

# Seymour Board of Education



## FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

May 6, 2019

Seymour Middle School

7:00 pm

COPY RECEIVED  
DATE: 5/13/19  
TIME: 1:25 PM  
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

**BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Christopher Champagne  
Kristen Harmeling  
Jay Hatfield

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:** Michael Wilson, Superintendent of Schools  
Vonda Tencza, Associate Superintendent  
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk  
Ed Strumello

### I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Hatfield called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:17 p.m.

### II. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### III. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

A. Information and Recommended Action

1. Financial Management Summary

Mr. Wilson reviewed the financial management summary with the committee. There was a discussion on how tight we are right now with only 18% remaining. Mr. Hatfield asked for an explanation on why so much money was spent on maintenance. Mr. Wilson said when Mr. Connors started in this job there were many jobs left undone. He tried to address a lot of the problems initially. Now he sees the need to prioritize the projects in terms of projects that can wait until July 1, 2019. Mr. Wilson explained that employee benefits claims came in after the money was budgeted. Those claims will be processed. He said most of the costs in ground maintenance was due to supplies such as mulch. Mr. Hatfield asked for an update on the unemployment costs and the substitute paraprofessional situation. Ms. Harmeling said she would like to see better categories with regard to the legal fees. She also wanted check registers showing the information of who is getting paid under a grant. She asked about how transfers happen with grants. Mr. Wilson said he can get further detail at next month's meeting. Ms. Harmeling asked about the situation with substitute paraprofessionals as those costs continue to rise. Mr. Wilson said Dr. Boyle is paying close attention to this and is looking at our resources to see if there is a better way to use current staff. Sometimes the IEP prohibits the use of one paraprofessional for multiple students. Mr. Wilson and Dr. Boyle are aware the costs are high. Ms. Harmeling said we need to look at the value of a substitute paraprofessional. They don't know the kids, the IEP, or the school. IEP's should be more flexible.

**MOTION:** (Mr. Champagne/sec., Ms. Harmeling) recommend to the full Board the approval of the Financial Management Summary ending April 29, 2019 as presented

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield

B. Reports

1. Chairman's Report

Mr. Hatfield asked Mr. Wilson for more specific information with regard to general counsel on the legal costs sheet. Mr. Champagne asked about the medical insurance premium cost and Mr. Wilson confirmed that it has increased to 15% up from 7.5% this year. Cigna had originally wanted an increase of 19% but that was negotiated down to 15%.

2. Superintendent's Report

None

IV. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

V. **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** (Mr. Champagne/sec., Ms. Harmeling) to adjourn

**SO VOTED**

**AFFIRMATIVE:** Mr. Champagne, Ms. Harmeling, Mr. Hatfield

The meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm

Submitted by:  
Lee-Ann Dauerty  
Board Clerk