



TOWN OF COLUMBIA
Fiscal Policy Board
October 9, 2013
Horace W. Porter School Conference Room
8:45 a.m.

Members Present: Bev Ciurylo-Finance Director, Jonathan Luiz-Town Administrator by telephone, Earnest Sharpe-FiPAC Chairman, Carmen Vance-First Selectman left the meeting at 9:30 a.m., Mark Winzler-Interim Superintendent

Members Absent: Kerry Hoffman-Board of Education Member

1. Call to Order

Mrs. Ciurylo called the October 9, 2013 Fiscal Policy Board meeting to order at 8:48 a.m.

2. Approve Regular Meeting Minutes of September 11, 2013

J. Luiz **MOVED** and E. Sharpe **SECONDED** to approve the September 11, 2013 meeting minutes as presented.

MOTION CARRIES: 5-0

3. Correspondence – None

4. Old Business

- A. Board of Education 2013/2014 Budget Status** – Mr. Winzler reported that he was left with very little background information. He has been working closely with Mrs. Ciurylo to re-create the budget. It appears that nothing was budgeted for magnet school tuition (~\$145,000) or supplies (\$60,000). Designated high school tuition rates were listed higher than the actual 2013/14 rates (savings of ~\$90,000). He has discovered some overlap in the co-curricular and professional services lines. Mr. Luiz asked the Interim Superintendent to look into deducting CREC tuition from ECS grant money.

Other:

Interim Superintendent reported that Columbia STEM Magnet students are being transported to the Windham magnet school by Eastconn and the arrangement has been made between Windham and Eastconn. The Columbia School District will not be charged for this arrangement.

Board members also discussed the REAP grant, formation of the MBR Adhoc Committee, and the Porter door replacement project. Mr. Luiz asked that the BOE consider the possibility of problems and change orders for the door project and asked that the Board of Education wait to see that the project does not cost more than what is projected before the MBR money is spent. He mentioned that the Town might be able to go through the normal grant process and be eligible for a 40% reimbursement. He will look into this. Mr. Winzler will hold off on signing the contract until he hears back from Mr. Luiz.

Mr. Sharpe asked if there is a tuition shortage, will the Board of Education want to honor the gentlemen's agreement. Mrs. Ciurylo explained it has been discussed but the numbers need to be firmed up.

Mr. Winzler explained the teacher negotiation sessions have begun and are limited to 3 hours. 3 FiPAC members came to the October 7th executive session to discuss Teacher Negotiations. 4 Sessions are

scheduled. He will send the schedule to Mr. Sharpe. Both sides do not want to go to arbitration. He hopes the agreement will be settled by the week before Thanksgiving.

Mr. Luiz reported Town union negotiations are still going on and he hopes to resolve all issues within the month.

5. New Business

- A. **2012/2013 Year End – Audit coming October 28, 2013** – Mrs. Ciurylo reported the auditors will be here for a week. The Finance Department is finalizing their numbers and is nearly ready. There should not be any audit problems now that the MBR issue is resolved.

6. Fiscal Department

7. Audience

8. Adjournment

- B. Ciurylo **MOVED** and E. Sharpe **SECONDED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 a.m.
MOTION CARRIES: 5-0

The next meeting will be November 13, 2013 @ 8:45 a.m. in the Horace W. Porter School Conference Room.