#### **Board of Finance Budget Questions 3-9-2023:**

- 1) Run Rate:
  - Please provide actuals through January or February if closed with forecast for end of year balance.

**Answer:** The January financials were presented to the Board of Education Finance Committee this afternoon. They are posted online. The Business Office is currently working on February financials.

- 2) Redemption of principal on loans:
  - \$547,565 this is almost \$3,000,000 over the last 4 years is this correct?
  - What is the actual YTD for Redemption of Principal on Loans?

**Answer:** The attached spreadsheet provides the breakdown of the loan payments for both principal and interest.

- 3) Understanding the vital role of Professional Development in supporting staff. That line item seems to be high. (Sue and Dean)
  - What are you using for professional development, i.e., consultants or outside programming?
  - What are the deliverables of this PD?
  - How does the planned PD tie to district priorities and goal setting?

#### Answer:

Historically, the main professional development account for staff has been funded between \$80,000-\$90,000 per year (since 2017). The amount requested this year and next year is \$65,000.

The professional development lines are used in four subcategories– hiring outside presenters, paying internal educators to present, attending outside presentations, and purchasing professional memberships and texts. Below is a chart that answers the above questions with examples.

We have hired outside presenters for legal bound reasons (compliance training or sexual harassment prevention, for example). We have also hired for areas connected to our goals such as a speaker on the Science of Literacy for grades K-5 or a trainer of Orton Gillingham methods in various grade levels across the district.

We also have many teachers we pay to deliver professional development internally. For example, the math specialists and literacy consultants are paid to lead Tuesday *Community of Practice* meetings which support delivery of the curriculum and the districtwide goal of meeting all students' needs. Another example is high school teachers who will be presenting at the upcoming March PD regarding effective

feedback. The teachers will leave with tools and strategies they can implement in their classrooms to further promote student learning.

More traditionally, this line has been used to send teachers out to a wide range of conferences for training. From Advanced Placement training at the high school level to the Atomic Math Conference for representatives in grades, K-8– each participant must fill out a form sharing how their participation relates directly to district goals and/or their teaching practice.

Use Type of Professional Development Funds	Examples	Deliverables	Relationship to district priorities and goals setting
Paying outside presenters to deliver professional development and training	Orton Gillingham Certification Training for teacher leaders and literacy specialists	Teachers earn certification to address Literacy and Dyslexia	Tiered instruction and meeting the needs of all leaders
Paying educators to prepare and deliver professional development	THS has 5 teachers that will be paid a preparation rate and to deliver 4 sessions on effective feedback	Teachers will understand by content types of effective feedback they can employee to increase academic achievement	Increasing academic performance for all
Paying for registration and conference experiences to attend outside programming	K-5 Math Specialists, 6-8 Math Teachers and K-5 Program Leader attending the Atomic Math Conference	Math teacher leaders either engaged in professional learning or presented regarding best practices in mathematics education	Assists in strengthening instructional coaching and overall mathematics performance K-8
Memberships to Professional Organizations & Professional Texts	Association of Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD)	Supplies articles, resources, and materials that can be used to further professional learning, and	Building collective efficacy for our teacher leaders

		ultimately educationally delivery	
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• The state is mandating 18hrs of paraprofessional training. There appears to be \$10K budgeted for this... how will you accomplish this training and how have you figured this cost?

TPS is already providing training for paraprofessionals in a variety of ways:

- Onboarding for new paraprofessionals
- Annual compliance training modules
- Physical Management Training (PMT)
- Individually based meetings to meet the needs of students
- ABA para training through CES (grant-funded)

The District will be partnering with our paraprofessionals to ensure they all meet the 18 hour requirement.

4) Grant funding.

Please provide 1 spreadsheet that includes all grant funding. Please include a column indicating offsets in the operating budget.

 For grant funded positions, do grants cover Salaries and benefits, or just Salaries? (Esser)

The majority of our regular education grants are spent on salary. Salary *and* Benefits are included on the ARP/ESSER grant. Below is a list of those amounts for the 2023-2024 school year.

