

budget lines could cover the difference. She stated that when staff was reduced, the budget did not take in account the benefits reduction.

M. Kortmann asked if health insurance numbers are set now for the whole year. Dr. Bernard stated this will change over time.

C. Trudon asked if there was information on Unemployment such as how many claims were submitted. G. Blackstone answered he did not have the details but he could contact the state and find out for next meeting. M. Kortmann asked if G. Blackstone could find out who is on the list and estimate how much will be claimed. She stated that any teacher on the list who has not yet found another position would probably be claiming for the rest of the year. Dr. Bernard stated that most of the teachers have found other positions already. The group discussed the impact of staff reduction in the spring and the fact that the unemployment claims for teacher layoffs in the spring would not impact the budget until the fall.

C. Trudon stated that legal and audit budget numbers may not be needed. Dr. Bernard agreed and stated the Board did not need to go through full arbitration.

M. Kortmann asked if pension was encumbered for the year because there was very little left. G. Blackstone answered he made a payment in August and doesn't believe there will be another payment due. C. Trudon asked how this is verified. G. Blackstone answered that he is sent a journal sheet. M. Kortmann asked if there was a way to find out if anything else is pending. G. Blackstone said he would confirm.

M. Kortmann stated that workers compensation was done and sewer was also done based on the numbers left in the budget line item. G. Blackstone stated he could verify that sewer is done.

M. Kortmann asked what the student transportation figures represent. The group discussed and found they were not sure when and how M&J billed for transportation and field trips and athletics. G. Blackstone stated is would find out and report back.

M. Kortmann asked Dr. Bernard about the line items for textbooks and workbooks. C. Trudon stated that sometimes workbooks and textbooks are needed for the second semester. Dr. Bernard stated she asked that people conserve until November when she knows better what the budget looks like. She stated it was not a freeze.

C. Trudon mentioned she would like to know why the library is not open after school for students to meet and work on the group projects they are assigned. She stated that parents need to drive their children to other houses. She would like to see the library open daily for student use after school. Dr. Bernard stated the library was open late two days a week. C. Trudon stated the library could be staffed by a paraprofessional and not necessarily a librarian. M. Kortmann suggested buying nooks or kindles instead of purchasing books. She mentioned students could access other library databases with these devices.

M. Kortmann asked about the Expenditure Grant Report. She asked G. Blackstone if he was familiar with the carry over method that was in place. G. Blackstone answered some of the carry over's may change based on the audit that was recently done. M. Kortmann asked Mr. Blackstone

if there were other grants he was expecting. G. Blackstone mentioned that Title I, Title II, and Title III have not come in yet. M. Kortmann stated that Title IV – Safe and Drug free and some others change every year. Dr. Bernard stated that Jill Lillus, a math teacher at the high school just submitted grant information. Mr. Blackstone stated that not all grant budgets are available from the state yet.

III. Capital Budget

The group reviewed the Capital Improvement Plan Working Draft. Mr. Blackstone stated that a materials breakdown was supposed to be attached for the computers and it was not. M. Kortmann asked about the ceiling tiles. G. Blackstone stated that the ceiling will be repaired when school breaks for the Christmas and New Years holidays. M. Kortmann wanted to be sure this repair will take place. Dr. Bernard confirmed it will be done.

Dr. Bernard asked what happened to the gym floor. C. Trudon stated it was moved to a priority 4 and slated for FY2015. G. Blackstone stated the quote for repair was more expensive than Mr. Noel thought. C. Trudon stated that the repair cannot wait until FY2015. G. Blackstone said Mr. Noel stated he repaired the floor by screwing it down and getting the buckling smoothed out. M. Kortmann asked if this was the old gym. C. Trudon confirmed it was the old gym. M. Kortmann stated that \$125,000.00 must be voted on and asked if this repair could be staged. G. Blackstone stated that Mr. Noel was waiting on another quote and hopes this quote will be lower. Dr. Bernard asked if Mr. Noel has the back up documentation for the gym floor repair. G. Blackstone answered he has not seen the documentation yet. Dr. Bernard said she will have Mr. Noel show her the floor and the repairs.

The group discussed what needs to be done before the next Board of Education meeting when the Fiscal committee will need to speak about the capital budget. Dr. Bernard stated that the group should meet with Mr. Noel to make sure all they have all the documentation necessary.

G. Blackstone mentioned that the Fiscal committee should discuss a transportation issue. Dr. Bernard said the committee would need to vote to put it on the agenda.

MOTION: Add Transportation Excess Cost State Reimbursement discussion to the agenda for October 14, 2010.

By: C. Trudon

Seconded: M. Kortmann

Result: Motion passes unanimously.

The group continued to discuss the Capital Budget. They agreed to change the dollars and priorities as follows:

FY2012 change Classroom Computerization to \$80,000.00. Move GHR DDC Controls at \$70,000.00 to FY2013. Change Classroom Furniture to \$30,000.00.

FY2013 add GHR DDC controls at \$70,000.00. Move CHS Gym Floor of \$125,000.00 from FY2015 if can get below \$100,000.00. Move CHS Parking Lot at \$60,000.00 to FY2015. FY2014 move Carpet Replacement at \$25,000.00 to FY2015.

The group then turned to discuss the Generator and surge protection. M. Kortmann stated she would like to try to have the town cover these costs possibly using Homeland Security grants because CHS is used as an emergency shelter.

Dr. Bernard asked if the committee needs to schedule another meeting to work on the Capital budget. The committee agreed it would be a good idea. The group discussed possible dates and times for the additional meeting. Dr. Bernard purposed 10/20/2010 at 9:30 a.m. The group agreed to the time.

IV. Transportation Excess Cost State Reimbursement Discussion

G. Blackstone stated there was a meeting today with the Town Manager and Mr. Baur to discuss the excess cost the state made available as part of the transportation grant. The stipulation is that the town had discretion over what to do with the money as long as the Board of Education did not overspend their appropriation to special education. G. Blackstone gave an example. If the Board of Education had x amount for special education and the Board of Education spent the x amount plus 10, then the town would have to give the Board of Education the 10. But if the Board of Education under spent X, the town would get to keep the entire transportation grant. C. Trudon asked why the Board of Education received the grant and what the Board should be using the money for. G. Blackstone answered that the State reduced the budget for excess transportation by \$20 million last year and then reinstated the \$20 million because they realized it would harm their maintenance with ARRA. The State told the Town that the excess cost money that was reinstated must be provided to the Board of Education if they need it. Otherwise the town gets to keep the money. The meeting G. Blackstone participated in today was to certify that the Board of Education did not spend more than they were appropriated for special education. M. Kortmann asked to confirm that this was for last year. G. Blackstone said it was for last year and will affect this year as well. This year the Town will hold the money instead of giving it to the Board of Education up front. The Town will make the Board of Education demonstrate they overspent special education. This will require the Board of Education to revise the schedule to reflect the special education costs that aren't currently reflected like in district costs. Dr. Bernard stated the excess costs sheet is only out of district costs. M. Kortmann stated she may have some information from previous budget years that will help.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Terri Lessard, Subcommittee Clerk

Approved: **November 10, 2010**