

March Board Notes

4. We're running about \$130,000 below last year in expenses. I expect that to change and be closer to zero by the time we get to the end of the year, but for now this looks good. Cash on hand remains strong which should help us get through to the first payment next year. Nutrition remains strong and the activity fund looks more in line. Local Option funds are back over 1 million. Instructional Support Levy is currently healthy, but will be changing as we continue to spend from there.

4d. I recommend Gerald Burgart as a mentor in the STAR mentoring program. We have 22 matches in New Hampton. Mr. Schmitt recommends Radney Roosa as our 7th grade track coach. I will also have two recommendations for instructional coaches at the board meeting. Carol Hovey has turned in her resignation effective at the end of the year. I recommend we accept that.

9a. I have been looking at converting our existing T-8 Fluorescent bulbs to LED within the high school and possibly parts of the middle school. It is estimated that these will save 25% to 35% in electricity usage. Lighting is a major part of our electric bill each month. This will be direct savings to the General Fund. In addition, we can use existing fixtures in most areas of the building—but we are looking at dimmable panels for preschool and kindergarten. The research shows they respond best when light intensity is changed after coming from an active area. I hope to have quotes by the time of the board meeting to give you an idea of the cost.

9b. We need to approve our annual contract with Jostens for our yearbook.

9c. We would like to purchase the web based service for our accounting software. Currently we host it on our own server, but having it hosted by the company will allow access anywhere I may be. If I'm in Turkey Valley, I can approve requisitions there. We discussed this in our joint meeting with Turkey Valley. The cost of this will come from SAVE funds. We are also looking to purchase the Human Resources module with this as well. I will have additional information at the board meeting.

9d. We will have quotes for some additional project including painting at the middle school and carpeting the middle school band room.

9e. I will be reviewing the 2016-2017 budget during the board meeting. A couple of notes: First, since we don't know the amount of Supplemental State Aid, we will publish our budget at the highest possible level which is assuming a 4% increase in Supplemental State Aid. When the final amount is known, the department of management will automatically lower it to the allowable level. Last year, we published at \$10.80 and it ended up being \$10.59 after the governor approved the budget in July. Second, when I present the budget on Monday night, I plan to show you the numbers at 2.5% Supplemental State Aid. We will talk more about that at the board meeting.

9f. We need to set the date and time for our public hearing on the 2016-2017 budget before we certify it that night.

9g. We need to set the date and time for the public hearing on the start date and the 2016-2017 school calendar.