



POMPERAUG REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT 15

The mission of Region 15, a collaborative community committed to excellence, is to educate every student to be productive, ethical, and engaged in a global society through proven and innovative learning experiences supported by its strong community whose decision-making is based on the best interest of all students.

Mission Statement, Adopted 9 December 2002; Updated 2009

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Monday, March 23, 2015

Pomperaug High School, Southbury, Connecticut

PRESENT: Mr. Paul Babarik
 Ms. Janet Butkus
 Ms. Jennifer Connelly
 Mr. John R. Cookson
 Ms. Marion Manzo
 Ms. Patricia S. Perry, Chairperson
 Mr. Richard Spierto
 Mr. Steven Suriani

ABSENT: Ms. Sharon Guck

Also Present: Ms. Regina Lemerich Botsford, Superintendent of Schools
 Ms. Kelly Domogala, Student Representative

<p>1. Ms. Perry called the March 23, 2015 meeting of the Board of Education to order at 7:31 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.</p>	<p>Call to Order Pledge of Allegiance</p>
<p>2. Ms. Domogala announced the following PHS events and activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local scholarship applications are due on March 24 by 2:30 p.m. • Applications for non-local scholarships are available in the Guidance Office. • CAPT Testing begins on March 24 for Sophomores. • The Run with the Panthers 5k has been rescheduled to April 18. • GradNite Collage sessions are scheduled at the Southbury Public Library. Parents may access dates and times on the Region 15 website at <div style="text-align: center;">www.region15.org</div> • Spring sports, including information meetings, tryouts and practices, are underway. 	<p>Student Representatives</p>
<p>3. Ms. Perry stated that Board members and the Superintendent of Schools will present the following proposed 2015-16 Budget. The Finance and Facilities Committee held budget workshops to review the cost centers and</p>	<p>Presentation Proposed 2015-Budget</p>

to review the budget in detail. The Board is presenting the Superintendent's recommended budget as the Board's proposed budget. The Public Hearing on the budget and the budget adoption will take place on April 6.

Ms. Perry reviewed the Region 15 Mission Statement, noting that the statement serves as a guide for the Region and budget development.

Ms. Perry reviewed the changing landscape of education. The proposed budget reflects the Board's commitment to prepare students for their future.

The five areas of investment included in the proposed budget are:

- Technology
- Math Textbooks K-3
- Restoration of Library Books
- Turf Field
- New Textbooks, PHS

Why Technology?

- We must prepare our students for their future, not for our past.
- The future worlds of career and higher education increasingly require the use of technology.
- We have not kept pace with the changing needs for technology.

New/Replacement Technology Needs for 2015-16	#	Unit Cost	Total Cost
Upgrade infrastructure			\$234,380
Replace Smartboard Projectors K-8	43	\$1,000	\$43,000
Replace Smartboards K-8	1	\$3,500	\$3,500
Smartboard, PK	1	\$3,500	\$3,500
Add'l Computer Projectors, PHS	21	\$1,476	\$30,996
Add'l Computers/Software for Digital Learn Acad	5	\$1,600	\$8,000
TOTAL COST			\$323,376

Replacement Computer Needs for 2015-16	#	Unit Cost	Total to be Leased
Desktops 9 – 11 yrs old	156	\$250	\$39,000
Desktops 7-8 yrs old	320	\$250	\$80,000
Laptops 7-8 yrs old	363	\$225	\$81,675
Laptops 6 yrs old	235	\$225	\$52,875
TOTAL TO BE LEASED			\$253,550
15-16 COST OF MULTI-YR LEASE			\$60,000

Math

- Textbook adoption planned for 2015-16 for Grades K-3
- \$40,000

Mission Statement

Changing Landscape

Budget Investments

Technology

List of Technology Needs

New/Replacement Technology Needs for 2015-16

Replacement Computer Needs for 2015-16

Textbooks Needed for 2015-16

Library

- Restoration of library books at all levels
- \$82,232

Turf Field

- Replace turf field at PHS
- Multi-year financing funded from capital reserve for 15-16
- No budgetary impact for 15-16

