

LAKE GEORGE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Public Hearing  
Lake George Jr.-Sr. High School Library

Minutes  
(PA) Public Access Document

7:00 P.M.

May 1, 2018

**1. ROLL CALL**

President Tim Collins, Vice President Kim Heunemann, Marc Mularz, Courtney Richichi, James McCabe, Superintendent Lynne Rutnik, Business Manager Kate DuBois, Principal James Conway, Sec. Principal Francis Coccozza, Vice-Principal Cody Conley, 40-faculty/staff/community members.

Absent: John Kelleher, Tom Seguljic.

**2. WELCOME**

Board President Tim Collins welcomed members of the audience to the Public Hearing on the 2018-2019 Budget.

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Member James McCabe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**4. BUDGET PROCESS AND REMARKS ON THE BUDGET**

Tim Collins highlighted the budget process as follows:

- The Board of Education, Administrative Team, and District Faculty/staff worked collaboratively to develop a budget that is the first budget associated with the new mission, vision, values, and goals.
- Objective to align the district's financial and human resources to the goals and fulfill the community's vision for the district and its children while being sustainable for the future.
- Overall budget-to-budget increase of \$433,537 or 1.89%.
- Summary of how funds will be used to support the district's five goals:
  - Goal 1 - Raise the Bar
    - Align k-12 curriculum to Next Generation Learning Standards. Includes professional development for teachers and the hiring of an interim director of curriculum, instruction, and student support services
    - Implement a preventative maintenance program for refrigeration units to optimize our exceptional food service program
  - Goal 2 - Close the Gap
    - Begin "Critical Friend" program with SUNY Plattsburgh to help the Data Leadership Team identify areas of strength and improvement in order to enhance instruction
    - Expand the services of the behavioral consultant
    - Improve the RTI and AIS programs and align them k-12
    - Restructure student support services to address social and emotional needs k-12
  - Goal 3 - Create Innovative and Engaging Learning Environments
    - Provide professional development for the Innovation Committee
    - Expand the Executive Functioning Program
  - Goal 4 - Student Leadership, Engagement and Diversity
    - Begin partnership with Sweethearts and Heroes
    - Support ongoing student leadership programs
  - Goal 5 – Cultivating Community Partners
    - Summer Book Van to bring books to students in the community throughout the summer
    - Improve public access to Board of Education documents online
    - Purchase second set of bleachers for the athletic field
    - Increase the All-Natural tick control program on the district fields and trails
    - Increase the number of rented portable restrooms for athletic events, and increase frequency of service
  - Residents will be asked to approve the purchase of one 60c-passenger school bus as separate proposition. This purchase will replace a bus that has reached the end of its useful life and follows our vehicle replacement plan schedule.

**5. REMARKS ON REVENUES**

Kim Heunemann remarked on the budget revenues as follows:

- Budget under the tax cap
- District was mindful of creating a sustainable budget for the future
- Conservative spending, careful planning, and prudent fiscal management minimizes the tax burden while maximizing educational opportunities for our students
- Maintain a stable tax rate – Lake George has the 3<sup>rd</sup> lowest tax rate in area; 4<sup>th</sup> lowest statewide
- Tax Levy below the maximum allowable tax levy limit
- Appropriating fund balance and reserves

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**6. BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Business Manager Kate DuBois provided the final slide show on the proposed 2018-2019 budget. The Budget vote is being held on May 15, 2018 between 9:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. at the Lake George Elementary School Gymnasium.

- Budget targets reviewed
- Goals set in Strategic Plan and alignment
  - Supporting whole child
- 2018-2019 proposed budget chart
- Slide “Where does our money go?”
  - Salary & benefits = 77%
  - Services = 15%
  - Equipment, Materials & supplies = 3%
  - Interfund transfer = 5%
- Estimated revenues reviewed
- Where does our money come from?”
  - Local share 84%
  - State Aid 10%
  - Other sources 1%
  - Fund balance & reserves 5%
- Tax Levy information reviewed
- Budget Notice reviewed
- Contingency Budget information reviewed
- Proposition Bus purchase – Proposition #1 reviewed

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Community members commented on the following:

- Superintendent raise
- 84% of budget and where it comes from
- Bleacher cost – purpose of proposed purchase
- Handicap accessibility at the track
- Proposed revenue – interest and projections
- How many teacher/staff retirements
- New Director of Curriculum & Instruction – lack of input from people concerned
- Vehicle replacement plan
- School Safety Meeting – retired sheriff/police officers included in budget?
- How flexible is the budget without having to rely on outside sources with unexpected expenses?
- What happens to athletics under a contingency budget?

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Motion made by Kim Heunemann and seconded by Marc Mularz that the Board of Education of the Lake George Central School District hereby adjourns the public hearing of May 1, 2018.

Aye: Tim Collins, Kim Heunemann, Marc Mularz, Courtney Richichi, James McCabe. Nay: None. Abstain: None. Absent: John Kelleher, Tom Seguljic. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Sarah E. Barton, District Clerk