

**BUDGET WORKING SESSION
OF THE NEW BEDFORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE
~MINUTES~**

PRESENT: MR. BRUCE OLIVEIRA, MR. JOSHUA AMARAL, MS. COLLEEN DAWICKI, MR. JACK LIVRAMENTO, MR. JOHN OLIVEIRA

ABSENT: MAYOR MITCHELL, MR. CHRISTOPHER COTTER

IN ATTENDANCE: DR. DURKIN, DR. DEFALCO, MS. BETTENCOURT, MS. EMSLEY, MR. O'LEARY, MS. WALMSLEY, MR. MOTTA, MR. TETREULT, MS. FERREIRA (Recording Secretary)

Mr. O'Leary addressed the Committee by reviewing the budget definitions and explaining that the level service budget merely maintains the same level of services provided in FY18 into FY19. To a question by Mr. Bruce Oliveira in regard to positions that are not included in FY19, Dr. Durkin stated that they are additional requests or enhancements made by Principals and were not part of the FY18 budget.

Dr. Durkin pointed out that cost centers had the opportunity to explain the reason behind each enhancement and she reviewed the four major themes that were identified during the process.

Major Themes- Cost Center Workbook

- Limited cost center discretion
- ESL – SLIFE student growth
- Special education
- Behavioral interventions
- Technology requests

Goals/ Next steps

- Additional Data: Special education trends
- Steps to a balanced budget
- Workshop II FAQs/Agenda

Cost Center budgeting

- Costs moved out to cost centers
- Centralized and decentralized costs
- School level manager will ultimately only have budget and spending discretion over the "other service/supply" category.

Roosevelt Middle School FY2010



Dr. Durkin introduced Mr. O'Leary, Business Manager, who explained the process to arrive at a balanced budget and gave a presentation primarily focused on the trends, costs and strategies for the FY19 budget.

Mr. O'Leary stated that the total FY19 budget amount with enhancements is at \$146,930,211 with a level service budget at \$139,671,879. He pointed out that there is time to analyze the budget as there is comprehensive information available that was gathered ahead of time. He noted that Special Education continues to rise greater than inflation and there will be an opportunity to review this in detail.

Mr. Bruce Oliveira identified several items across all cost centers pertaining to facilities requests and suggested to fund these items from the facilities revolving funds.

Mr. John Oliveira noted that one of the major cost drivers are incoming new personnel and he believes that some positions requests do not have a direct impact on students, suggesting that more teachers should be hired to lower class size.

To a question by Jack Livramento, Mr. O'Leary responded that the variance in the amount of enhancements for the Middle Schools had to do with some additions in curriculum and technology during the Redesign process and also that the enhancements were met at different middle schools over recent years. Mr. O'Leary stated that there will be an opportunity to tackle those enhancements requests.

To a second question by Jack Livramento, Mr. O'Leary and Dr. Durkin explained that the decrease of the Special Needs amount from FY17 is due to different strategies put in place in the district as well as better budget management and use of Circuit Breaker funds.

Mr. Joshua Amaral provided different suggestions in regard to paraprofessional positions and utilities that might help reduce the costs. To a question by Joshua Amaral related to Chromebooks, Mr. O'Leary stated that to be efficient, they were looking to be strategic when purchasing and rolling out technology.

Technology requests – Sample

Gomes School will need 6 Chromebook carts of 30 Chrome books each - to support the Gomes School digital learning 1:1 device action plan for grades 3-5 (1 cart per class/ 1 device per student and 1 for the teacher). This action plan directly links to the districts' online learning and assessment needs.

Elmos & Projectors - Technology is mandatory to ensure student engagement and appropriate rigor. We do not have enough tech tools in each classroom, such as document cameras, in-focus machines, and laptop computers for teachers. Currently there are a handful of classrooms that have these tools. Being able to project images, student work, video clips, and lessons onto the board helps the school's visual learners to understand content presented.

At this time, Mr. Tetrault addressed the Committee and stated that the objective is to try to get to a 1:1 where each student in the classroom has a device available to use. He reiterated that Chromebooks are used to access several educational programs including assessments and testing. The district has taken advantage of the MSBA funding when possible but have used local budget dollars when this funding is not available. Mr. Tetrault mentioned that the Chromebook price has been negotiated with the company to \$199 and it is cheaper to buy them up front than leasing.

Mr. John Oliveira questioned the Career and Technical Education Manager position cost and requested to see the plan for the position.

