

ACTON-BOXBOROUGH REGIONAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE (ABRSC)
MEETING APPROVED MINUTES

Via zoom webinar

March 24, 2022

To view only: <https://www.youtube.com/actontv1>

7:00 p.m.

To preregister for public comment (required):

(pre-registration must be submitted by noon on March 24th)

https://abschools.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_9LZY2H4ZT2OmGopwyf4xWQ

Members Present: Evelyn Abayaah-Issah, Kyra Cook, Adam Klein, Ginny Kremer, John Petersen, Nora Shine, Andrew Schwartz, Yebin Wang
Members Absent: Ben Bloomenthal, Amy Krishnamurthy, Tessa McKinley
Others: Marie Altieri, Peter Light, Beth Petr

1. Call to Order

The ABRSC was called to order by Chairperson Adam Klein at 7:00 p.m.

Adam noted that the meeting was being conducted remotely via zoom webinar per Remote Participation policy, BEDJA. The following members were in attendance remotely: Evelyn Abayaah-Issah, Kyra Cook, Ginny Kremer, John Petersen, Nora Shine, Andrew Schwartz, Yebin Wang and Adam Klein. Adam stated that the meeting was being recorded and would be posted on Acton TV's website at actontv.org. Per the remote policy, all votes would be done by roll call.

2. Recommendation to Approve Superintendent's FY23 Final Budget and Assessments - VOTE - Peter Light

Mr. Light explained that at the last meeting, the School Committee voted on the district's final budget for FY2023. However, the motion for that vote included the language that the School Committee was voting to adopt an "appropriation" and there was discussion during the meeting that resulted in ambiguity regarding the School Committee's responsibility for adopting a budget. The language provided in the motion for March 17 was consistent with language the district has used since prior to regionalization, however, the Committee was asked to re-vote this motion using the term "budget" in order to provide greater clarity to the process. No substantive changes were made to the budget since the Budget Hearing/final budget presentation. A copy of the line item budget and motion language was included in the packet.

Nora Shine moved:

To adopt the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 as presented in the amount of **\$102,899,440**

Which is reduced by estimated receipts and available funds in the amounts of:

- Anticipated Chapter 70 Aid in the amount of **\$15,492,511**;
- Anticipated State Transportation Aid in the amount of **\$2,200,000**;
- Anticipated State Charter School Aid in the amount of **\$100,000**;
- Anticipated Medicaid Reimbursement of **\$200,000**;
- Anticipated Investment Earnings of **\$150,000**;
- Estimated Miscellaneous Revenues of **\$10,000**;

And transfers from the following District reserves:

- Excess & Deficiency Fund in the amount of **\$1,500,000**;
- Capital Stabilization Fund in the amount of **\$300,000**.

For a net amount to be assessed to member towns in accordance with the Education Reform Law and the terms of the Regional Agreement and amendments thereto as follows:

Acton \$69,689,255 (consisting of a Capital Assessment of **\$5,719,382** and an Operating Assessment of **\$63,969,873**); and

Boxborough \$13,257,674 (consisting of a Capital Assessment of **\$983,514** and an Operating Assessment of **\$12,274,160**).

Kyra Cook seconded the motion.

John Petersen moved to amend the motion to read:

To adopt the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 in the amount of **\$102,899,440** consisting of expenses for operating expenditures, capital expenditures, and debt service payments as listed by administrative function as follows:

Personnel Director	\$65,318,523
Finance Director	\$24,429,258
Pupil Services Director	\$6,124,083
Facilities & Transportation Director	\$3,967,126
Information Technology Director	\$738,000
Elementary Principals	\$525,862
Senior High Principal	\$520,105
Director of Curriculum & Instruction	\$290,500
Junior High Principal	\$249,516
DEI Admin	\$233,000
Superintendent	\$133,100
Art Director	\$132,958
Athletic Director	\$116,450
Music Director	\$89,487
Physical Ed	\$31,472
Contingency	\$0

Which is reduced by estimated receipts and available funds in the amounts of.....
and continuing unchanged from the original motion.

With no second, the amendment failed, leaving the original motion up for discussion.

