

**WILTON-LYNDEBOROUGH COOPERATIVE  
FINANCE COMMITTEE EMERGENCY MEETING  
Monday, March 30, 2020  
Wilton-Lyndeborough Cooperative MS/HS-Media Room  
6:00 p.m.**

Present: *On-line Charlie Post, Jonathan Vanderhoof, Mark Legere, Brianne Lavallee, and Superintendent Bryan Lane present at the physical location of WLC-Media Room.*

Meeting called to order at 6:12

The committee had been presented five possible options in meeting the approved budget figure.

Public input:

Ms. Deborah Bass voiced concerns that the removal of the Alternative Education Specialist position would create issues in supporting students who are participating in distance learning and that the internal suspensions that the position supervises would result in more out of school suspensions.

Other than previously agreed to by consensus the differences are:

- Option one- eliminating the position of curriculum coordinator
- Option two- moving the sixth grade to FRES, transferring three MS teaching positions to FRES to create class sizes of 17, eliminating one teacher from WLC
- Option three- reduction in supply account by 10%, decrease non-union salary increases (SAU performance incentive), reduce substitute teacher account, reduce health insurance buffer
- Option four- eliminate new and replacement furniture, decrease non-union salary increases, reduce substitute teacher account, reduce health insurance buffer
- Option five- reduction of music and physical education positions at WLC to .8, not funding furniture replacements fully, decrease non-union salary increases, reduce substitute teacher account, reduce health insurance buffer

The Superintendent went over the highlights of the differences. It was indicated that the Superintendent felt that if it was just for one year, the position being temporarily removed would be something that would not cause a regression in the progress on student achievement.

Public Input:

Ms. Dufour, President of WLCTA, was highly complementary of the efforts of Dr. Heon and that they had been important for teachers. She had a conversation with Dr. Heon that confirmed that if the position was not funded for one year, that would not put the district behind. She was concerned that reducing teacher staff would be problematic. She suggested that grant writing could be contracted out with the grant writer being paid by the grants that were approved.

In the review of the other options it was noted:

- The Alternative Education position was listed twice in each proposal requiring adjustments in reductions.
- The addition of the half time position for FRES in moving the sixth grade was not there. The Superintendent interpreted that this was a one year change and felt it would not be warranted to hire a half time person just to eliminate that the next year. That was not the committee's intent. The half time position was needed.

The discussion revolved around the benefit of keeping the curriculum coordinator and moving the sixth grade down to FRES.

Mr. Vanderhoof voiced the opinion that the curriculum coordinator had created a good momentum in the right direction and that losing the position would stall the forward momentum. Small class sizes had not been the answer

53 to strong student achievement in the past, it has been the addition of an emphasis in curriculum by the person whose  
54 focus was on student achievement.

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56 Mrs. Lavallee indicated that the citizens were looking for changes in administration and that had been voiced at the  
57 town meeting. The Superintendent's position was noted by more than one citizen. The current contract for the  
58 Superintendent does not allow for changes at this time. The end of the coming school year would allow the district  
59 to consider administrative changes with the end of the Superintendent's contract.

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61 Mr. Post noted that while the STAR 360 assessment results were promising, they did not always align with the state  
62 assessment which is how the community and those looking to move to the community look at the district. The  
63 middle school model did not seem to create the levels of student achievement they are looking for.

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65 Mr. Legere agreed that the moving of the sixth grade solved some issues. It gave students another year in a smaller  
66 environment. It was noted that while sixth grade students would not be able to participate in middle school athletics,  
67 the town league would accommodate them and most did not play for both teams.

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69 The consensus over the discussion was to direct the Superintendent to come up with financial numbers for moving  
70 the sixth grade to FRES, reducing furniture accounts, decreasing administrative salary increases as well as making  
71 adjustments to the substitute teacher account and health insurance buffer.

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73 Mr. Post will send the PowerPoint presentation to the Superintendent to fill in the numbers.

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75 The meeting was adjourned at 8:16.

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77 Next meeting Thursday April 2 at 6PM in a virtual setting.

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79 *Respectfully submitted,*  
80 *Kristina Fowler for Bryan Lane, Superintendent of Schools*  
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