Dr. Durkin introduced Ms. Walmsley who explained the increase of English as a Second Language (ESL) staff and English Learners Teachers. Ms. Walmsley noted that the EL population has increased at all levels with 1,027 students at Level 1. She continued to reiterate the need to hire additional ESL teachers and bilingual staff to support these students. The High School currently has 133 Students with Limited or Interrupted Formal Education (SLIFE).

ESL – SLIFE– sample request

- Additional Elementary licensed ESL teachers districtwide responsible for providing English as a Second Language (ESL) direct instruction at the elementary school level. These 8 additional teachers are needed because the district must provide ESL instruction at appropriate proficiency levels and recommended minutes of services as indicated in G.L.C.71A. In addition, our EL student numbers, in some schools, and their specific needs of SLIFE and Newcomer students has increased enormously.

Gomes currently has 5 ESL teachers to support 420 ESL students. 66% of our total ELL population are Level 1 and 2's who require 90 min of pull out service per day. The remaining 45% of our ELL students are in levels 3-5 requiring 45 min of service minutes per day. At the currently time we are unable to successfully address our ELL student needs falling approximately 405 minutes short per day. In order to adequately meet our ELL students' needs we will need 2 additional ESL staff.

Special education/Behavioral interventions- sample request

Behavior Assistant at Pulest: As a school of approximately 750 students (approx. 100 students are high risk youth from all over the city of New Bedford) it is imperative that an additional SAC position be created to ensure safety, provide services outlined in students IEP's and assist with the rolling out of Social Thinking and zones of regulation.

School Adjustment Counselors at Roosevelt: We have an increasing amount of students in need of social emotional services that only SACs can provide. We only have one SAC for 850 students and need at least two more SACs to help this population of tier 3 kids.

Ms. Bettencourt reviewed the Special Education enhancements requests including the need to hire a Teacher of the Visually Impaired, reinstate of an Out of District secretary, and hire a second bilingual translator. She stated that translation services are very expensive as the state mandates all written information to be presented in the native language to parents and hiring a staff member will represent savings for the district.

Several members provided different insights to decrease the cost of translation. Ms. Colleen Dawicki suggested to compare the translation services requested from Ms. Walmsley's budget versus the ones presented by Ms. Bettencourt and look at the best saving strategies.

To a question by Mr. John Oliveira, Dr. DeFalco explained that during the recent years the Middle Schools have gone through the Redesign process that allowed more support for Social Emotional Learning (SEL) by building advisory programs, student support teams and Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS). Dr. DeFalco stated that the Redesign team continues to review what is working and what is not working and a full update on the Middle School Redesign will be given in the next regular meeting. He said that there is still a need to hire staff to support SEL and we need to convert guidance counselor positions into student adjustment counselor positions.

A discussion ensued in regard to behavioral problems at the Middle Schools and the hiring of adjustment counselors. Dr. Durkin called the attention to the number of Principals and cost centers who voiced the need for more adjustment counselors. John Oliveira requested to see the discipline data broken down by incident.

Colleen Dawicki would like to see the total number of requests across the schools for behaviorist and adjustment counselors by level and by school.

Mr. Bruce Oliveira asked about the overtime request for facilities. Mr. Al Oliveira stated that custodians are doing more with less staff and the overtime allows them to work during times that do not disrupt instruction. Mr. Bruce Oliveira encouraged Mr. Al Oliveira to request additional staff.

Several members pointed out to items from facilities that seemed mandatory. Mr. O'Leary mentioned that they might be able to use the revolving account to cover those needs.

Mr. O'Leary continued with the presentation and reviewed the following strategies to get to a balanced budget:

Getting to a FY 19 Balanced Budget

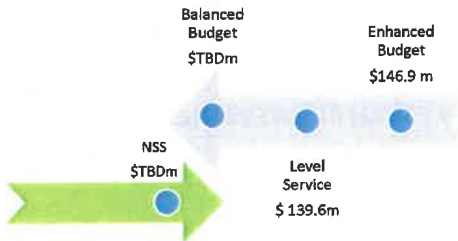
- Finalize Net School Spending
- Services Contracts
- Prepay curriculum payment
- "Pothole" Funding
- Vacancy Savings
- Misc Salary reimbursement
- Circuit Breaker offset
- Building Insurance/Testing
- Transportation contracts

Total Preliminary Budget for FY19

Eligible Net School Spending	\$127,664,275
Non Net School Spending	<u>\$12,007,604</u>
Total Operating Budget	\$139,671,879
Enhancement Requests	\$7,258,332
Total	\$146,930,211

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Getting to a FY 19 Balanced Budget



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Goals/ Next steps

- Additional Data: Special education trends
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- Meeting enhancement requests
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Mr. Joshua Amaral expressed that he hopes that the City will go above the Net School Spending but shared concerns that there will be a shortfall to meet level service needs. Dr. Durkin added that the District recently received a letter from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) stating that we have not met Net School Spending again. The Committee will be receiving a copy of this letter.

