



FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, July 18, 2024

9:30 a.m.

Committee Members: Michele Mencer, Chair (absent)
Dr. Camille Cerciello, Ellen De Pinto,
Justina Ryan, Randall Peach (alternate)

Administrative Staff: Dr. Jonathan Hart, Superintendent
Jason Bohm, SBA/Board Secretary

1. **Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program Plan:** This plan requires board approval on an annual basis and will only be used in the case of a health related emergency closure. Minor changes have been made to the Meal Services, English Language Learners, and Preschool Students portions to bring this plan up to date for the 2024-2025 school year.
2. **Summer 2024 Capital Projects:** Capital projects are going well
 - a. **RMS Gym HVAC (Pravco):** unexpected delays in the HVAC work due to extra asbestos work. There is structural work to do in the next two weeks and the roof and HVAC will be worked on at the same time. The HVAC work should be done by the 1st week of August.
 - b. **RMS Main Office** (roof, general construction, HVAC & Furniture): Secure fencing will be put up around the main office work area in the next two weeks and the doors to the building will be sealed. The work crews will be working inside the fencing area. Priority will be given to the nurses suite. The loud work and demo will be done by the end of August and the work will be mostly cosmetic in nature and therefore less noisy once school starts. The furniture has been selected and the lead time is 12 weeks. The sidewalk will be available for drop off and pick up and the work area will be mostly out of view.
 - c. **RMS LED Classroom Lighting:** This project is 90% complete and looks great. The lights are bright now but will be at appropriate levels in the next few weeks. It can take LED lights 2 weeks to a month to dim. This installation will save the district money long term on utilities.
 - d. **IT Switch & Access Point Project:** The upgrade to the equipment is going well and finishing up on time.
 - e. **First Responder Radio Enhancement:** This project is going very well and is ahead of schedule. Conduit has been pulled through in all buildings. Pravco and the radio provider are currently working together on the responder on the roof.

- f. **Private Preschool Providers New Classrooms (7):** 5 classrooms are complete. Global Pioneer will need all of August to get set up but their classrooms will be ready for September, however, some updates will be ongoing throughout the year.

3. Tuition Reimbursement / RTEA Contract / Sidebar: The Finance Committee and the Negotiations Committee discussed an agreement with the RTEA that would provide a one-time additional payment to the RTEA for the purposes of tuition reimbursement.

4. Potential Referendum / Expiring Debt: The committee further discussed a potential referendum for the 2025 ballot that will address the debt that will be expiring. We discussed different options regarding the expiring debt as well as improvements that the referendum could provide for the district and agreed to continue to discuss and move forward with the process.

Suggested timelines if proceeds:

- i. *Now - December 2024:* Compile construction projects for inclusion in referendum
- ii. *January - August 2025:* Architect and consultants prepare backend paperwork, public campaign
- iii. *September 2025 (or December, January, March, November) -* Referendum on ballot

5. Electric School Bus Grant The committee discussed a grant for additional electric school buses. The committee discussed safety concerns and taking necessary precautions to ensure protection of the diesel fleet as well as training and indirect costs involved in this project. The committee also discussed the need to add more electric buses during the pilot period and if we should only pilot one to see if it works before increasing our inventory. The committee didn't get to finish their discussion and it is to be continued due to time constraints.

6. Solar Expansion Update - Tabled due to time constraints

7. Prescription Transition Update - Tabled due to time constraints

8. PILOT (Payment In Lieu of Taxes) - Tabled due to time constraints

9. Finance Agenda Items / Bill List - Emergency Virtual Plan, non-resident staff tuition agreements, ESCNJ transportation agreement, RTEA sidebar, electric school bus grant/Sourcewell, ESEA/IDEA grants

10. Next meeting is planned for: August 29 at 8:30 a.m. and email to circulate for late September at 8:30 a.m.

Tentative Topics: solar, referendum, capital projects, [OPRA legal alert](#)