

Tolland Board of Education
Finance and Facilities Committee Minutes
April 1, 2020

Members via Zoom remote conference: Dr. Walter Willett, Christine Griffin, Jacob Marie, Renie Besaw, Dana Philbin

Others Present: Ashley Lundgren – BOE chairperson

Meeting called to order at 5:31 pm

1. Dr. Willett gave an update of Governor Lamont's most recent executive order. Highlights included continued Education Cost Sharing funding, continued payment for all school staff and continued payment to the bus company. Dr. Willett is reviewing the transportation requirements to see if this will include payments related to maintenance, fuel, etc. while buses are not in service.

Dr. Willett reviewed what was currently going on in the district including effects on the budget. The board of education office has people rotating in to keep in line with social distancing guidelines. Food services is working out of the high school. The expectation is the USDA will be reimbursing for breakfast and lunch but there may be expenses related to this until that happens. Spring sports will not have stipends paid out and pay to pay fees will be reimbursed. There is a need for telephone upgrades due to Birch Grove that may need to be done sooner than expected due to the BGP Project timeline. We had enough Chromebooks to give out to any family that requested one. We may see possible savings in energy costs with the buildings being unoccupied at this time.

Review of the Executive Order 7R, CARES act (Coronavirus, Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act) and the FFCRA Act (Families First Coronavirus Response Act) and the effects on TPS employees including sick leave and expanded medical leave. Dr. Willett will be reviewing potential state and federal grants.

Dr. Willett discussed the potential of having end of year funds. We will have the choices to 1. Allocate to priority expenditures 2. Request remaining funds to be transferred to the Education Reserve Fund 3. Both or 4. No action and roll the money over to the town. Discussions followed about the possible reduction in the Board of Education budget to Zero. We will need to review if that becomes the official directive from the Town Council.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:02 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Christine Griffin