

Minutes for April 3, 2024
School Board Work Session
Holdingford Public School

Chair Opatz called the Work Session of the School Board of Independent School District #738 to order at 6:01 PM in the High School meeting room.

Members present: Elissa Ebnet, Nicole Burg, Lori Opatz, Ed Feia, Rob Knettel and Pat Meier. Absent: Evelyn Martini

Also attending was Superintendent Chris Swenson, Business Manager Garrity Gerber, Secondary Principal Kevin Beehler, and District Adm. Assistant Linda Zapzalka.

Mr. Gerber presented the FY24 adopted revenue and expenditure budgets. He explained all the different pots of money and what their allowable uses are. Mr. Gerber presented the revenue sources and a comparison to other districts in the area. He presented the same on the expenditure categories. Mr. Gerber then summarized the budget changes and the revised budget for FY24. The projected fund balance for the year end of FY24 is 16.15%. The Board supports the revisions to the FY24 budget.

The FY25 initial budget was then presented along with budget assumptions, budget additions to consider, budget reduction options, and future outlook. A lengthy discussion took place on budget assumptions, additions to consider, and possible cuts. The consensus of the Board is to fill the Counselor position. Some cuts being considered include eliminating the floating sub position, reducing SRO time, and reducing “priority 2” technology. Another option is to move excess expenses to categorical funds realizing that this is only a short term fix.

Mr. Gerber’s recommendation is to prioritize the capital requests with the understanding that some items will have to wait for another year.

The board thanked Mr. Gerber for all his work putting together the data.

A review of Policy 722 took place. No changes to this policy at this time. It is a mandatory policy with a required annual review.

The last agenda item called for a closed meeting to follow the Work Session to discuss Superintendent negotiations.

The agenda was completed at 7:26 PM with a motion to adjourn by Feia, and a second by Ebnet. Motion carried. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted by
Pat Meier, Clerk