

/01:16:08

Audio Transcript



Victor Pineiro

00:00:03 Okay, we are officially recording and we are alive.



Cathy Draper

00:00:06 Thank you Victor Welcome everybody to. I like to call to order the September 30 Virtual Business meeting of the Southern Westchester BOCES board please rise and join me in the Pledge of Allegiance.

- 00:00:18 I pledge allegiance.



vcermele

00:00:20 To the flag.



Cathy Draper

00:00:21 Of the United States of America.



Brian Howard

00:00:24And



Valarie D. Williams

00:00:25To the Republic for



Brian Howard

00:00:26which it stands.

- 00:00:28One nation.
- 00:00:29under God, indivisible.
- 00:00:32With liberty and
- 00:00:34justice for all.



Cathy Draper

00:00:39Thank you. I would like to begin by asking the district clerk Valerie Cermele to call



vcermele

00:00:46 Good Evening everyone just please let me know if you present

- 00:00:51.
- 00:00:51 JOHN Filiberi.



jfiliberti

00:00:56 Present.



vcermele

00:00:57Thank you, Cheryl, Brady.

- 00:01:00Present Lynn Frazier McBride.
- 00:01:05Robert Johnson.
- 00:01:07Present and Valerie Williams.



Cathy Draper

00:01:10Present.

- 00:01:11Thank you. Thank you very much a full complement of board members tonight which is always great.
- 00:01:16Let me remind the members of the public who may be listening tonight that we did adopt a resolution back in March. I think the beginning of the whole COVID experience that as long as we are meeting remotely, we will not follow our usual practice of having public comment.
- 00:01:33However, we are always happy to hear from members of the public and our addresses our email addresses are on the website and we will be happy to have you use that way to communicate with us at any point so
- 00:01:48Our meeting with a view of the minutes of our September 9 or meeting at which we were all present so everybody can vote on this. Anybody have any corrections to the Minutes.
- 00:02:09Know,
- 00:02:11Hearing and seeing none, tonight I would ask that John Filiberti. Make the motions, please and Valerie can second
- 00:02:22Thank you. So, all those in favor of approving the menace please say aye. Aye. Aye. Aye. Any opposed, any abstentions.
- 00:02:33Thank you very much.
- 00:02:35Moving on to other items for board discussion or Google, beginning with the establishment of a long term substitute rate.
- 00:02:44Which would be defined as a rate applicable to a long term substitute teacher who is in the same assignment for within 40 continuous school days, that would be \$180 per day for the 2021 2020 21 school you are there any questions or comments about that.
- 00:03:09Every not all those in favor please say aye. Aye.
- 00:03:12Aye. Any opposed.
- 00:03:15Any extensions
- 00:03:17Okay, thank you very much approved next a resolution to create the position of contract examiner and just maybe Steve you'd like to explain this a little bit. Does that make sense.

S

Steve Tibbetts

00:03:32 Sure. So we do a number of contracts with vendors throughout all of those sees a lot at the Rick a lot in professional development and we've been

- 00:03:44 With the requirements of Ed lot to do with privacy data and so forth the contracts will become more and more complicated and we had to utilize our attorneys.
- 00:03:54 More frequently. So we feel this will be cost effective to have someone on staff to work with the vendors and work with our internal departments to be that
- 00:04:05 Contract reviewer before they're approved and just make sure that we're covered rather than they'll also consult with our attorneys, but the intent is to have someone in house for cost savings reasons.



Cathy Draper

00:04:21 So Steve, are they looking at the terms of the contract before approval only or are they monitoring compliance with the contract as as its implemented.

S

Steve Tibbetts

00:04:29 So it'd be the initial review would take place by this person and then

- 00:04:37 The compliance part of it would most likely be up to the center, who is engaging the the contractor.
- 00:04:44 Unless it becomes something where they're violating the contract.
- 00:04:47 Terms, then obviously, this person will be involved. But if its job performance or



Cathy Draper

00:04:52 Tweet course.

S

Steve Tibbetts

00:04:53 That the deliverables that would be done at the center level.



lynn mcbride

00:04:57 I have a question. In terms of what are the qualifications for this.

- 00:05:04 Whoever you like, why are you
- 00:05:08 Asking



Steve Tibbetts

00:05:09 Yep. So this is a new civil service title. So Suzanne. I hate to put you on the spot, but I don't know if you know the specifics, but it's it's someone that would be equivalent to a paralegal

- 00:05:23 That's kind of who we're looking for along those lines. And there is some educational requirements behind that, as well as time already worked in reviewing contracts and similar to that.



Sheryl Brady

00:05:36 It's a full time a full time position.



Suzanne Doherty

00:05:39 It's a full time position. It's too new civil service positions stuff like both. He's had a similar position.

