


ENCLOSURE VIII D

Transfer of Funds FY24 - School Meeting Date 3/26/2024 - additional transfers				
			From	To
5	10000000-05101-321-10-2500-54204-0000-00	Grounds Services HS	1,155.00	
	10000000-04102-321-10-2500-54204-0000-00	Grounds Services MS	1,155.00	
	10000000-03103-321-10-2500-54204-0000-00	Grounds Services Cha		555.00
	10000000-03104-321-10-2500-54204-0000-00	Grounds Services Ric		630.00
	10000000-03105-321-10-2500-54204-0000-00	Grounds Services Ash		630.00
	10000000-03106-321-10-2500-54204-0000-00	Grounds Services HV		495.00
			2,310.00	2,310.00
Transfer funds for S&S Landscaping for grass mowing one time out, once per month, from April-June for the elementary school grounds.				
6	10000000-08645-431-20-2111-55630-0000-00	Tuition Non-Pub DCYF Placement Residential	40,000.00	
	10000000-99999-232-20-2133-53406-0000-00	Purchased Serv Autism		40,000.00
			40,000.00	40,000.00
Transfer funds due to the lack of psychologist/social worker support at elementary level due to vacancies, Dr. Pat has exceeded the amount in her contract and CRP due to assisting students in 3 of the 4 elementary schools.				

CHARIHO
MAR 25 2024
OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT


Chariho District Financial Meeting/Public Budget Hearing
March 5, 2024

Committee Members Present: Chair Catherine Giusti, Vice Chair Karen Reynolds, Donna Chambers, Tyler Champlin, Kathryn Colasante, Polly Hopkins, Craig Louzon, Linda Lyall, Andrew McQuaide, Larry Phelps, Patricia Pouliot and Jessica Purcell.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Gina Picard, Assistant Superintendent Michael Comella, Director of Administration and Finance Ned Draper, Assistant Director of Administration and Finance Lynn Gouvin and Systems Administrator Eric O'Brien. Also in attendance: School Committee Clerk Donna Sieczkiewicz.

Charlestown Moderator Charlie Beck called the Chariho District Financial Meeting/Public Budget Hearing, which was held in the Chariho Middle School auditorium, to order at 7:54 PM. He introduced himself and welcomed all to the Chariho Budget Hearing. He then asked all to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent meditation. He pointed out the exits in the event of an emergency evacuation and noted there was a quorum in each town. He then reviewed the rules of the meeting asking that speakers be treated with respect and courtesy. Anyone wishing to speak must approach the microphone and publicly announce their name and town of residence for the record. He would like speakers to keep their comments to five minutes or less. He will go around the room once and then circle back around again. This will give everyone the opportunity to speak. As this is a Public Hearing, the School Committee will take comments made by the public regarding the budget into consideration. There will be no votes taken this evening on the budget. The budget will be voted on at the All-Day Referendum scheduled for April 9. He asked for a motion to waive the reading of the Warrant. A motion was made, seconded and approved to waive the reading of the Warrant. He then asked for a motion to waive the reading of last year's minutes. A motion was made, seconded and approved to waive the reading of last year's minutes. Moderator Beck introduced School Committee Chair Catherine Giusti who recognized fellow School Committee members and Administrators on stage. She thanked all for attending the meeting.