Sohool Assignment	Job class	Aotive Status	Pay Type	Group	Allocati	Org	Object	Project	Grant Salary 23-24 SY	ROLE
			TITLE 1							
Middlebrook	TFTE	Active	101	TEA	1.0	2009140	51110	23-25	81,532.00	Lit Consultant
Frenchtown	TFTS	Active	101	TEA	1.0	2009140	51110	23-25	109,425.00	Lit Consultant
Middlebrook	TUT	Active	154	TUT	1.0	2009140	51110	23-25	\$26,000.00	Math Tutor
			TITLE 2							
THS	TFTS	Active	101	TEA	0.8943	2009480	51110	23-25	\$82,000.00	Tech Integrator
			TITLE 8							
District	TFTE	Active		TEA	0.25	2009080	51110	23-25	\$31,019.50	MLL Dept Head
		<u></u>	VESSER 8							
FT	TFTE	Active	101	TEA	1	2009121	51110		\$ 62,468.00	<b>BH ELA Coach</b>
FT	TFTE	Active	101	TEA		2009121	52002		\$ 10,933.00	<b>BH ELA Coach</b>
JR	TFTE	Active	101	TEA	1.0	2009121	51110		\$ 62,468.00	JR ELA Coach
JR	TFTE	Active	101	TEA		2009121	52002		\$ 10,933.00	JR ELA Coach
DF	TFTE	Active	101	TEA	1.0	2009121	51110		\$ 78,866.00	DF ELA Coach
DF	TFTE	Active	101	TEA		2009121	52002		\$ 1,250.00	DF ELA Coach
LH	CA11	Active	101	TAA	0.51	2009121	51110		\$ 86,279.25	Mental Health
LH	CA11	Active	101	TAA		2009121	52002		\$ .	Mental Health
TA	TFTE	Active	101	TEA	1.0	2009121	51110		\$ 64,423.00	TA ELA Coach
TA	TFTE	Active	101	TEA		2009121	52002		\$ 10,933.00	TA ELA Coach
SECONDARY	TETS	Active	101	TEA	0.5	2009121	51110		\$ 34,859.00	.5 ESL Teacher
SECONDARY	TFTS	Active	101	TEA		2009121	52002		\$ 5,466.00	.5 ESL Teacher
HC	TETS	Active	101	TEA	1.0	2009121	51110		\$ 89,219.00	HC Team Leade
HC	TFTS	Active	101	TEA		2009121	52002		\$ 1,250.00	HC Team Leade

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The majority of special education grant monies are also spent on salaries. Below are the IDEA 611 and 619 23-25 projected salaries:

School	Active	y							Recurring		
assignment	Status	Тур	Group		Allocation	Org	Object	Project	Annual Salary	Grant Salary 23-24	Notes
District	A		TAA	Mental Health Supervisor	0.49	2009010			\$169,175.00	82,895.75	IDEA 611 Non-Instructional Salary
			FTE		0.49					TOTAL	82,895.75
DF	A	101	TEA	School Social Worker	0.2	2009011	51110	23-25	\$ 109,425.00	\$ 21,885.00	Private NP IDEA 611
BH	A	101	TEA	School Social Worker	0.207	2009011	51110	23-25	\$ 81,531.00	\$ 16,876.92	Private NP IDEA 611
			FTE		0.407					TOTAL	38,761.92
TECEC	A	101	TEA	Special Education Teacher	1	2009010	51110	23-25	\$ 100,629.00	\$ 100,629.00	IDEA 611
MD	A	101	TEA	Special Education Teacher	1	2009010	51110	23-25	\$ 95,356.00	\$ 95,356.00	IDEA 611
HC	A	101	TEA	Special Education Teacher	1	2009010	51110	23-25	\$ 78,866.00	\$ 78,866.00	IDEA 611
DF	A	101	TEA	Special Education Teacher	1	2009010	51110	23-25	\$ 95,356.00	\$ 95,356.00	IDEA 611
TECEC	A	101	TEA	Special Education Teacher	1	2009010	51110	23-25	\$ 109,425.00	\$ 109,425.00	IDEA 611
BH	A	101	TEA	Special Education Teacher	1	2009010	51110	23-25	\$ 74,151.00	\$ 74,151.00	IDEA 611
FT	A	101	TEA	Special Education Teacher	1	2009010	51110	23-25	\$ 92,006.00	\$ 92,006.00	IDEA 611
			FTE		7					TOTAL	645,789.00
MD	A	740	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
JR	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
BH	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
MB	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
MB	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
THS	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
BH	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
THS	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
REACH	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 26,828.12	\$ 26,828.12	IDEA 611
FT	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
MB	A	740	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
TECEC	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 21,860.96	\$ 21,860.96	IDEA 611
TAS	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 22,852.06	\$ 22,852.06	IDEA 611
BH	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
TAS	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
HC	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 23,588.40	\$ 23,588.40	IDEA 611
TAS	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
JR	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
THS	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 10,888.06	\$ 10,888.06	IDEA 611
MD	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 29,067.28	\$ 29,067.28	IDEA 611
THS	A	147	TPA	Paraeducator	0.295	2009010	51120	23-25	\$ 25,373.04	\$ 7,485.05	IDEA 611
			FTE		20.295					TOTAL	549,511.85
TECEC	A		TPA	Paraeducator	1	2009450	51120	23-25	\$ 27,806.90	\$ 27,806.90	IDEA 619
TECEC	A		TPA	Paraeducator	0.529	2009450	51120	23-25	\$ 21,861.00	\$ 11,564.47	IDEA 619
			FTE		1.529					TOTAL	\$39,371.37

