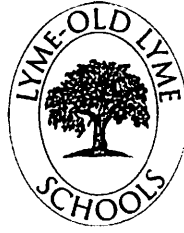


LYME-OLD LYME SCHOOLS

Regional School District #18

A Private School Experience



in a Public School Setting

Special Board of Education Meeting

November 3, 2021

Board Present: Diane Linderman, Chair; Martha Shoemaker, Vice Chair; Jean Wilczynski, Treasurer; Steven Wilson, Secretary; Rick Goulding; Stacey Leonardo; Jennifer Miller; Mary Powell St. Louis; Suzanne Thompson

Administration Present: Ian Neviasser, Superintendent of Schools; Mark Ambruso, Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School; James Cavalieri, Principal of Lyme Consolidated School; Michelle Dean, Director of Curriculum; Melissa Dougherty, Director of Special Services; Kelly Enoch, Principal of Mile Creek School; Holly McCalla, Business Manager; Ron Turner, Director of Facilities & Technology; Noah Ventola, Assistant Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme Middle School; James Wygonik, Principal of Lyme-Old Lyme High School

Old Lyme Board of Finance and Selectmen: Tim Griswold

Lyme Board of Finance and Selectmen: Dan Hagan; Robert House; Alan Sheiness

Others Present: Andrew Hedberg and Elise DeBernardo, Student Representatives; 5 Community Members from LOL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Diane Linderman at 6:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to hold a budget workshop to present and discuss budget needs and drivers with the boards of finance and selectmen from both towns, school administrators, and parent leadership. Mr. Neviasser gave a PowerPoint presentation which detailed the purposes of the workshop and some of the notable influences on the budget that are likely to increase or decrease expenditures. A summary of this presentation is attached to these minutes for informational purposes.

At the conclusion of the presentation, input was gathered from the participants. The following is a summary of the comments and observations made on the 2022-2023 budget planning which could be major influences on the bottom line:

Ian Neviasser, Superintendent of Schools

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- Continuance of the sustainability initiatives.
- Facilities improvement plan.
- Town needs (i.e., bridge repair) and their impact on the school budget.
- Enrollment growth and the impact on staffing and the facilities.
- Growth of high school programs and changing needs (robotics, technology).
- Food services – reusable ware and more food options.
- COVID related responses after grant money is depleted.
- Food service program – continuance of free breakfast/lunch.
- Transportation costs / possible investment in district vehicles (electric) creating a more internal control over student transportation.
- Insurance costs.
- Additional state mandates and the unpredictability of same (educating students through age 22).
- Renovation of PK-8 schools – multi-year project; short term space needs until renovations are completed.
- Outdoor classrooms; furnish for maximizing use while also educating students in a secure environment.
- Turf field – finishing the project (bleachers, lights); destination for events and tournaments; rental property revenue.
- Continuing to research options for solar (cooperatives, use of solar farms and carports).
- Waste stream.
- Infrastructure longevity.
- Security: making entry into building uniform in every school.
- Social/emotional needs of students / impact on staffing.
- Redistricting for enrollment capacities / population increasing.

Mr. Neviasser reviewed the upcoming budget meetings that occur in January.

There being no other comments or questions, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m. upon motion by Mr. Wilson and a second by Dr. Goulding.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Wilson, Secretary

2022-23 Budget Workshop

NOVEMBER 3, 2021

Purposes of Session

- To present information about prime drivers that will influence the 2022-23 budget.
- To gather and share input from school and community leaders.

Process

- Introductions
- Presentation of budget drivers
- Break out group(s) to gather questions, observations, and comments
- Reporting out on questions, observations, and comments.

Enrollment

Level	2019	2020	2021	2022 Projected (Roll-ups)
Elementary	530	561	580	600 (579)
Middle	278	270	271	275 (263)
High	480	452	449	415 (414)
TOTAL	1288	1283	1300	1290 (1256)

- LOLHS has consistently brought in more students than projected
- LOLHS is graduating a class of 127 and welcoming a class of 92.
- Over the next five years enrollment is projected to rise to 1445 and to 1673 in ten years.

Special Education

Year	# of K-12 Students	% of Population
2016	160	12.5
2017	156	12.3
2018	150	12.4
2019	163	13.2
2020	162	13.5
2021	159	12.2

- Increase in level of services needed to support IEP implementation
- Outplacement uncertainty
- Tuition for special education students at magnet schools
- Impact of legislation (e.g., requirement to educate students until the age of 22, requests for IEE's, burden of proof, mandated training)
- Increasing costs

Financial Considerations

- Existing debt service from the high school renovation and the four school projects (↓\$82,600)
- Contractual obligations
- Health insurance rates ↓
- Energy Costs
- State funding
- Pandemic Impact?

Long Term Financial Considerations

- Long term projects (20+ year upgrades to four schools- possible new tranche of bonds beginning 2023-2024) 5 → 4
- Five Year Facilities Plan
- Undesignated fund balance to support larger projects- 2%

Technology & Equipment

Supporting the Digital Learning Environment

Device replacement plan

Continue to explore/expand technology tools for blended and accelerated learning

Provide focused PD to support digital platform expectations for grades PK-12

Facilities and Utilities

Drivers	Offsets
Supply Chain	Solar
Athletic Programs and Field Maintenance	LED lighting
Energy Rates (oil/electric)	New roofs/ Insulation
High School Track Resurface	HVAC Controls
Inefficient/Aging HVAC System	High School Geothermal
Outdoor Classroom Space	Windows
	Joint Energy Contracts

Break Out Group Task

- Create equal groups with representation from the following constituencies: parents, towns, BOE, and administration
- Facilitator will record questions, comments, observations—do not judge or answer. (15 minutes)
- Report out on questions, comments, and observations.

Budget presentations will incorporate the
input received today.

