



Regional School District #4
Chester – Deep River – Essex – Region 4
Joint Board of Education Sub-Committee Meeting

Committee: Joint BOE Finance Committee

Date: Wednesday, October 18, 2023 • 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Location: Google Meet (Remote)

Attendance:

Ken Rice (Chester)		Betsy Scholfield (Deep River)		Lon Seidman (Essex)	
VACANT (Chester)		Nick Rioux (Deep River)		Mark Watson (Essex)	X
Jennifer Clark (Region 4)	X	Rick Daniels (Region 4)	X	Lol Fearon (Region 4)	X
John Stack (R4 Treasurer)	X	Bob Grissom (Finance Dir.)	X		

X – In Attendance

Blank – Did not attend

Items/Discussion:

- Mr. Grissom called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM, followed by a verbal roll call
- Mr. Grissom introduced meeting guest Joseph Spurgeon, Medical Insurance Advisor Lindberg & Ripple, to provide an update on the Medical Insurance Reserve Fund. Update included claims experience vs. projections for FY22-23 and a discussion regarding the current medical fund reserve balance, which was deemed over-reserved by Mr. Spurgeon. Update also included year-to-date claims information vs. projections for FY2023-24, as well as changes in the plan demographics.
- Mr. Grissom provided an update around the FY22-23 audits, including approximate surplus balances for Region 4, \$347,000, and Supervision District, \$200,000, as provided by our audit firms. We anticipate hearing from our auditors at the December 7, 2023 Joint Board of Education Meeting.
- Mr. Grissom led a discussion around Policy #3280 – Gifts, Grants, and Bequests, to determine the committee's willingness to propose a dollar threshold under which the Administration may accept a gift or donation without first receiving Board approval. It was noted that the current policy, which says all donations or gifts must be approved by the respective Board before being accepted and used, delays the District's ability to use items timely and has caused confusion with the givers. The committee was willing to recommend a threshold to the Joint Board of Education Policy Committee for their review. Mr. Grissom will discuss this more with Superintendent Brian White.
- Mr. Grissom reminded the committee of upcoming negotiations, which include the R4 Custodial group and Teachers group, and that potential impacts will be discussed in our budget workshops.
- Mr. Grissom shared that the Administration has developed a DRAFT Long Range Capital Plan for the Region 4 Schools, which will drive discussions with the towns and Region 4 Board throughout the upcoming year.
- Mr. Grissom reminded the committee that the District will be going out to bid for a new 5-year transportation contract this year. Further discussion will occur with the Supervision District Committee and in budget workshops.

- Ms. Clark noted that the committee would need to add a VOTE to the upcoming committee meeting agenda to approve the minutes from the last committee meeting.
- There was no Public Comment
- The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Grissom at 1:02 PM

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:

- December 13, 2023 @ 12:00 PM