5) Where does Trumbull stand with the new CT SEDS grant? There are funds applicable for the 2022-23 year.

- o Have you completed the application?
- Where are these funds applied if we receive them?
  Answer: We were very recently approved for a \$21,000 CT SEDS Stipend. After speaking with other regional directors or special education, and in collaboration with our HR department and TEA leadership, we decided the best use of funds is to provide all staff who have daily responsibilities within CT SEDS with equitable compensation.
- Have you explored current UI tech grants? (Christina and Jeff)
  Answer: Trumbull last received the PEGPETIA grant in the 2021-2022 school year. Trumbull will continue to apply for the grant for eligible

equipment expenses that are scheduled to be replaced or implemented based on the technology plan.

o E-rate grants for technology (Federal) - how much do we receive and do we take advantage of all we can?

**Answer:** Every year Jeff Hackett submits the District's E-Rate related paperwork. The District receives approximately \$100,000 per year via E-Rate. This money is part of the \$466,300 credit which is shown on the last line of the budget (by object; page 21 of 21). The other items included in the \$466,300 are athletics revenue = \$300,000 and magnet school transportation grant = \$66,300.

#### 5) Instructional supplies

• Please identify what these supplies are used for and how the funds are allocated (by grade? By teacher?)

**Answer:**Instructional supplies at the district level are used for a) pilot materials for intervention and teaching <u>or</u> b) districtwide program consumables. For example, Building Vocabulary materials, half-pint decodable readers, bilingual dictionaries, and classroom sets of library books for additional teacher sections– all were supported by this account. The largest portions of this account are dedicated to replenishing our K-5 Carolina Biological Science kits which have consumables that must be replenished each year. From dissecting squid to hatching baby chicken eggs, this line item pays for these costs associated with Science consumables.

6) Custodial Supplies:

Please identify why this line item is increasing by \$74K
 Answer: Last year's initial budget request was \$175,000. That amount was reduced to \$116,000 during the cuts made to conform to the allocated budget. This year's request is \$15,000 more than last year's request or an increase of 8.6%. Costs for paper products and cleaning supplies have been increasing at an inflation rate higher than the CPI. For example, toilet tissue has increased by 15.9% while paper towel has increased by 19.5%. Additionally, the recommended cleaning methods as a result of COVID have changed to include disinfecting and sanitizing more frequently and in more locations.

7) Account 01402320-56110 Asst Super-Admin-Office Supplies

Please explain: 19/20 \$1,288, 20/21 \$259, 21/22 \$10,329, 22/23 \$4,050 and current year requesting \$14,050

**Answer:** In prior years, TPS had a number of administrative positions in the budget– for example, an additional Assistant Superintendent and a Director of Curriculum. With positions being eliminated, the cost for districtwide events were all pooled into the Assistant Superintendent supplies line. In addition to the increase in general office supplies such as paper, this increase is primarily due to purchase of supplies for districtwide events such as coffee and light breakfast for approximately 1,000 staff members on convocation or lunches provided during full day professional development events.

