

UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Education Center
2229 E. Buck Road
Pennsburg, PA 18073**

**Finance Committee Meeting
February 21, 2023**

CHAIRPERSON: Melanie Cunningham

MEMBERS:

Judy Maginnis
Keith McCarrick

Business Administrator: Daniel Direso
Asst. Business Administrator: Megan Moyer
Superintendent: Dr. Allyn Roche

AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes
 - a. January 17, 2023
2. Presentation and Discussion
 - a. Food Service Presentation
 - b. 2023-2024 Budget
 - i. Technology
 - ii. Facilities
 - iii. Transportation
 - c. Fair Funding Lawsuit

Next Meeting: March 20, 2023

Mission Statement

The Finance Committee is an advisory committee who are devoting the extra time and effort to understand the finances of the district in order to assist and guide the Board on financial decisions which affect the short and long term financial health of the district.

UPPER PERKIOMEN SCHOOL DISTRICT
FINANCE COMMITTEE
January 17, 2023

The Finance Committee Meeting was held at the Upper Perkiomen Education Center with the following committee members attending: Melanie Cunningham (Chairperson), Keith McCarrick, and Judy Maginnis. Others in attendance were: Dr. Allyn Roche and Daniel Direso
6:00 Melanie Cunningham called meeting to order and November 21, 2022 Minutes approved.

Discussion:

Upper Hanover Authority Tapping Fees

Daniel Direso gave an update on the Upper Hanover Authority Tapping fees. Doug heard back and the Authority is allowing us to pay the \$85K in fees in the next budget year as Melanie has suggested. As a recap, the fees in questions are 24 EDUs needed at \$3,558 per EDU = [\\$85,392](#) from Middle School Construction. In good news, the Authority waived \$25K for Hereford Elementary Tapping Fees.

Charter School Cost Review

Dan Direso reviewed the Charter School enrollment back to the 19-20 School Year for Special and General Education . There was a spike in enrollment to Charter schools in 20-21 (195) and we are gradually decreasing the enrollment numbers in the present to 169. Tuition rates have been in the ballpark of \$13K per pupil for General Education and \$27K per pupil for Special Education until this year (22-23) because of our budget. The PDE 363 is filled out yearly using budgets from prior year. This form calculates what our Charter School Rate will be. Dan presented the PDE-363 Form and reviewed how Average Daily Membership (ADM) is part of the calculation. Judy asked if our ADM considers the Charter School Students and if we can deduct the cost we spend on Charter School Tuition? Dan answered no to each question and went on further to explain what the form is calculating and our budgetary reserve has caused an increase to the per pupil Charter School Tuition. Allyn Roche presented a plan for creating a survey for the Charter School families to gather information and work on getting these students back in our buildings. UPSD roughly pays \$3M in Charter School Costs.

2023-2024 Referendum Exception Data

Dan brought to our attention that notification from PDE was received on December 30, 2022 regarding referendum exception data and the Fiscal Year to be used. PDE determined the 2021-2022 fiscal data would be considered the most recent year used to calculate districts' eligibility for referendum exception related to special education.

2023-2024 Budget Timeline

The 23-24 Budget Timeline was presented. Last Board Meeting was moved to June 15, 2023 in order to add an additional Finance Committee meeting to make Final Budget Adjustments before Board approval.

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Preliminary Salaries and Benefits

First Budget topic is Salaries and Benefits. Dan presented some Bar charts to show the % of Salaries by Employee Type. Professional Salaries are the majority which is making budgeting Salaries and Benefits Difficult. This topic is a giant question mark due to negotiations but still needs to be discussed. Judy asked if there is any anticipation of new Staff. Dr. Roche answered that we are not anticipating any additional staff except for Security which would come out of contracted services. A discussion was brought up about PSERS. PSERS % is decreasing to 34% but is projected to increase in future years. PSERS is an opt-out exemption. We can file for exemption for an increase for the % over our Act 1 Index.

Motion by Keith McCarrick seconded by Judy Maginnis. Melanie Cunningham adjourned the meeting at 6:53pm.