

Finance Committee Meeting September 13, 2021 Bird Middle School

Present:

Finance Committee

Roll Call 14 in attendance:

Mark Trudell	Steve Hendricks
Dennis Crowley	Jean Kenney
Josette Burke	Alice Susan Lawson
Andrew Flowers	Lawrence Pitman
Jeff Fisher	Douglas Shea
Kathleen Foley Greulich	Mark Sullivan
Allyson Hamilton	Lisa Van der Linden

Absent: Lucy Romanowiz

Additional attendees:

Bridget Gough	Bryan Jarvis	Jim Johnson	Mark Greene
Patrick Shield	Michael Friscia	Bill Buckley	

The meeting was called to order by Mark Trudell at 7:00pm

Middle School Project Presentation & Discussion

Dr. Bridget Gough (Superintendent of Schools) and Bryan Jarvis (Senior Director for Compass Project Management) presented a slide show detailing the design and process of the Bird Middle School Project.

The estimated total cost is **\$115.7 million**, to be paid for in part by a debt exclusion with an estimated per resident tax burden of **\$438** per year over 30 years.

Andrew Flowers asked if a 3.5% borrowing rate is conservative relative to similar projects. Bryan Jarvis stated that in his opinion it is. He also stated that the projected enrollment of the new middle school is 905, with expectations that the number will rise based on future projections. Dr. Gough assured that the new school will be up-to-date in terms of technology, safety measures, and green energy sustainability.

A traffic study in the surrounding area was conducted and the middle school site plan was designed with as much porosity (having multiple entrances/exits) as possible to help disperse traffic. Members of the School Building Committee travelled to many schools in the area for inspiration for this project.

Vote on Fall Town Meeting Articles 14 & 15

Article 14*: Petition to transfer **\$293,892** from Free Cash into the FY22 School Budget

Article 15*: Petition to appropriate funds into the execution of the Middle School Project

**Article numbers may change*

Motion by Andrew Flowers and seconded by Susan Lawson for **favorable action on Article 15** (Middle School Project)

The motion passed 13-1-0 (Lawrence Pittman no)

Motion by Susan Lawson and seconded by Josette Burke for **favorable action on Article 14** (School Budget Transfers)

The motion passed 14-0-0

Next meeting: September 16, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Adjournment

Motion by Susan Lawson and seconded by Josette Burke to adjourn

The motion passed 14-0-0.

The Finance Committee adjourned at 8:30pm.