Course

AP Economics	\$4,836
Personal Finance	\$5,000
AP Calculus	\$6,900
TOTAL	\$16,736

Ms. Botsford presented the following budget slides:

- SAT Means, Class of 2014

	Region 15	Connecticut	National
Reading	536	507	497
Math	551	510	513
Writing	535	508	487

- AP Exams, 2014
 - 249 students took 453 AP exams; 86% earned score of 3 or better
 - 37 AP Scholars
 - 10 AP Scholars with Honors
 - 20 AP Scholars with Distinction
 - 5 National AP Scholars

National Merit Scholarship Program for 2015

- Eight National Merit Commended Students
- Two National Merit Finalists

- Students At/ Above Goal on 2013 CMT
(Sample Grades)

	Gr 3 Math	Gr 3 Reading	Gr 3 Writing	Gr 5 Math	Gr 5 Reading	Gr 5 Writing	Gr 8 Math	Gr 8 Reading	Gr 8 Writing
R 15	80.8%	73.5%	70.9%	87.5%	81.9%	82.0%	84.4%	91.0%	83.7%
State	61.6%	56.9%	60.0%	69.4%	66.9%	65.6%	65.2%	76.3%	67.3%

Turf Field Replacement

New Textbooks for PHS

Return on Investment: Results SAT

Return on Investment: AP Students

Return on Investment: National Merit Scholarship

Return on Investment: CMT

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boston College • Boston University • Columbia University • Fairfield University • Fordham University • Haverford College • Massachusetts Institute of Technology • Miami University of Ohio 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New York University • Ohio State University • Pennsylvania State University • Quinnipiac University • Tufts University • University of Connecticut • University of Michigan • Vassar College • Virginia Polytechnic Institute
--	---

Return on Investment:

Sample Class of 2014 College Acceptances

- **89.2% of PHS Class of 2014 went on to college, with 25.6% of those students attending Most Competitive or Highly Competitive Colleges**
- **Freshman mean GPA** for PHS Classes of 2011 and 2012 attending four-year colleges was **3.2** in both years; previous three years consistently 3.1 – 3.2
- Informal survey of Most Competitive, Highly Competitive, Very Competitive, and Competitive colleges indicates that **PHS graduates outscore average of student bodies in every class of college competitiveness.**

Return on Investment:

College

“The first year of college has been documented in the professional literature as a challenging transition period academically. Many students have difficulty adjusting to the level of work, type of study, and independent nature of college life. The graduates of PHS did not....Region 15 produces a high quality product for postsecondary institutions. Documented with objective numeric data from the colleges and universities themselves, **the outcomes for this school district are remarkable and enviable.**”

-Words and Numbers Research

Ms. Connelly presented the following budget slides:

- 2011-2012 0.00 %
- 2012-2013 0.00 %
- 2013-2014 2.82 %
- 2014-2015 2.79 %
- 2015-2016 2.48 % PROPOSED

Five Year Budget Increase Overview

Primary Budget Drivers:

- Impact of rigorous cost-cutting measures in previous budgets, while still maintaining excellent services
- Maintaining reasonable and responsible class size
- Increased fixed costs
 - Medical Insurance increase of \$149,336
 - Pension Fund additional investment of \$125,000
- Potential reduction in state/federal grants

2015-16 Budget Development Considerations

Primary Budget Drivers:

Secondary Budget Drivers:

- Upgrade technology infrastructure and replace hardware that is beyond its useful life
- Adopt math texts for K-3
- Restore library books at all levels
- Replace turf field at PHS
- New texts, PHS

- Self-insurance: \$1 million saved annually beginning 2013-14
- Consortia Purchasing for Oil: \$150,000 saved over the last two years
- Energy Conservation Program: \$2.35 million over the past five years
- Conversion from oil to natural gas at PHS: \$100,000 over the last two years

