

**Salem Public Schools  
Salem School Committee  
FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE  
Meeting Minutes  
March 18, 2021**

On March 18, 2021, the Finance Subcommittee for Salem Public Schools met at 4:30 p.m. using the Zoom platform.

**Members Present:** Mary Manning, Amanda Campbell, Ana Nuncio

**Members Absent:** None

**Others in Attendance:** Superintendent Stephen Zrike, Assistant Superintendent Mary DeLai, and Duncan Mayer

**Call of Meeting to Order**

Ms. Manning called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Manning requested a motion to approve the minutes of February 25, 2021. Ms. Campbell made the motion and Ms. Nuncio seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ms. Campbell	Yes
Ms. Nuncio	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes
Motion carries 3-0	

**FY2022 School Department Budget Discussion**

Assistant Superintendent DeLai began the discussion by explaining the FY22 budget requests will be presented at 5 public budget forums (2 staff, 2 community, and 1 Spanish) and a budget summit that will include all budget managers.

Ms. DeLai explained to the Subcommittee that past budget increases have ranged from 1.6 to 5.6, with the 15 year average at 4%. Enrollment continues to decline which means there will be a decrease in federal aid, and 20% of Salem families choose a charter or private school rather than Salem Public Schools. Ms. DeLai stated that FY22 level service budget is up 2.6%. The FY21 budget has an \$800,000 difference because of concessions that did not happen and we are still waiting to settle contracts.

Ms. DeLai went on to explain some of the budget requests. Some requests included Kindergarten paraprofessional positions to increase from .6 to 1.0, permanent building subs, building based pd tutors and instructional supplies, equipment and technology. In addition, modules for antiracist training for all SPS staff.

Superintendent Zrike entered the meeting at 5:15 pm.

Ms. DeLai continued with the Operations & Maintenance requests, which includes several personnel positions and also non-personnel, including updating the electricity, preventative maintenance and updating security systems expenses.

The overall budget increases will be 8%, which is \$3.4 million over level service budget. Ms. DeLai stated that she has received feedback from the budget managers and has sorted the requests into a matrix. All requests have been rated from critical to deferrable. Professional Development has been rated on the top of the list.

Ms. DeLai explained the next steps:

- Evaluate requests and determine what can be funded
- Present a draft to the Finance Subcommittee on April 7th
- Present the recommended budget to the School Committee on the April 26th meeting
- Budget public hearing will be held on May 3rd
- The FY22 Budget will be presented for a vote at the May 17th School Committee meeting

The Subcommittee made a decision to meet again on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 at 5:30 pm for presentation of the draft of the recommended FY22 budget.

Ms. Campbell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 pm. Ms. Nuncio seconded. A roll call vote was made.

Ms. Campbell	Yes
Ms. Nuncio	Yes
Ms. Manning	Yes

Motion carries 3-0

Respectfully submitted by,

*Nancy A. Weiss*

Executive Assistant to the School Committee

**Approved April 7, 2021**