I. Public Comment on the Budget - Moderator Beck reminded all that the first item for discussion is the budget. Scott Bill Hirst, Vice President of the Hopkinton Town Council, noted that he is speaking on his own, what he says is not the opinion of his Town Council. He again requested that the District consider a site management study to address fixed costs as 80% of the budget in Richmond is for education with Hopkinton at 79%. A majority of each of the towns' budgets goes to education. How will the School Committee address the issue? The towns have things they need to do. This needs to be a two-way street; it seems to be one-way. There is one Hopkinton Council member who thinks the towns should pay but we can't because only the School Committee can ask for the outside study. Get the results and analyze it. Please, please, please consider it. Thank you. David Bengston from Richmond noted that his son graduated from Chariho. The kids who started Kindergarten this past fall will graduate in 2037. We need to be educating them for the 2040s and 2050s, not the 1950s. URI President Dave Dooley would tell parents that the university is "educating students for jobs that don't exist yet." Chariho needs to do the same thing and we have a responsibility to support that. Sharon Davis from Hopkinton asked for clarification on Hope Valley Elementary School. Is Hopkinton paying the entire cost or are the three towns paying to which the Moderator explained that each town pays according to enrollment. Samantha Wilcox, a Richmond Town Council member, stated that she is speaking for herself and not the Council. She commented that while it wouldn't be popular among those in Hope Valley Elementary School, it is the right decision fiscally to begin the move to close the 90-year-old school regardless of whether new construction is approved at a referendum or not. By phasing out Kindergarten next year, the District will save \$437,800 and will realize more savings as years go on. Closing a school is not an easy decision and the locations hold tremendous sentimental value to many people. The decision made to increase the budget to keep Hope Valley open for one more year is not fiscally responsible and especially with the declining



FYI

TOWN OF RICHMOND, RHODE ISLAND
RICHMOND TOWN COUNCIL
RESOLUTION # 2024-7
Funding Formula

SECTION I

WHEREAS: In 2011, Rhode Island implemented a Foundation-based Funding Formula. The new Formula followed years of arbitrary education funding. A key element of the Formula is the Core Instructional Amount (CIA). The CIA funds essential education costs required by Rhode Island's Basic Education Program. The CIA is calculated using average expenditure and enrollment data from Rhode Island, Massachusetts, Connecticut, and New Hampshire. Under current law, the CIA will, in FY 2025, increase to \$12,617, a 6.2% increase. The Governor's proposed FY 2025 budget would index CIA funding to the Consumer Price Index and cap it to a 3.7% increase, or \$12,335. As a result, Local Education Agencies would realize a \$26 million reduction in formula aid and Rhode Island's per pupil expenditure average would fall further behind the other New England states.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Richmond Town Council urges the members of the General Assembly to maintain CIA funding at the existing level for FY 2025 and beyond.

SECTION II

WHEREAS: In FY2024, the Rhode Island General Assembly increased the categorical funding for Multi-Language Learners (MLL) from 10% of the CIA to 15%, increasing funding to \$20 million, and also directed the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE) to develop objective benchmarks consistent with the WIDA consortium for determining student English proficiency by October 1, 2023, and

WHEREAS: Heretofore, RIDE has yet to develop WIDA-compliant benchmarks.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Richmond Town Council urges the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education to direct RIDE staff to develop English proficiency benchmarks as soon as possible.

SECTION III

WHEREAS: The Rhode Island General Assembly increased the High-Cost Special Education categorical fund to \$15 million by lowering the reimbursement threshold from five times the CIA plus the student success factor to four times. And reducing it to three times (3X) would provide an additional \$25 million to LEAs to meet this critical need.

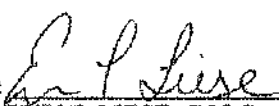
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the Richmond Town Council urges the members of the General Assembly to lower the High-Cost Special Education categorical fund to three times (3X) and provide full funding in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Honorable Daniel J. McKee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, the Honorable K. Joseph Shekarchi, Speaker of the Rhode Island House of Representatives, the Honorable Dominick J. Ruggerio, President of the Rhode Island Senate, the Council on Elementary and Secondary Education, Local Senators, Representatives and Town Councils.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following motion was made on March 19, 2024:

A motion was made by Councilor Wilcox, seconded by Councilor Sheehan approving the Resolution regarding the Education Funding Formula.
Vote: President Trimmer, Aye; Vice President Nassaney, Aye; Councilor Sheehan, Aye; Councilor Colasante, Aye; Councilor Wilcox, Aye

GIVEN UNDER THE SEAL OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF RICHMOND
THIS 19th Day of March 2024.

ATTEST: 
ERIN F. LIESE, C.M.C.
Richmond Town Clerk




MARK H. TRIMMER,
Richmond Town Council President