

GREENWICH CENTRAL SCHOOL
“Scholarship, Character, Community, Cultivating the Future.”

Budget Dialogue w/ Unions
January 21, 2010, 7:00 JSMS Media Center

Present: Matt Donnelly, Wes, Clark, Joe O’Malley, Kathy Roome, Sally Graziano, Cathleen Zebrowski, Leslea Davis, Barbara Bussing, Margaret Roberson, Peggy Strainer, Kay Johnson, Julie Mosher, Ben Cronin, Nicole Carner, Amy McPhail, Maria Robinson, Penny Estramonte, Joann Sloan-Haynes, Chris Kelly, Mary Ann Brownell, Cindi Barnes, Janet Dupuis, Lisa Towne, Margaret Hamilton, Betsy Foote, Jen Kuzmich, Karen Panza, Barb Moore, Scott Bryant, Joanne Penman, Stephanie Marcinko, Jean Wilbur, Ben Pisani, Maureen Edsforth, Heather Graham, Emily VanDriel, Heidi Holcomb, Brenda Facin, Mary Finan, Ann Hunt, Jan Zurbrugg, Laure Goodman, Sarah Smith, Tanya Grimes

Notes

Acceptable tax increase?

- 0% cost of living.
- Folks with no social security increase can’t afford more tax.
- County increased 6% combined with county so why not the school?
- Small increase is acceptable – Better than a big jump later

Do you have any ideas for increasing income?

- ACC classes
- Make money off of Drivers’ Education
- Hire a Grant Writer to look for money elsewhere, possibly jointly with other schools.
- Charge outside groups for usage

Other questions?

- Has the Board already made up their mind at 0%?
Answer: No decision has been made, but it is a guideline the BOE has adopted.
- Explain going to two nurses.
Answer: No plan has been decided. It’s an idea that is being discussed.
- What is the time line for deciding cuts? What is on the table for cuts?
Answer: We are waiting for the State to give us more specific information, but we are presenting our budget next month and should make some decisions before then.
- Will you continue to looking for suggestions?
Answer: Yes, that is the purpose of these meetings.
- Are there any fees we could suspend for a year?
Answer: We have. The NYS School Board Association dues are one that has been considered for cuts.
- Do we have legal firms on retainer?
Answer: No.
- What about out of district students?
Answer: We have brought several students back. It saved money and provided for a better program. We are looking at doing more of that.

Suggestions related to cuts:

- Marie Danish is a whole program not a position. Do not cut.
- Promote our classes to other districts.
- We have a new GED program – combine it with other schools
- Get an energy audit
- Use lights on the football field less
- Cut down on the use of substitutes
- Slow down curriculum mapping
- Contact politicians for more state aid.