Ginny Kremer stated her unwavering issue that there was not enough funding for free All Day Kindergarten (ADK) next year. John Petersen asked for clarification about what “as presented” meant in the motion. Mr. Light replied that it meant as contained in the meeting materials packet. Evelyn Abayaah-Issah agreed with Ginny regarding All Day Kindergarten funding but understood that the budget needed to move on and with the hope that ADK funding would happen soon.

John Petersen moved to amend the motion, inserting “in the packet of 3/24/22” to read:
To adopt the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 as presented **in the packet of 3/24/22** in the amount of **\$102,899,440**
and continuing unchanged from the original motion.

Evelyn Abayaah-Issah seconded the amendment and the Committee unanimously,
VOTED by roll call: to approve the amendment to the motion to insert “in the packet of 3/24/22” into the first sentence.
(YES: Abayaah-Issah, Cook, Klein, Kremer, Petersen, Shine, Schwartz, Wang)

The Committee then considered the amended motion and,
VOTED by roll call: To adopt the budget for the fiscal year July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 as presented in the packet of 3/24/22 in the amount of
\$102,899,440

Which is reduced by estimated receipts and available funds in the amounts of:

- Anticipated Chapter 70 Aid in the amount of **\$15,492,511**;
- Anticipated State Transportation Aid in the amount of **\$2,200,000**;
- Anticipated State Charter School Aid in the amount of **\$100,000**;
- Anticipated Medicaid Reimbursement of **\$200,000**;
- Anticipated Investment Earnings of **\$150,000**;
- Estimated Miscellaneous Revenues of **\$10,000**;

And transfers from the following District reserves:

- Excess & Deficiency Fund in the amount of **\$1,500,000**;
- Capital Stabilization Fund in the amount of **\$300,000**.

For a net amount to be assessed to member towns in accordance with the Education Reform Law and the terms of the Regional Agreement and amendments thereto as follows:

Acton \$69,689,255 (consisting of a Capital Assessment of **\$5,719,382** and an Operating Assessment of **\$63,969,873**); and

Boxborough \$13,257,674 (consisting of a Capital Assessment of **\$983,514** and an Operating Assessment of **\$12,274,160**).

(YES: Abayaah-Issah, Cook, Klein, Petersen, Shine, Schwartz, Wang NO: Kremer)

3. **Review of Open Meeting Law Complaint Received 3/20/22 – Adam Klein**

An Open Meeting Law Complaint was received alleging that documents posted in support of meetings were inaccurately listed on the website. Upon researching the complaint, it was found that when the 3/17/22 packet with the addendum pieces inserted was uploaded to the website on the day of the meeting, it also inadvertently replaced two prior packets with the same file name. This has been corrected and the individual who filed the complaint was notified by the district of this error.

The complainant also noted that the minutes asked readers to reference the agenda for the list of documents used during the meeting, as opposed to listing each document individually. The three sets of meeting minutes referring readers to the agenda for the list of documents used, have been revised to include the full list of documents. The revisions have been posted to the respective meeting materials in “for reconsideration” form and you will be asked to re-approve them at your next meeting on 4/7/22.

It was the sense of the Committee that Adam Klein should respond to the complaint for the Committee on or before April 8, 2022.

4. **Adjourn**

At 7:17 p.m. Kyra Cook moved, John Petersen seconded and it was unanimously,

VOTED by roll call: to adjourn the ABRSC meeting.

(YES: Abayaah-Issah, Cook, Klein, Kremer, Petersen, Shine, Schwartz, Wang)

Respectfully submitted,
Beth Petr

List of Documents Used:

- Agenda
- Final FY23 Budget Recommendation memo from P. Light, 3/24/22
- Recommendation for FY2023 ABRSD Budget and Assessments – Final Budget Vote from P. Light, 3/24/22
- ABRSD FY23 Preliminary Budget Line Item Detail Summary by Admin – Department Requests, 3/23/22
- ABRSD FY23 Preliminary Budget Line Item Detail, 3/23/22
- ABRSD FY22 Preliminary Budget Line Item Detail Summary by Character – Dept Requests, 3/23/22
- ABRSD Calculation of Regional Member Assessments, 3/4/22
- Open Meeting Law Complaint memo from P. Light, 3/24/22
- Open Meeting Law Complaint received 3/21/22