Year	10/1 enrol	Diff from Prev Yr	Budget Incr	# Prof Staff FTE	Diff from Prev Yr	Program Improvements
14-15	3881	-131	2.79%	358	- 6	Increased Art/Music 3-5
13-14	4012	-95	2.82%	364	- 8	Began Full Day K
12-13	4107	-145	0.00%	372	+6	Increased SRBI K-5 Began SRBI 6-8
11-12	4252	-202	0.00%	366	-3	Began SRBI K-5 Began Dig Acad
10-11	4454	-102	2.15%	369	+1	Began WLang Gr 6
09-10	4556	+8	1.10%	368		

Based on CSDE’s 2013-2014 calculation of net current expenditures per pupil:

- Statewide:
 - Region 15 spent less per pupil than 62.7% of districts
 - Region 15 spent more per pupil than 36.7% of districts
- In DRG B:
 - Region 15 spent less per pupil than 57.1% of districts
 - Region 15 spent more per pupil than 38.1% of districts

<http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/cwp/view.asp?a=2635&q=320574>

Net Current Expenditures 2013-2014

- Full Day Kindergarten
- SRBI Services
- Upgraded Curricula
- Updating Library Materials
- Digital Learning Academy
- Advanced Placement Courses
- Commitment to Up-to-date Technology

Secondary Budget Drivers:

Cost Savings Measures Continuing from Previous Years

Enrollment/ Staffing/Budget History

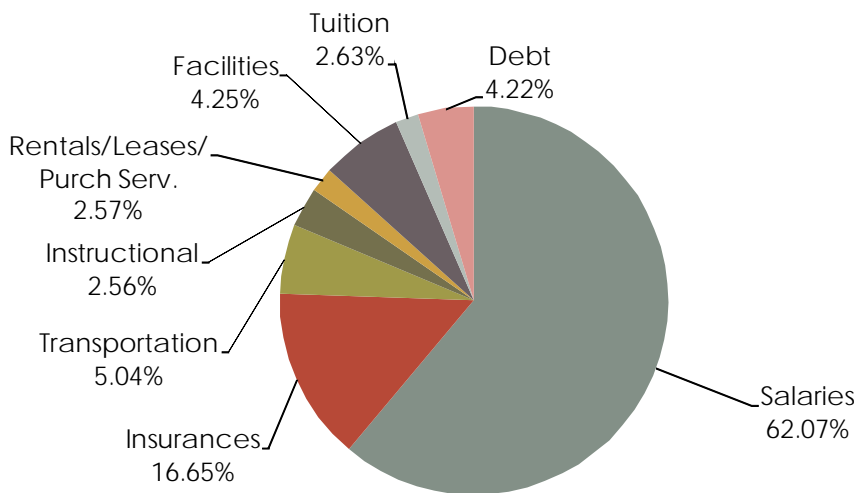
CT State Department of Education Calculation of Comparative Spending

Program Components Continuing from Previous Years

- Reasonable Class Sizes
- Upgrade of Technology Backbone/Infrastructure: \$234,380
- Replacement of Computers: \$60,000*
- Other Technology Needs: \$88,996
- Grades K-3 Math Textbooks: \$40,000
- Restoration of Library Books: \$82,232
- Replacement of Turf Field: Capital Reserve*
- New Textbooks, PHS: \$16,736

*multi-year financing

Mr. Babarik presented the following proposed budget slides:



Improvements

Total Budget by Object
\$65,263,007

- Includes obligated contractual salary, Social Security and Medicare increases
- Includes \$125,000 increase in pension obligations
- Includes increase in collaboration time between special education aides and special and general education teachers regarding content instruction.
- Includes increase in property and liability insurance premiums
- Includes \$149,336 medical insurance premium increase
- Increases offset by savings realized from self-insurance
- Includes contractual increases for in-district and out-of-district transportation

Salaries: Increase of \$631,545 = .99% Increase over 14-15 total Budget

Insurances = Increase of \$174,596 = .27% increase over 14-15 total budget

Transportation: Increase of \$44,633 = .07% increase over

- Includes technology enhancements of infrastructure, SmartBoards and projectors.
- Includes annual subscriptions for databases and network management
- Includes \$94,028 for lease-purchase payment to replace/increase laptops
- Includes \$60,000 lease-purchase payment for replacement of laptops and desktops
- Includes increase in special education therapies
- Includes increases in electricity costs
- Includes maintenance and snow removal
- Includes cost savings from consortia purchasing and energy conservation
- Covers out-of district tuition to vocational, magnet and special education schools.
- Obligated debt service to pay off bonds
- Reduced as a natural part of the pay-down process.