8) Lunch Account:

- Please provide forecast through end of FY
- With change back to state funding, what is the projected /potential impact into the beginning of next year?
  Answer: Before forecasting through yearend, the Board of Education would prefer to get a month (March) of the SMART 2.0 program to analyze more completely. At the present time, we anticipate that the "Due to Town" account will be paid off by fiscal year end (6/30/2023).

9) Gas/ Diesel (Dave)

• Increases \$20k which is 67 %. Can you explain what this figure is based on?

10) Office Furniture

• Can you detail the \$38k. Is this replacement furniture or to equip a new space? **Answer:** This line item was for additional lunch tables, etc. at the high school due to the increase in students since lunch waves have been reduced from four to three. This item can be eliminated because the tables are being purchased through the lunch account (210).

11) Tuition Reimbursement

- Is there a contractual amount each teacher can apply for?
- Where is it in the budget?
- Have all teachers who applied for tuition reimbursement taken those classes? (How do you budget for this?)
   Answer: There is no tuition reimbursement in the teachers' contract.

12) Salaries (Paul)

- Please provide a breakage report as of December 30
- On a \$ basis, the increase in salaries for admin/supervisors + admin support + custodians and maintenance = \$645,801. This exceeds the increase in teachers salaries of \$517,362
  Answer: Note that within the teachers' salary category there is a line (page 4-3) for D/W-Admin-Retirement /LOA Savings for \$600,000. This line is for total staff

turnover savings and skews the percentages. Also, please refer to the answer regarding Admin/Supervisors' salaries in the next couple questions.

- On a % basis admin / supervisors is increasing 6.02%, but teachers on 0.93%. **Answer:** Please see the answers to the prior and next questions
- The Admin/Supervisors salary line increased \$536,833 in the last two years with an increase of 1.33 FTE?
  Answer: The \$536,833 increase is from 2021-22 actuals to 2023-24 budget. Please note that in 2021-22, the TECEC administrator had 30% of his salary paid by a grant (now 20%), there was no assistant principal at Frenchtown / Middlebrook, the PPS Coordinator had 23% of her salary paid by a grant (now 100% in the operating budget), and the HR Director was hired after the year started and only collected \$108,000 of her budgeted \$130,000 salary (the salary was increased to \$165,000). These items account for approximately \$2,843 + \$138,877 + \$39,964 + \$57,000 = \$238,684. The adjusted increase is \$536,833 \$238,684 = \$298,149.
- Custodians' salaries increase \$75,661 (with an addition of 0.5 FTE) + \$70K increase in overtime. (Looks like there is some movement between lines, but still an increase of \$143,419?)

**Answer:** The \$75,661 salary increase is for the additional 0.5 FTE, accounts for raises and steps. Custodial overtime in 2021-22 was \$136,379.

- Coaches' salaries are increasing \$159,198 OR 24.97%, but the change in in house athletic trainers are reflected in teachers salaries? If you deduct the athletic trainers from the teacher's salaries, there is only an additional \$387,362.
   Answer: That is correct.
- HMS library media specialist has an increase of 13.86%. Is this correct?
  Answer: Yes, it is correct. The person in this position is being paid \$104,290 in 2022-24 (6th year, Step 20); in 2023-24 the salary is \$118,741 (6th year, Step 21 (last step))
- What specialist are we adding at HMS? Line 01611001-51111
  Answer: This line represents the ELA Academic Instructional Leader which supports Literacy intervention and leadership. The position was cut from the TPS budget in 2019 along with several other positions. The position has been supporting Hillcrest for the past two years through ESSER funding.

13) Benefits:

• Medical insurance budgeted at 8%? When do you anticipate a final number? **Answer:** The District should get a preliminary number by the end of the month. By the end of April we should receive a final number. The closer we get to the

end of the fiscal year the finer the rate is (less contingency is required in the rate increase).

- 14) Reserve for Negotiation
  - What contracts are outstanding? TEA is now complete?
    Answer: All contracts have been settled. The Reserve for Negotiation is for non-affiliated personnel.

15) Transportation:

Final bid was a 4.5 % increase, not the 20% placeholder. Is this final number reflected in the 4.98% request?
 Answer: The winning bid for the transportation contract is 6.5% in the first year, 5.5% for the remaining four years. There is a 1% prepayment discount. The 4.98% increase reflects the new transportation contract.

