



Education Committee - Board of Representatives

Diane Lutz, Chair

Megan Cottrell, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Wednesday, October 23, 2019
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Place: Democratic Caucus Room, 4th Floor Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard, Stamford, CT

The Education Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Lutz and Committee Member Reps. Aquila, Cottrell, de la Cruz, Di Costanzo, Graziosi and Stella. Also present were Superintendent Lucero and Andy George and Frank Cerasoli, Board of Education.

Chair Lutz called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

| Item No. | Description | Committee Action |
|----------------------------|---|-------------------------------|
| 1. E30.043 | REVIEW; SPED Budget Update. 09/10/19 – Submitted by Dr. Lucero | Report Made & Held |

Dr. Lucero, Mr. George and Mr. Cerasoli discussed the [attached handout](#) with the Committee. She believes that they are under budgeted in the field of special education. They need to ensure that special education students get what they need and also find places for increased efficiencies.

- District placements are students who the district determines need to receive services outside of the district; the City has already met its budgeted number in the first month of school
- Agency placements are students who an outside agency determines need to receive services outside of the district; the City has already met its budgeted number in the first month of school
- Settlements are settlements with parents for outside placements
- The District is projecting to exceed its budget
- They believe they are under budget by about \$1.3 million
- Curtailing of costs would have to come out of other areas
- Last year there was an unusual spike in district outplacements
- The district is responsible for the education of all students in the district
- The district is working on creating programs in district to serve students
- Regionalization of special education services might provide a solution
- Special Education is challenging because different students have very different needs and because children should be educated with peers

Dr. Lucero distributed the attached [additional handout](#) regarding the school budget generally

A motion to hold this item was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Lutz, Aquila, Cottrell, de la Cruz, Di Costanzo and Graziosi in favor).

2. [E30.042](#) REVIEW; Maintenance and Repair Plan for Stamford Public Schools. **Report Made**
10/10/19 – Submitted by Rep. Cottrell

Dr. Lucero distributed the [attached document](#) regarding the general plan for maintaining the school facilities.

- The district is now handling maintenance in-house and has hired 3 facilities managers who are identifying issues to be addressed as part of a plan moving forward
- Some items are required; some have not been budgeted for
- They are in an assessment phase at this point to develop an actionable plan
- The facilities managers each have a specialty within the district and each is responsible for 7 schools
-

Committee members discussed getting more detailed information about the expenditures related to the Mold Task Force

3. E30.044 REVIEW; Update on Sidewalk Grants, Commencement of Work/Repair and Plans for Future Repair, Addition and Maintenance. **Report Made**
10/10/19 – Submitted by Rep. Lutz

Chair Lutz stated that Mr. Travers was not able to attend. The City has applied for a grant and is in the application process. They have allocated the necessary funds for the match if they get the grant.

Rep. Cottrell stated that they are trying to do a Cove Road improvement plan which would include better sidewalk access to KT Murphy and Rogers.

Chair Lutz adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Lutz, Chair

This meeting is on [video](#).