

**MINUTES - BOARD OF EDUCATION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE HUMISTON BOARD ROOM ON NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

Planning Committee Members Present: Andrew Martelli, Timothy White, Samantha Rosenberg

Additional Attendees Present: Vincent Masciana - Chief Operating Officer

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Martelli called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. AUDIENCE

No members of the public were present nor were there any questions or comments received.

3. DATTCO TRANSPORTATION CONTRACT

Mr. Masciana provided the Committee an Analysis and Recommendation for a Bid Waiver Request to enter into a new five-year agreement with Dattco, our current student transportation provider. The analysis was reviewed and discussed in great detail with the Committee.

MOTION by Mr. Martelli, seconded by Mr. White.

***MOVED** that the Planning Committee recommends that the Cheshire Board of Education requests that the Cheshire Town Council waives the bidding requirements and approves entering into a new agreement with Dattco, in accordance with their proposal dated October 12, 2023, to provide transportation services to the Cheshire Public Schools for the period from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2029 with annual escalations of 6%, 4%, 4%, 4% and 3%."*

VOTE: The Motion passed unanimously.

4. ELEMENTARY CLASSROOM EXPANSION AND ENROLLMENT – UPDATE

Mr. Masciana provided a worksheet with a summary by school of actual enrollment as of October 30, 2023. He noted that Highland's enrollment at 886 students was 8 students higher than the 2022 NESDEC report projection of 878 students and 28 students higher than 858 students projected in the SLAM report from 2021. A discussion ensued with the Committee members that included the likelihood that with all the housing construction in progress, Highland Elementary school will not have sufficient classroom space to properly accommodate students through the 2025-26 school year. Mr. Masciana explained that he had spoken to Michael Losasso and Lisa Yates from Antinozzi Associates who previously completed a classroom expansion study for Highland and Doolittle. In that discussion, he requested a proposal to examine the feasibility of moving the triple-wide portable trailer module that is currently housed at the bus depot and installing it at Highland Elementary School. He advised that he would share the proposal with the Planning Committee at its next meeting to determine next steps.

5. UPDATE ON ENERGIA AND ENERGY PERFOROMANCE CONTRACT 2.0

Mr. Masciana explained that the Town Council approved entering into a contract with Energia to provide a no-cost feasibility review of our buildings and infrastructure improvement projects to determine if an Energy Performance Contract would be viable. He advised that an initial meeting was held with Energia after the contract was executed by the Town Manager and Energia was provided with the information they need to begin their initial review.

6. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Mr. Martelli, seconded by Ms. Rosenberg, the committee voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:

Vincent J. Masciana,
Chief Operating Officer

Carol Jesensky, Executive Assistant

Filed at the Town Clerk's Office, Town Hall, Cheshire: