



RTM Education Committee
Town of Branford

Josh Brooks, Lindsay Greenberg, Joseph Loffredo,
Barbara Maresca, Shaida Soomro, Tom Keefe
Donna Laich, Chair

Melissa
BRANFORD TOWN CLERK

2025 MAR 12 11:35

RECEIVED

Regular Scheduled Meeting

March 10, 2025

7:00 PM, Community House, 46 Church Street

1. Roll Call

RTM Representatives Present - Laich, Greenberg, Maresca, Soomro, Keefe

RTM Representatives Absent - Brooks, Loffredo

2. Approval of Minutes January 6, 2025

Motion to approve by Rep Greenberg; 2nd by Rep. Maresca

Unanimously approved in a voice vote

3. To consider, and if appropriate, approve an additional appropriation request from the Board of Education for \$300,000 to address a projected deficit in special education out-of-district tuition costs:

General Fund

Increase:

10148050-410010 Special Education \$300,000

Increase:

10148000-517010 BOE Non-Personnel \$300,000

***Resolved:* That the RTM consider, and if appropriate, approve an increase in appropriations for the Fiscal year 2025 General Fund Budget from \$135,792,612 to \$136,092,612. This increase will be funded through increased estimated revenue derived from excess cost reimbursements.**

A lengthy discussion continued with several questions/comments from RTM committee members. Dr. Tranberg (in person) and Blaize Levitan (virtual) answered questions and provided insight to members regarding the cost increases in special education out-of-district tuition costs. Agenda item #3 passed the committee unanimously in a voice vote (5-0)

4. To consider, and if appropriate, approve a request from the Board of Education to reallocate capital projects.

Parking Lot Paving

From:

Project 24411 Parking Lot Seal Coating-Mary Tisko School \$95,000

To:

Project 24410 Parking Lot Paving-Mary Murphy School \$95,000

Indian Neck School

From:

Project 24407 Indian Neck School-Boiler Replacement \$35,000

Project 25410 Indian Neck School-Facilities Vehicle \$ 5,675

\$40,675

To:

Project 25415 Indian Neck-Campus Safety/Security Upgrade \$40,675

Branford High School Tennis Court Seating

From:

Project 23406 BHS -Door Replacements \$50,000

To:

Project 25404 BHS-Tennis Court Seating \$50,000

RESOLVED: That the RTM consider, and if appropriate, approve a reallocation of BOE capital projects totaling \$185,675 in fiscal 2025.

Agenda item #4 passed unanimously in a voice Vote (5-0).

5. Education Budget and Administrative Update from the BPS Administration

Dr. Tranberg, Blaize Levitan (virtual), and Peter Berdon participated in the conversation. A brief overview of new programs and goals for improvements to the Branford Education System was provided to the committee. The full day tuition based pre-school program is popular and running at almost full capacity. Please check the BPS website to learn how you can participate in exciting ahappening this month.

Dr. Tranberg's original ask was a 6.8% increase. The BOE reduced the initial request to a 5.8%. When factoring in Excess Cost Reimbursement for special education, the impact to the taxpayer will be a 4.6% increase.

6. Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Rep. Greenberg, 2nd by Rep. Soomro and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted

Donna Laich

Chair, RTM Education Committee