

Scarborough Public Schools
MEETING NOTES

Group/Team: School Board Finance Committee

Date: 2/4/2016

Start Time: 6:00 p.m.

End Time: 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Jodi Shea, Chair; Christine Massengill, Cari Lyford, George Entwistle, Kate Bolton

Others Present: Donna Beeley (SB Chair), Chris Caiazzo (TC Liaison)

Next Meeting: March 10, 2016, 6:00 p.m.

Joint meeting with Town Council Finance Committee: February 11, 2016, 2:00 p.m.

Distribution: School Board

Post to web site

Notes/Action	Responsibility	Timeline
<p>Joint meeting with Town Council Finance Committee: The Committee reflected briefly on the joint meeting of January 14. Consensus was that we are on the right track with collaboration and hopeful that budget decisions can be made from a more thoughtful and data-driven place through this process.</p>	<p>Jodi will report out to full Board and public in tonight's committee reports.</p>	<p>School Board meeting 2/4. Next joint meeting is 2/11/16 at 2 pm in Chambers A.</p>
<p>Budget metrics: The Committee reviewed previous ideas for effective metrics to share and make use of during budget development conversations. Ideas proposed so far include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparison of student-teacher ratios with other districts; • Comparison of per pupil spending compared with other districts; • Student performance and outcomes; • Comparison with other towns of % of municipal budget allocated to education; • Comparison of course offerings available to students in other districts. 	<p>Further discussion planned for joint Town Council/School Board finance meetings. See CEPARE item below.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

<p>CEPARE analysis:</p> <p>George, Kate and Tom have met twice with a group from CEPARE (Center for Education Policy, Applied Research and Evaluation) in hopes that they can help us research and analyze data to support our work on budget metrics. They seem enthusiastic about the data available and the prospect of creating a credible report around school budgets in Scarborough.</p> <p>They recommended first identifying a viable cohort group, then gathering data to compare within that group. They will present us with a proposal and a cost at a follow-up meeting on February 11; we have asked for the report to be completed by mid-March.</p> <p>The Committee discussed the difficulty of presenting data to the community when we as school leaders can be perceived as biased and our reporting dismissed as unreliable. CEPARE would offer an independent view that would hopefully be more effective.</p>	<p>George and Kate to receive proposal and share with Committee.</p>	<p>After February 11 meeting with CEPARE.</p>
<p>Revenues:</p> <p>The Committee discussed the news from Augusta of potential \$1.5M reduction in Scarborough’s state subsidy for FY17. If we are able to tackle this as a loss to the town as a whole rather than just to the schools, we will be able to preserve the problem-solving approach that has been undertaken by the joint Finance Committees.</p> <p>Some brainstorming around non-tax revenue generation (as well as building relationships between schools and citizens):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community events hosted by the schools; • Access to school events with Senior group membership; • Dinners, lunches, teas for seniors catered by School Nutrition. 	<p>Discussion to continue with the Joint Committee – finding ways to encourage the Legislature to add more funding to education.</p> <p>Potential for collaboration with Community Services?</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>