Mr. O’Leary stated that in the next budget session they will review the additional cost centers and Special Education as well as discussing in detail the different ways to get to FY19. The next budget meeting is scheduled for March 13.

At 7:55 P.M., on a motion by Jack Livramento and seconded by Colleen Dawicki, the Committee voted to adjourn the meeting

The roll call vote was as follows:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| John Oliveira – Yes | Joshua Amaral– Yes |
| Christopher Cotter – Absent | Colleen Dawicki - Yes |
| Jack Livramento – Yes | Mayor Mitchell – Absent |
| Bruce Oliveira - Yes | |

5 – Yeas 0 – Nays 2 – Absent

Respectfully Submitted by,

Adlybeir Ferreira
Adlybeir Ferreira
Recording Secretary

Reviewed by,

Pia Durkin
Pia Durkin, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Secretary/School Committee

NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

FY2019 Budget Workshop I February 26, 2018

- I. School Cost centers: Elem, Middle, High
- II. Departmental Cost centers
- III. Special Education Trends

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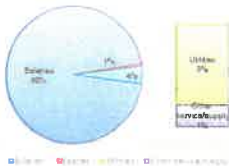
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ROOSEVELT MIDDLE SCHOOL FY2019



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Leading Departments – Cost Centers

- Business Office
- ELL Manager/Family Welcome Center
- Transportation
- DW Special Education/Pupil Personnel
- Technology Service
- Maintenance/ Custodial

Special Education Trends

School Year	Total District Gen. Ed. Expenditures \$	Total District Spec. Ed. Expenditures \$	%
2012-13	112,273,310.96	30,806,858.00	22%
2013-14	109,368,346.31	31,603,432.00	22%
2014-15	112,206,575.77	33,570,412.00	23%
2015-16	114,022,782.84	36,187,167.00	24%
2016-17	119,242,407.15	40,917,638.00	26%
2017-18	127,741,012.00	42,666,472.00	25%

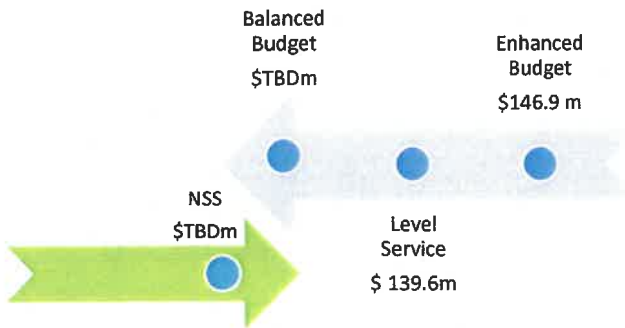
Getting to a FY 19 Balanced Budget

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Appendices

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Proposed FY19 Offsets

Amount saved/offset/cut	Source	Notes
\$150,000	Misc Salary reimbursement	Grant/Fund Reimbursement to District
\$200,000	Services Contracts	Vacancy savings as seen on the salary spend down report
\$200,000	Early curriculum payment	Forecast based on enrollment
\$400,000	Pothole Funding	Approx 1%, per FY17/FY18
\$1,000,000	Vacancy Savings	Combine with Medicaid revenue
\$1,750,000	Circuit Breaker offset	Apply to Bond
\$150,000	Building Insurance/Testing	
\$3,850,000		

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TRANSPORTATION

- Advertised in Goods and Services 2/26/18
- IFB available 2/26/18
- Pre-Bid 3/5/18
- Questions due 3/9/18
- Questions answered 3/13/18
- Bids Due 3/20/18

Bus Bid Packages

- Package 1 – All High School and paired with Elementary
- Package 2 – All Middle, AlmaDM and paired with Elementary
- Package – Special Needs

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Transport policy

- Students eligible for transportation service must be:
 - Must be outside the home to school distance requirements listed below or
 - Have a written Individual Education Plan requiring transportation services or
 - Be a district identified McKinney-Vento student
- Grades K to 5:** Students will receive transportation if the distance is more than 1.5 miles from a student's residence to the school they attend. This applies to all students including magnet schools: Carney Academy, Gomes School and Pulaski School.
- Grades 6 to 12:** Students will receive transportation if the distance is more than 2 miles from the student's residence to the school they attend.
- Special Education:** Students who have transportation in their Individual Education Plan will receive the required transportation.
- School choice students are not eligible for transportation.

