The minutes presented within this document summarize the discussion of the Budget Workshop #2 meeting. To view the meeting in its entirety and hear full reports, please click the following link: 2/3/26 Budget Workshop #2 Meeting

BOARD OF EDUCATION
Budget Workshop #2 Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 3, 2026
6:00 p.m. Virtual (via zoom)

A Budget Workshop of the Bristol Board of Education was held on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Board of Education Auditorium and via the Zoom meeting platform.

PRESENT: Chair Shelby Pons; Commissioners:Lorianne Osenkowski, Kristen Giantonio, Jennifer Van Gorder, Maria Simmons, Jill Fitzsimons-Bula, Kara Ledger, and Barbara Tedesco

OTHERS PRESENT: Superintendent White, Jodi Bond, Dr. Amy Martino, Carly Fortin, and Joseph Grabowski

Call to Order:
Chair Pons called the workshop to order at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion of Superintendent's 2026-2027 Recommended Budget
The Central Office Administration presented Part 2 of the FY 26-27 budget. During this evening's workshop, the administrative team presented the Grant Review, the Cafeteria Budget and the summary and conclusion of this year's budget presentation. After each component of the presentation, time was given for questions or discussion from Commissioners.

Questions from Part 1 of the Budget Workshop were answered.
- Budget meeting process held with Principals;
- Verification of students in the district for assessing capacity;
- Success rate of negotiating of contracts with out-of-district placements;
- % increase in-house special education services and out-of-district special education services;
- Oversight of incoming students that have IEPS's;
- Hiring of (1) dean of students, (5) teachers, (10) paraeducators, sharing of support staff, district armed security officer
- Impact of costs for students requiring a Section 504 plan or who attend magnet schools;
- Excess Cost Reimbursement rate and expectation;
- Plan for funding programs that were funded by the SEED Grant;
- Daily substitutes costs and shortages;
- Impact on student achievement if we do not fund literacy coaches and literacy initiatives;
- Supports for teachers with curriculum;
- Collaboration with community partners, booster organizations, local businesses, and nonprofit groups to support our athletic programs and help offset certain costs.
- Sharing Cost with City for software;
- Electricity costs associated with Board of Education;
- State Aid for Homeless transportation;
- Equipment and Capital outlay;
- Capital improvements on schools;
- Planning for loss of Federal and State grants;
- Reimbursement for school lunch program

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Questions posed by the Commissioners were answered during the session included:
- Total of clarification for cost sharing discrepancy on reports;
- Competitive grants cover any staff for afterschool activities;
- Allocation of grant budget funds and general budget funds for Staffing;
- Funding for fruits and vegetables;
- Grant applications and rotation of applying for State;
- Database Administrator roles and responsibilities (ParentSquare);
- Special Education reimbursements;
- Hiring practices with teachers and support for paraeducators;
- Predictions of cost savings and revenue if able to have more in-house special education programming;
- Best practice of caseloads for Pupil Services;
- Excess of School lunches;
- Teacher Assistants & other student supports as substitutes;

Adjournment
With no other business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned. (7:40 p.m)

Respectfully Submitted,



Recording Secretary
Bristol Board of Education

APPROVED