

**Portland Board of Education
Budget Meeting
Tuesday, January 12, 2023 @ 7:00 pm**

1. Call to Order

Laurel Steinhauser, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

BOE Members Present: Laurel Steinhauser, Meg Scata, Tim Lavoy, Stacey Benham, Dave Murphy, Kim Nagy-Maruschock, Sarah Spear

Administration Present: Superintendent Dr. Charles Britton, Stephanie Fragola Assistant to Superintendent for Business and Financial Affairs, Dawn Davis Director of Student Services, Eric Martin Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology, Bob Shea Director of Facilities, Valley View Principal Jessica Bruenn, Middle School Principal Chuck Hershon, Gildersleeve Principal Ryan Walstrom, High School Principal Kate Lawson, Brownstone Principal Michael Searson

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Introduction – Laurel Steinhauser, Board of Education Chair
Dr. Charles D. Britton, Superintendent of Schools

4. Public Comments – April Graves, Freestone Ave- spoke in opposition to proposed staffing cuts. She is also in opposition to add a shared administrative position for Curriculum Director and Assistant Principal.

5. Review/Discussion – 2023-2024 Superintendent of Schools Proposed Budget Review, discussion and action upon budgetary matters for the forthcoming fiscal year. Board members and the public are advised that the Board may vote to approve the budget for the next fiscal year at this Budget Meeting. Action may also be taken to revise or modify the proposed budget.

Reviewed Board questions submitted via email. ECS grant and Oak Hill revenue are included in budget number. Positions that these revenue funds were submitted to the Board. Current enrollment and capacity of in-house student support programs and outplacement programs reviewed. Para support at Gildersleeve discussed. 10-month administrative assistant to support Assistant Principal and Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology discussed. Question on utilizing current office staff in place of a new position. K. Lawson explained the Assistant Principal position is a student driven position and would rather leverage this administrator's time to work directly with kids rather than administrative tasks. Expectations of an administrative assistant for athletics outlined. Duties of current office 10-mo and 12-mo assistant outlined. E. Martin outlined the needs of an assistant for the technology department. K. Nagy-Maruschock expressed her opposition to adding the new position, although she made note that she understands the need due to workload. Question on how many paraprofessional positions are created each fall to meet needs of Kindergarten students. Dr. Britton explained that an average of 2-4 paras are added each year to support newly identified kindergarten students. J. Bruenn explained the use and need of paras in the classroom.

- 6. Questions and Answers – Dr. Charles D. Britton, Superintendent of Schools**
ESSER funds and the current percent increase to the budget if we don't use the funds discussed
Budget implications for next year using ESSER funds this year discussed. HVAC grant
discussed. Concern from S. Spear and K. Nagy-Maruschock regarding inadequate staffing of
paras. Discussion on para positions and additional administrative assistant position costs. Other
options discussed to stay within the 3.98% increase while adding one paraprofessional.
- 7. Public Comments – none.** L. Steinhauser made note they received an email from Darcy
supporting transition paraprofessionals.
- 8. Possible Action Item – Approve 2022-2023 Superintendent of Schools Proposed – NO
ACTION.** Reconvene at the regular January 17, 2023 meeting.
- 9. Adjournment**
**M. Scata moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m., seconded by T. Lavoy.
Unanimously approved. MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Tricia Dean, Clerk