Calculating Net School Spending

School Appropriation	3		5,429,388
Chapter 70	137,925,032	143,354,420	Cherry Sheet
Charter School Reimbursement	2,311,717	1,623,401	Cherry Sheet
E Rate	0	0	Provided by School Department
Chapter 71	335,000	335,000	Provided by School Department
Miscellaneous	65,000	65,000	Provided by School Department
Excess City Contribution	(11,874,929)	(12,223,810)	
Carryover of Prior Year Shortfall	1,573,623	1,500,000	
School NSS Estimate:	130,335,443	134,654,011	

Calculating Net School Spending

Description	FY 2018	FY-2019	Comments
Foundation Budget:	164,513,342	171,850,841	7,337,499
<i>Ineligibles</i>			7,307,299
3300			
3301 School Transportation	10,371,462	12,000,000	Provided by School Department
3302			
.6900 Transportation Non-Public			
7300 Benefits on acct 3300			
269/69 Adult Ed	200,499	300,000	Provided by School Department
Total Ineligible:	10,571,961	12,300,000	

Calculating Net School Spending

Required City Minimum:	27,075,663	27,075,663
City Contribution Needed (inc. ineligibles):	37,647,624	39,375,663
Administration	1,433,388	2,470,789 - Per ACA provisions (see attached).
Healthcare	25,602,200	26,220,000 57% of \$46 million.
Health Retirement		
Less: School Grant Health	(1,100,000)	(1,100,000)
Less: School Lunch Health		
Net Healthcare:	24,502,200	25,120,000
Retirement	6,458,270	6,708,707 23.28% of \$28,817,471
Pension non-contributory	17,000	17,000
Health Ins Admin	0	0 Included in Administration calculation.
Short Term Debt	-	- Hanzigan (\$260,000), ARP (\$126,750), NBHS (\$12,000)
Medicaid Staff	(55,518)	(55,518) Provided by School Department
Life Insurance	177,375	177,375 64.5% of \$275,000 (1,884 FT school employees/2,919 FT ions)
FICA	1,240,000	1,240,000 62.0% of \$2,000,000 (Relative share of GF Payroll)
50% SRO	282,319	290,000 50% of actual budget per ACA (excludes Voke)
Charter School	14,579,552	15,940,536 Cherry Sheet
School Choice	784,369	1,005,714 Cherry Sheet
SPED	103,698	79,289
City Contribution:	49,522,553	51,999,473
Excess City Contribution	(11,874,929)	(12,223,810)

Pothole funding

- As of February Massachusetts reports over 2400 students displaced from Puerto Rico. NBPS has 199 registered - 51 (withdrawn) = 148 enrolled
- FY18 and FY 19 will see funds to support districts with displaced students from Puerto Rico and Virgin Islands: will be a separate "pothole" program, similar to the Foundation Reserve "pothole" programs of the past. This indicates that there will not be too many restrictions on how we spend.
- The data input from IT and FWC is all important as they will use a will use "a days in membership" formula - for all students after Oct 1.
- The \$15 million supplemental appropriation approved by the Governor 2/15. Awaiting DESE determined allocations for FY18 and for FY19

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Cost centers

- Ashley
- Brooks
- Campbell
- Carney
- Congdon
- DeValles
- Gomes
- Hathaway
- Hayden
- McFadden
- Jacobs
- Lincoln
- Pacheco
- Parker
- Pulaski
- Renaissance
- Rodman
- Swift
- Taylor
- Winslow
- Keith
- Normandin
- Roosevelt
- High School
- Trinity Day
- Whaling City
- Parenting Teens
- Sea Lab
- School Committee
- Superintendent
- Business Office
- Deputy Superintendent
- Human Capital Services
- Family Welcome Center
- ELL Manager
- Office of Instruction
- Maintenance
- Custodial
- Transportation
- DW Special Education
- Fine Arts
- Pupil Personnel
- Health Services
- Technology Services
- Adult Education
- Physical Education