regular School Board meeting*

### **February TBD – Public Hearing**

### **March TBD – Annual District Meeting**

### Meeting Guidelines

- All Budget Committee meetings to occur in Library with full technology setup
- School Board member and Budget Committee's School Board rep are responsible for updates between SB and BC
- Requests to Admin will be filtered thru the Budget Committee Chair

98 - Additional Meetings to be added, as needed

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FINAL