



Financial Review And Reporting Committee Minutes

New Albany Plain Local School District
2-8 Building – Community Room
177 N High Street
New Albany, OH 43054

Financial Review and Reporting Committee Monday, September 21, 2015

Our Mission: *To ensure the development of high achieving, ethical, self-directed, and Intellectually curious citizens of the world.*

Members Present: Becky Jenkins, April Domine, Joe Armpriester, Mark Ryan, Molly Cooper, Parag Patel, Phil Darrow, Brian Steel, Laura Kohler

Members Absent: Charlie Osborne, Kevin Stahl, William Neville and Dave Demers

Others Present: Jill Hatten, Patrick Gallaway, Monica Gerhart

- Mark Ryan welcomed the committee members and opened the meeting at 8:37 am once a quorum was reached.
- Minutes: The minutes from the June 15, 2015 meeting were reviewed and approved.
- Financial Report: Ms. Jenkins reviewed the August financial report. The district is only two months into the fiscal year and all areas are on plan as expected. The district has received the final second-half settlement from the Franklin County Auditor's office. Real estate revenue was slightly under projections but continue to be on plan. We will monitor this revenue source as we begin collecting first half tax payments in January and February.

Ms. Jenkins also told the committee that we joined the Ohio Treasurer of State's new online resource known as Ohio Checkbook.com. We have loaded expenditures for all funds for a three-year historical period. This site includes historical data and does not capture budgeted amounts at this time. The district was one of the first entities to submit information. Ms. Jenkins was given access to New Albany's information to review and she believes the site will be a very valuable resource.

One concern is that having included all funds the general public may not understand that funds outside the general fund have their own funding source and most instances are not funded from taxpayer dollars. In the end, the public seeks transparency with public spending and the district will benefit from providing it.

- State of the Schools/Forecast Assumptions:

Dr. Domine reviewed the state of the schools information that was presented to the Board of Education. She reviewed many student successes from the previous school year and discussed the other areas that would be covered including instructional staff accomplishments, financial information and plans to review the strategic plan.

Dr. Domine also discussed the format of the state of the schools event. She explained that there would be two students talking about student success, a principal and teacher discussing instruction and Mark Ryan and Becky Jenkins discussing financial responsibility.

Ms. Jenkins then began discussing the assumptions being used to complete the October five year forecast. Our last forecast was completed in May and this will include changes that have occurred since then. She explained that all of the terms of the contract negotiations that were approved in June are included. In addition, all of the revenue increases that became known in June/July have been updated including the state foundation aid increases, real estate revenue increase due to AEP self-reporting value increases and the increase to the Center Village TIF. The expense reductions and negotiated changes will have a far greater financial impact than the smaller revenue increases.

She relayed that Marburn Academy is now expected to open in fall of 2016. She increased the "tuition to other districts line" in the budget in anticipation of the students that will likely leave the district and attend Marburn. The state will then deduct the per-pupil allowance estimated at \$10,000 per student and send those funds to Marburn. The district will also have to serve school psych services to all of the students in Marburn which will require the hiring of one school psych FTE.

Also included in the forecast is an increase due to the college credit plus mandate. We will have to monitor participation in this program and adjust costs accordingly.

We have also decreased the anticipated cost of unemployment to \$300,000 as we know many of our staff have either been recalled or have found positions in other districts. We are just beginning to receive unemployment invoices for the summer months and do find that some teaching staff still receive unemployment compensation over the summer months even though they still received a paycheck and knew they had a job beginning in August. We have discussed this with our representative for the Ohio Job and Family Services but do not expect to have the payments reversed. We will continue to monitor this expense.

Mr. Darrow asked about our student/teacher ratio at 21 or 22:1. Dr. Domine explained class size versus ratio and the various means that these metrics can be calculated. Mr. Darrow asked if the number of existing staff was sufficient to balance the classes with higher student counts. Dr. Domine explained that teachers certified to teach some of the elective classes we offer are not certified in the areas where class size is so much higher. She also explained that though some classes on paper show lower student count there may be up to three different classes being taught in the same room during the same period which means one teacher teaching more than one lesson at the same time.

Mr. Darrow asked Dr. Domine how long it would take to rebalance the teaching staff in order to balance the class size. Dr. Domine said it depended on staff turnover and student course selection

Ms. Jenkins shared that these assumptions will be included in the five year forecast and presented to the board on October 12 for review, then to the FRRC on the 19th. She will seek board approval at the Regular meeting on October 26.

Joe Armpriester asked if a district could pass a levy but not collect it for maybe three years. Ms. Jenkins said she would have to check on that. She knew you could pass a levy and delay collection for one year but was unsure about delaying for three years.

Adjourn:

Mr. Ryan thanked all those in attendance and adjourned the meeting at 9:59 am.