Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative School District School Administrative Unit #63

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Bryan K. Lane Superintendent of Schools Betty Moore, M.Ed. Director of Student Support Services Lise Tucker Business Administrator

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT January 23, 2018

I have spent a great deal of time since the last board meeting working to answer questions from the board and the budget committee in regard to finalizing the budget. With the board's request to not reduce the positions at the middle school and to include kindergarten in the budget, the budget would be level funded. With the decrease in the revenue line, we would anticipate a small tax increase.

The question has been raised as to whether or not the district could collect additional revenue from parents who send their child to kindergarten to make up the amount of funds not provided through the state. The RSA that is involved is RSA 198.38 which reads:

"Average daily membership in attendance" or 'ADMA' means the average daily membership in attendance, as defined in RSA 189:1-d, III, of pupils in kindergarten through grade 12, in the determination year, provided that no kindergarten pupil shall count as more than 1/2 day attendance per school year. ADMA shall only include pupils who are legal residents of New Hampshire pursuant to RSA 193:12 and <u>educated at school district expense</u> which may include public academies or out-of-district placements....."

The text in question is underlined. If the text means that the district would only be eligible for ADM funds, including the KENO funds, the district cannot charge parents a "user fee" for kindergarten and receive state funds. This issue has been forwarded to the Attorney General's office for clarification by the DOE. No official at the DOE is willing to give an estimate of time when this will be interpreted.

We have the DRA looking at the warrant articles to be sure they meet the requirements from the state. I was not able to attend the Southwest Superintendent's meeting on January 19 due to a family medical issue.

The bid opening for the transportation contract was held on Thursday, January 11 at 1PM. There was only one bidder. The Business Administrator will be bringing forward a recommendation at the January 23rd meeting.

The budget committee has asked for the following information:

- General Ledger Excel Document (not the Running Budget)
- Head count for all staff for the district indicating full or part time.
- Kindergarten information regarding the ability to charge for full-day.

The annual district spelling bee will be held at FRES on January 18 at 1PM.

I will attend the statewide superintendent's meeting on January 26 in Concord.