16) Substitutes

- Please provide a current run rate and projection as of March 1
  Answer: Please refer to the attached graph of substitutes over the past few years. Also, attached is a table of budget v. actual by bargaining group.
- 17) New state mandate for feminine products to be available grades 2-12 in all female bathrooms and at least one gender neutral or boys bathroom @ each location.
  - What is your projected cost and where is this in the budget?
    Answer: The initial installation cost is \$885 per restroom and we estimate that 30 may be installed. We estimate the restocking costs to be \$150 per month, per restroom, although we will have to see actual consumption; it is not included in the budget.

18) Other purchase / property services 400 section 3-3 increased 22%

- Please provide detail
- What is the Property increase of \$555,932? (I may have put this question in the wrong section)
  Answer: The increase is primarily due to a \$607,575 increase in Tech-Classroom-Computer Equipment. We will present our technology plan at the meeting.

19) Consulting fees

- Please provide a list of consultants include purpose and fees for each.
- PPS BCBA line is increased by 592%.
  - Answer: This is a re-coding of some psychologists to BCBAs. In prior years BCBAs had been included in the psychologists' line. Please note the decrease in psychologist FTEs.

 Is this coming out of the 330 line? Or is it Consulting line into staffing therefore affecting the FTE

20) Please detail Dues, Fees and Membership

- Has a 41.1% increase (\$214,547) after a 58% last year?
  Answer: The increase in this category is almost entirely attributable to Redemption of Principal on Loans (#01912520-58310) of \$212,222. This is due to the fact that there was no TD loan payment in 2022-23. The payment previously scheduled for 2022-23 was paid in 2021-22. 2023-24 is the last TD loan payment.
- 21) Is there a BOE policy that restricts adding FTE without board approval? Answer: The superintendent does not add certified staff without Board approval. As stated in the Board of Education By Laws, "in accordance with Section 10-151 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Board, at the recommendation of the Superintendent, may employ and dismiss teachers and other school employees." These changes are listed in our Board of Education meetings and approved by the Board.

22) Who audits your ESY?

- Do you have a consultant from CASBO who does this?
- When was the last audit completed?
- Where is the offset applied for excess cost reimbursement?
  Answer: I believe you mean "ECR" (Excess Cost Reimbursement), not ESY (Extended School Year). The ECR is financial reimbursement resulting from the Special Education Excess Cost Grant (SEECG) submission (Dec 1st and March 1st) to CT State and is a joint effort among the PPS Department, Transportation Department, and the Business Office with the PPS Department taking the lead. This is a detailed accounting for the services each student receives.

The final FY SEECG submission is audited every year by the Town's external auditors. The last audit was completed in Fall 2022. The SEECG is also incorporated into the Business Office's fiscal year end reporting to the State via the Educational Financial System (EFS).

- 23) What is the status of the application for waiver on the science of reading curriculum?
  - What is the budget impact with / without the waiver?
  - What line item is this reflected in? **Answer:** Currently the waiver has been submitted, we are awaiting a reply. The approximate impact would be \$500,000.

# 24) Phones

 Cellphones: \$35,000 for BOE, but town side cell including: phones, iPad and Wi-Fi routers is \$47,219 which includes police, EMS and park ranger vehicles. Please detail number of phones and who has them (assuming safety related for most)

**Answer:** We currently have 55 TPS cell phones, down from 62 over the last few months. Cell phone recipients are as follows: some Administrative staff, head Custodians, Maintenance staff, Technicians, Special Ed personnel, some Security Guards, and some School Principals. A detailed report is available upon request.

01422520-55904 Tech-Admin-Telephone LAN - What is causing a 47.4% increase (\$32,282)
 Answer: This increase to this account is due to our current IP Cisco telephone licensing. The Town had absorbed this cost previously via a bond with a 5 year contract.

# 25) ELITE program

- Please provide updated financials for the ELITE program
- Understanding we do not expect it to be fully self-sustaining, but what percentage self-sustaining is the bookstore right now?
- how has the bookstore performed since opening a year ago, and how do we project revenue to look in the next year or so.
  Answer: The ELITE financials through 1/31/2023 are attached.