

MILFORD FINANCE COMMITTEE

JANUARY 9, 2019

PRESENT: Chris Morin (Chair), , Phil Ciaramicoli, Al Correia, Jerry Hiatt, Andrew Lizotte, Charles Miklosovich, Mike Nicholson, Jeff Niro, Mike Soares, Joyce Lavigne, and Vinny Valastro.

Members not present: Bob DeVita, , Aldo Cecchi, John Tennaro, Mike Schiavi

Also present: Mike Walsh, Selectman, Paul Abbondanza, Financial Analyst, Joe Morais, Joe Callery, Jen Parson, Jim Ligor, Laura Ingemi, Chris Wilson, Jim Ligor ,School Committee, Kevin McIntyre Superintendent of Schools, Craig Consigli, Asst. Superintendent.

Media: Kevin Rudden, Town Crier

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Chuck Miklosovich moved to approve the 12-12-18 Minutes, seconded by Mike Nicholson, all in favor.

Superintendent of Schools: Kevin McIntyre updated the Finance Committee on several aspects of the school system.

1. Out of district spending has increased significantly. Each extra student placed out of district can cost between \$45k - \$250K depending on the individuals needs. Increased transportation service costs, and number of students have led to this increase.
2. It was questioned what determines whether a student is sent out of district or remains in town. The Superintendent explained that the evaluation process that is followed to assess whether the district has both the ability to service the student and if it is more cost effective to send them out of district.
3. It was explained that the town receives 67% reimbursement for out of district placement from the state through the circuit breaker funding.
4. Jerry Hiatt questioned the employee benefits line items 1420 and 5200 in the amount of \$10k. Mr. McIntyre stated that he would check with the business manager and get back to the committee with that information.
5. Mr. McIntyre provided documentation to the committee showing per pupil spending for the school districts of Massachusetts. He indicated that the spending in Milford is lower than comparable towns by approximately \$2K. Discussion ensued on what were comparable towns to Milford and what factors needed to be looked at to come to that conclusion. School committee member, Joe Morais, pointed out that the DOE website has what they consider comparable towns.
6. Mr. McIntyre informed the committee that 1000 students are either directly in the ELL program or in the post ELL monitoring program.
7. Mr. McIntyre reported to the committee that students from the Milford School System exceeded the state average in acceptances to a 4 year college. He was questioned on what % of those students graduated from those colleges and he said he was still collecting that data.

8. Mr. McIntyre provided documentation referencing school choice numbers in the district. He pointed out that the gap is shrinking. He stated that the 176 students choosing out is the lowest since 2014. He informed the committee that choice in is a tricky situation. In order to control class size and due to the fact that there is a large population bubble in grades 7+8 that the district is strongly limiting the # of students they are accepting. Mr. McIntyre indicated that the school choice deficit has reduced from \$370k in 2018 to \$265K in 2019.

Motion by Jeff Niro to adjourn was seconded by Chuck Miklosovich. Vote was unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Chris Morin