

Suffield, Connecticut

Approved by Bd. of Ed.

Board of Education Special Meeting  
February 25, 2019

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. in the Central Office Conference Room. The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance.

Present: Board members Susan Mercik Davis, Jamie Drzyzga, James Mol, John Richter, Debra Dudack, Matt Service, Maureen Sattan, Brian Fry; Interim Superintendent Mark Winzler, Assistant Superintendent Michelle Zawawi, and Business Manager Bill Hoff

Absent: Michael Sepko

Budget Workshop

The Board and administration discussed the Superintendent's proposed budget and whether any areas should be reduced or whether all items should be left as-is for Monday's budget vote. Members expressed a desire to maintain the teaming model at the middle school. While some members expressed a desire to reduce the budget to around a 4.2% or 4.3% increase, others stated they prefer to leave the budget as it currently is with a 4.67% increase. The administration stated they would continue to review the budget ahead of the vote, and might recommend additional changes before Monday. Board Chair Mercik Davis explained the budget process to new members, including the presentation to the Board of Finance and the public vote. Board members also shared their priorities for moving forward. Stated priorities included a focus on early education, improving outcomes for ELA and STEAM areas, improving programing and instruction for math, rightsizing the district, advancing wellness for students and staff, and adopting additional programs for special education, talented & gifted, and behaviorally challenged students. The Board will continue to work on its goals during future meetings.

Adjournment

Drzyzga moved, Richter seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

*Minutes are subject to approval at the regular meeting of March 4, 2019.*

Respectfully submitted,

Debra Dudack  
Secretary