

A Special Budget Planning Meeting of the Mohawk Area School District Board of Directors was called to order at 6:30 P.M. by the President, Mark Hiler, and commenced with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silence. The following members were present: James Capalbo, Stephen Cardella, James McKim, and Mark Solley. Scott Singer arrived at 6:41 p.m. Eugene A. Butch, Jr., Lori Griffin, and Jonathan Laughner were excused. Michael Leiterra, Superintendent, Lorree Houk, Assistant to the Superintendent, and Kimberly Eaton, Board Secretary, also attended.

There was no public comment.

Discussion:

-- **2017-2018 Proposed Final General Operating Budget** - Mr. Leiterra presented cost saving strategies and several efforts that have been implemented or are under consideration are:

- Staff reductions through retirement attrition and/or restructuring. These staff reductions include the professional staff, custodial and maintenance staff, and cafeteria staff. Administration is not renewing several personnel agreements for the 2017-2018 school year.
- Renegotiation of several district vendor contracts (insurances, special education services, security services, alternative education, athletic trainer)
- Met with the department heads – examined/prioritized items requested; eliminated classroom flooring and maintenance agreements
- Met with the athletic director – reduced supply budgets by 5%
- Met with the technology director – examined/reviewed type of computerized unit for high school and then reviewed if we can refurbish the older machines for the elementary school
- Continued review of capital projects including the status of LCCTC’s roof project
- Reviewed utility costs and trends; also an energy consumption study has been started

--Ms. Eaton explained the Lawrence County Career and Technical Center revised their roof project cost proposal --- the School District’s portion decreased from \$200,000 to \$99,700.

--Ms. Eaton mentioned that the cost of natural gas continues to trend downward. Ms. Eaton showed a trend analysis of the utilities.

--Mr. Leiterra reviewed the planned capital projects and a lengthy discussion followed.

--Ms. Eaton explained that the changes (personnel, technology replacements, and capital outlays) since the May 9th proposal will

reduce the deficit by \$387,606. The overall deficit will be \$2,012,365 for the 2017-2018 general operating budget.

--Mr. Leitera said he will meet with several vendors in the upcoming week to gather lower costs.

It was announced that an executive session for personnel and legal matters would immediately follow the meeting.

At 8:11 P.M., the meeting was adjourned to Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel and legal matters.

Kimberly Eaton
Board Secretary