14-15 total budget
 instruction:
 Increase of \$460,530 = .72% increase over 14-15 total budget
 Rentals, leases, purchased services:
 Increase of \$237,824 =.37% increase over 14-15 total budget
 Facilities: increase of \$42,546 = .07% increase over 14-15 total budget
 Tuition: increase of \$60,155 = .09% increase over 14-15 total budget
 Debt: Decrease of \$70,129 .11% DEcrease over 14-15 total budget

Applicable Budget	Middlebury Enrollment	Middlebury ADM	Southbury Enrollment	Southbury ADM	Total Enrollment
2014-2015	1,257	31.3310%	2,755	68.6690%	4,012
2015-2016	1,226	31.5898%	2,655	68.4102%	3,881

Based on October 1 Enrollment of Previous Year

Average Daily Membership
 By Town Update
 ADM

<u>CATEGORY</u>	<u>FY14-15 ADOPTED</u>	<u>FY 15-16 PROPOSED</u>	<u>Category Increase as of % of Total Increase</u>	<u>% Increase Over FY 14- 15 Total Budget</u>
Salaries	\$39,880,416.00	\$40,511,961.00	39.93%	0.99%
Insurances	\$10,693,704.00	\$10,868,300.00	11.04%	0.27%
Transportation	\$3,245,105.00	\$3,289,738.00	2.82%	0.07%
Instructional	\$1,208,857.00	\$1,669,387.00	29.12%	0.72%
Rentals/Lease/Adv	\$1,437,628.00	\$1,675,452.00	15.04%	0.37%
Facilities	\$2,733,410.00	\$2,775,956.00	2.69%	0.07%
Tuition	\$1,657,155.00	\$1,717,310.00	3.80%	0.09%
Debt	\$2,825,032.00	\$2,754,903.00	-4.43%	-0.11%
	\$63,681,307.00	\$65,263,007.00	100.00%	2.48%

Budget Increases from 2014-15

- Includes upgrading of technology infrastructure and replacement of hardware that has outlived its useful life.
- Includes math textbooks for Grades K-3.
- Restores library books K-12.
- Replaces turf field at PHS.
- Includes new texts at PHS.
- Continues efficiencies and initiatives from prior years.
- Includes savings from three enrollment-driven teaching position reductions.
- Funds increased fixed costs.

Budget Summary

Mr. Babarik announced the April 6 Public Hearing and Adoption of the proposed 2015-16 Budget. The meeting begins at 7:30 p.m. at PHS. The budget referendum is scheduled for Wednesday, May 6, 2015.

Next Budget Steps

Mr. Babarik expressed his appreciation.

Ms. Perry expressed her appreciation to the Administrators and the Board members.

4. Upon a motion by Mr. Cookson, seconded by Ms. Connelly, IT WAS VOTED
 “to approve the March 9, 2015 regular meeting minutes as presented.”
 and passed unanimously with Mr. Babarik, Ms. Butkus, Ms. Connelly, Mr. Cookson, Ms. Manzo, Ms. Perry, Mr. Spierto, and Mr. Suriani voting “Aye.”

