

Medway School Committee
Public Forum
Minutes
Medway, MA
Thursday, March 18, 2021

The School Committee of the Medway Public Schools held a Public Forum on Thursday, March 18, 2021 at 5:31 p.m., in the Presentation Room at Medway Middle School, 45 Holliston Street, Medway, MA. School Committee members in attendance included Ms. Dietrich, Ms. Sullivan, Ms. Nassiff and Dr. Fageron. Also in attendance were Superintendent Armand Pires, Assistant Superintendent Gabrielle Abrams and Director of Operations and Finance, Don Aicardi.

A. CALL TO ORDER

- a. Ms. Dietrich called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

B. FY22 SCHOOL DEPARTMENT PROPOSED BUDGET

- a. The FY22 school department proposed budget will be presented to the public. Dr. Pires gave an overview of the proposed FY22 budget including how the budget development strategy had been impacted by the pandemic. Dr. Pires identified challenges with development and discussed the reserve fund balances noting the inflated balances are due to modifications made at the end of FY20. The reserve funds will provide flexibility towards anticipated but yet unknown student needs due to the impact of the pandemic. The District plans to continue COVID testing for students. Mr. Aicardi discussed expenses related to shutdown due COVID-19 and explained the various funding from both the state and federal level. Mr. Aicardi also explained the different factors taken into consideration when building the FY22 budget. This budget was difficult due to the pandemic but still factor in typical challenges, including employee costs, service contracts and technology increases, to name a few. Mr. Aicardi discussed the efficiencies to the budget which include level service, retirements and reorganization. Dr. Pires explained that some of the positions that were eliminated will be restored for the FY22 school year including a social worker, librarian and athletic secretary, and noted that the positions that will not be filled have little to no impact on students. The overall budget figure does not include the support received from the town which includes employee health insurance, assessments and shared staff. Mr. Aicardi discussed the timeline for the recent stimulus funds and the ESSER grants.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

D. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Quinn

Ellen Quinn
Secretary to the School Committee

Approved: April 15, 2021