



PLYMOUTH-CANTON
COMMUNITY SCHOOLS
GLOBALLY FOCUSED. LOCALLY CONNECTED.

Finance & Operations Committee

April 21, 2022

MINUTES

Meeting called to order by Committee Chair: Kehoe 5:05 p.m.

Board of Education members present: Kehoe, Brooks (Christenson absent)

District staff present: Merritt, Piesz, Kling, Gruszczynski, Welch, Salzer, Jory

Citizen Representatives present: Roderique, Paton **Other Citizen(s):** Bill

Lorelli **Also in attendance:** Bill McCarthy and Brian Gesaman from McCarthy & Smith; Derek Dinkeloo from TMP; Todd Fleming and Kyle Fellenbaum from ABM

Public Comments - none.

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes – April 21, 2022 - approved.

BP #HS-2 Re-Bids (Part Two) Awards - Mr. Gesaman reminds the committee that we previously awarded most of the bid divisions associated with the Bid package #HS-2, but when we received the news that Kerkstra would not be completing the pre-cast concrete for the natatorium project, we re-designed the exterior, and re-bid the affected bid divisions of work. We are back now with the remaining bid divisions award recommendations. For each of the recommended awards there have been post bid meetings to ensure the contractor has the labor needed and the availability to complete the job. Ms. Gesaman gives an update on the status of the 2020 bond dollars. He also outlines for the committee the steps they have taken to attract SBE (Special Business Enterprises), which are companies owned by minorities, women, veterans, etc. They have also made connections with several organizations including MMC, MBDA, and MichMCA (Michigan Minority Contractors Association). They are in the process of putting together a presentation for that organization to show them how the process works, how to submit bids, and how to navigate the state websites. Mr. Gesaman shares that they have made many direct calls to these vendors to check on the status, answer questions, and to encourage contractors to bid.

BP #EL-2 Playground Installation Award – This is the last component of the awards related to BP #EL-2. We only received 1 bid on this work, however there are only three contractors in the area that are able to do this work. These three contractors are the only companies that are able to install Game Time play equipment. Michigan Recreational was the only contractor that had labor availability to complete this work. This is the same company that installed the

equipment on the EL-1 playgrounds. The cost of this project is about 15% higher this year. Unlike last year, however Michigan Recreational will be completing not only the installation, but they will also address the landscaping, mulch, and drainage issues. Last year these tasks were contracted out by Sinclair Recreation.

Ms. Piesz shares that the next projects that go out to bid will be in the fall of 2022. As we reconcile the bond funds during the annual audit, we will be able to provide to the Board a document that tracks all of the bond funds we have to date, what has been spent, and what remains.

Technology – E-Rate Purchases (ECF Funds) – Mr. Salzer fills the committee in on the progress thus far on spending the ECF funds (Emergency Connectivity Funds). Last fall we were notified that we had been approved for all of our requests. In February we named a vendor that we would use for the purchases. Since that time more federal funds became available, and we entered a request for more equipment. The federal government allows us to change quantities, and change vendors if we so choose, if we find a better deal. We did find a better deal, in that we could procure the devices from a different vendor, and the new vendor will offer a three year warranty for no additional cost. We have already received over 5,000 of these units and they have worked out very well. Almost all have been deployed. At this time we would like to purchase an additional 1,166 units. The vendor is paid directly from the federal governments, so there is no cost to the district. The vendor we named previously was Presidio, but we have now made the decision to purchase from People Driven Technologies. We are under no obligation to the initial vendor.

ABM MOU #3 Proposal – Kyle Fellenbaum shows the committee a presentation that includes an ERI Wage analysis of the Plymouth-Canton district. When the contract with ABM was originally signed the hourly rate was \$14.90, but it is now \$16.35 per hour. P-CCS currently pays \$16.50 per hour, and this proposal is to increase pay to \$17 per hour. They have included the current wage rates for custodians in several surrounding districts. The presentation shows a current hiring update. And finally, there is a summary that shows how the current increase in hourly pay will impact the contract costs in the 2022-23 school year. They are also including a “long term” proposed price. The new agreement does not include the 20 temporary COVID cleaners, as was previously agreed upon. He adds that there is a 2% increase built into the costs, but that was also included in the original agreement for year 3. Member Kehoe would like ABM to come back with a new proposed MOU that reflects more of a shared cost model.

Durham Transportation 1-Year Contract Extension - The attached Transportation contract extension is the result of a collaboration with Northville Public Schools and Durham. This takes the four-hour per day guarantee and goes to a six-hour guarantee. It also takes the hourly wage from \$20.00 to \$21.50.

This puts Northville and P-CCS on a level playing field so we do not lose drivers to each other when we have increases. Both P-CCS and Northville have agreements with Durham expiring on 6/30/2022. This takes the cost of the yearly agreement from \$6.759M to \$7.636M. Ann Arbor has recently increased their bus driver wages to \$24 per hour. We also looked at whether we could afford to expand the healthcare but decided it would be too expensive. Northville has reached the same conclusion.

Durham has also had a real push on recruitment. They have done a mail out, attended job fairs, and purchased "Now Hiring" banners. As a result, they have received 19 new driver applications, have 10 interviews scheduled this week, and as well as 9 monitor applications with two interviews next week.

Superintendent Merritt reminds that there are several options we can explore to lower the number of routes, such as asking families to "opt in", increasing the walk distance, increasing the ride time, etc.

Member Kehoe would like representatives from Durham to be in attendance on Tuesday night, and he would like a presentation to include what steps they are taking to recruit drivers. He would also like to suggest that the district open student parking up to 10th graders. Ms. Paton suggests that students buying parking passes should also confirm that they will not be using bussing.

Wayne RESA 2022-23 Budget Approval – According to the Michigan Law, the local school boards have to vote on whether to approve the County ISD annual budget. The Wayne RESA budget will be presented at Tuesday night's Board of Education meeting for a first and final reading. We look at the presentation provided by RESA and the committee asks questions regarding each of the funds. The committee members are not pleased with the substantial 70% General Fund balance, and the large balance in the Act 18 fund. At least 50% of districts in the county need to approve the annual RESA budget. Member Kehoe would like to postpone this item to the 2nd meeting in May, and he would like an answer from RESA as to the plan going forward to spend down their large balances.

Adjourned: **7:05 p.m.**