Motion Made and Passed
 Approval of Minutes
 March 9, 2015

5. Mr. Suriani reviewed the Policy and Curriculum Committee meeting schedule, noting the next meeting is April 27, 2015. Mr. Suriani reviewed

Policy and Curriculum

<p>the proposed changes to Policy No. 5151 Substance Abuse Prevention, which is on the agenda as a first presentation. Mr. Suriani reviewed the two textbooks on the evening’s agenda for approval.</p>	<p>Committee</p>
<p>6. Ms. Connelly reviewed the PTO Advisory Council meeting. The following school events were reviewed at that meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MES – The Second Annual Read-A-Thon is taking place during the month of March. • RMS – The PTO funded SmartBoards in Band and Art Tech Rooms. Lego Robotic Kits have also been purchased to support Tech Ed. • MMS – PTO has purchased Lego Robotic Kits, a flat screen monitor for Tech Ed, a new computer on wheels cart stocked with Chrome Books, and a new portable PA system for indoor and outdoor assemblies. 	<p>PTO Advisory Council</p>
<p>The Region 15 Volunteer Dinner takes place on Monday, May 4, 2015 at the Heritage beginning at 5:00 p.m.</p>	
<p>Ms. Connelly noted that there are ten laptops on a cart.</p>	
<p>7. Ms. Botsford announced Ms. Jane Martellino, PES Media Specialist, and Ms. Carolyn Matthews, PES Grade Four Teacher, have been selected as winners of the 2015 Connecticut Association of School Librarians (CASL) Follett Creativity Award for their project entitled “The Nutmeg Project.” This award recognizes creative and collaborative instruction integrating subject content with school library standards and technology. Ms. Martellino and Ms. Matthews received a \$1,000 award, and they will present their project at a future CASL Conference.</p>	<p>Superintendent’s Report</p>
<p>Ms. Botsford announced Mr. Jordan Aucella, PHS Grade 11 student, was honored at the Whitehouse Student Film Festival by President Barack Obama, for his short film entitled “One Pebble.” The film was rated in the top 2 percent of student films in the nation. Jordan also directs the PHS Film Crew. Mr. Aucella commented on his experience, and the Board of Education members extended their congratulations. The film will be broadcast on the Region’s cable station; the film is also accessible on YouTube.</p>	
<p>8. Ms. Christine Koobatian, Southbury resident, expressed her appreciation to the Board members regarding the budget, noting her support and asking for the Board’s support.</p>	<p>Comments from Citizens</p>
<p>9. Upon a motion by Ms. Manzo, seconded by Ms. Connelly, IT WAS VOTED “to approve the new textbook, <u>Single Variable Calculus</u> <u>Early Transcendental with Vector Functions.</u>”</p>	<p>Motion Made and Passed Textbook Approval</p>

<p>and passed with Mr. Babarik, Ms. Butkus, Ms. Connelly, Mr. Cookson, Ms. Manzo, Ms. Perry, and Mr. Suriani voting "Aye," and Mr. Spierto abstaining.</p>	
<p>10. Upon a motion by Ms. Manzo, seconded by Ms. Connelly, IT WAS VOTED "to approve the new textbook, <u>Financial Algebra</u>." and passed with Mr. Babarik, Ms. Butkus, Ms. Connelly, Mr. Cookson, Ms. Manzo, Ms. Perry, and Mr. Suriani voting "Aye," and Mr. Spierto abstaining.</p>	<p>Motion Made and Passed Textbook Approval</p>
<p>11. Ms. Perry announced the following meeting dates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wednesday, March 25, Finance and Facilities Committee Central Office 5:30 p.m. 2. Monday, April 6, Public Hearing Pomperaug High School All-Purpose Room No. 103 7:30 p.m. 3. Monday, April 6, Board of Education Meeting to follow the Public Hearing Pomperaug High School All-Purpose Room No. 103 7:30 p.m. 	<p>Announcement of Future Meetings</p>
<p>12. Upon a motion by Mr. Cookson, seconded by Mr. Babarik, IT WAS VOTED "to adjourn the evening's meeting at 8:10 p.m. and passed unanimously with Mr. Babarik, Ms. Butkus, Ms. Connelly, Mr. Cookson, Ms. Manzo, Ms. Perry, Mr. Spierto, and Mr. Suriani voting "Aye."</p>	<p>Motion Made and Passed Adjournment</p>
<p>Respectfully submitted,</p> <p>Jennifer Connelly Secretary</p>	
<p>Gretchen I. Usawicz, Board Clerk</p>	