

GREEN MOUNTAIN UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2019

The Chair, Marilyn Mahusky opened the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

A power point presentation was shown and is attached to these minutes.

Debbie Aldrich asked how long the incentives will last that are being used to offset the budget. Marilyn Mahusky stated that there are 2 years remaining.

The decrease in mental health was questioned. Meg Powden stated that these services are being funded through Medicaid.

Shawn Cunningham questioned the comparison of the projected budget. Marilyn Mahusky stated that none of these Board members were on the committee. Joe Fromberger stated that the numbers were derived from numbers at the time and he is not sure that there is a good comparison. Marilyn Mahusky stated that the end result is the tax rate is below what was projected.

Lee Dakin questioned the decrease in the 504 expenses. Meg Powden stated that this was decreased because the services were not being utilized. The benefits were decreased by recommendation of the employee.

A question was raised regarding the preschool reduction. Meg Powden noted that they are projecting less preschool students for next year.

Bill Dakin questioned the projected tax rate. Cheryl Hammond stated that the \$1.45 does not include the CLA. Joe Fromberger stated that Andover's rate will be up by almost .10. Debbie Aldrich clarified that this is not the tax rate for all towns which should be made clear. It will be a different rate for all towns.

The Board has approved the teachers raises and benefits. The union has not yet approved it. The bus purchase is causing the increase in the transportation budget. They are being purchased outright with no lease.

Bill Dakin questioned the debt service increase is due to the bond as well as the deficit of \$141,000.

It was stated that education benefits are primarily for Green Mountain. A question was raised relative to the education benefits that the Elementary Schools are receiving. Marilyn Mahusky stated that this past year an individual was hired to investigate the potential of a foreign language in the elementary schools. She also stated that the proficiency based learned is coming down to the elementary school which is requiring some research. Marilyn Mahusky also stated that the Assistant Principal position is being added to CAES which will help improve teaching and educational outcomes.

Katherine Fogg also stated that there is a STEM coordinator for the elementary school which was added last year.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

A true record.

Julie S. Hance
District Clerk