- 00:05:45 That we took a look at and kind of modeled our request after you would have a bachelor's degree and we went back and forth on trying to decide what if it would require a paralegal and we've instead
- 00:05:56 Emphasis would be given to someone who has that kind of background so that they're familiar with contracts and language and the requirements around a lot to do and all that kind of stuff.



Sheryl Brady

00:06:05 Is the expectation that the cost savings in not having to pay attorneys fees would pay for this position.

- 00:06:13 Yes.



Steve Tibbetts

00:06:14 Yes, absolutely.



Cathy Draper

00:06:17 Thank you. Any other questions, comments.

- 00:06:22 Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye. Aye.
- 00:06:25 Aye. Any opposed.
- 00:06:29 Any abstentions. Okay, that's approved.
- 00:06:33 Next, moving on item to see resolution to create position of adult and continuing education counselor.
- 00:06:42 Word somebody like to describe this a little bit.



Suzanne Doherty

00:06:48 I could talk about a little bit and Jim, you can add anything that I forget, but it's a position that would sit in our adult and community education programs services program.

- 00:06:57 Tracy Rasta Cotter director there has been looking at the staffing and some of the requirements of what she needs for the programs. They've been doing it with some hourly
- 00:07:06 Positions, but really looking at that continuity of the, you know, workers preparation practical nursing program and giving them that guidance to the adult students in terms of what they need for your programs and helping them along the way. Jim did I leave anything out.



James Gratto Jr.

00:07:20I know you had it pretty well. It really takes it from an hourly position because number of Valley people serving in that role.

- 00:07:28Of trying to coach people for their career opportunities and what courses they might take and what their outcomes. Could be. But this brings me see hourly positions and brings it to a full time.
- 00:07:41Position of a continuing education Coulson so it's, it's something we've been talking about for number of years in its time with the restructuring of that center with the
- 00:07:51Nursing program being restructured and healthcare Academy positions that you've approved. It's along the same line of



Sheryl Brady

00:07:59Expertise, nice and certification requirements and things of that.



James Gratto Jr.

00:08:03Nature so civil service position as well. So the minimum requirements with the education and experience to be qualified by civil service to to apply for the position.



Cathy Draper

00:08:16Thank you. Any other questions that position.

- 00:08:21Now, in that case, all those in favor please say I anybody post any extensions
- 00:08:28Okay.
- 00:08:30Last one, a memorandum of agreement between the ward and Service Employees Association or 1000
- 00:08:40Regarding
- 00:08:45Remind me
- 00:08:47This position this position.
- 00:08:52I guess I need to sign this one, somehow, who would like to describe this a little bit. Oh, that's this this decision. So it's just adding this title.



Steve Tibbetts

00:09:01 Right, so, so the board just created the that title.

- 00:09:05 Session. Right. And where is it going to sit in the organization. So would sit in the CSC a



Cathy Draper

00:09:10 Unit got



Steve Tibbetts

00:09:11 If this resolution or this memorandum is approved.



Cathy Draper

00:09:15 A. Questions, comments about this.

- 00:09:18 Hearing none, all those in favor please say aye. Aye. Any opposed.
- 00:09:25 And extensions
- 00:09:28 Steve, I see that. My name is required on here. Do you want me to copy and scan this and send it to you or do you want us to have other people planet. First, what do you want to make sure that happens.



Steve Tibbetts

00:09:39 Most likely, what other because there's a couple other documents that are out there as well that require signatures. So I'll put together a package and electronic package. I'll send it to you. Do you have the ability to print in scan back



Cathy Draper

00:09:51 I do



Steve Tibbetts

00:09:52 Terrific. So I'll send you the depth of the files with that and this will be a handful of them, and then I'll take it from there.



Cathy Draper

00:10:00 We're getting. Okay, that's perfect. Just be careful balance I sometimes have some problems communicating back and forth. Sometimes

- 00:10:08 She thinks or PDFs. They don't come to me as PDFs. But basically, it had this thing says when dad or something like that. I can't those files.
- 00:10:16 Okay, so just make sure it's a
- 00:10:19 PDF and then I can open it. Okay.



Steve Tibbetts

00:10:22 Thank you.



Cathy Draper

00:10:24 Okay, last one action item to he accepts the 2019 2020 external audit reports and the audit committee, which includes Lynn Cheryl and myself met earlier with the auditor, as well as Steve and John and Chris the treasure to discuss the draft audit reports for this year.

- 00:10:51 And having done that, the committee is comfortable recommending that these be accepted. I do need to point out that, and I guess this is standard practice. There is one
- 00:11:04 Portion one appendix to the annual engagement letter or the what's referred to as the management letter. It's the document address to those charged with governance, meaning the board.
- 00:11:16 Which includes representations by management, which is not there at the moment, but the committee felt comfortable recommending approval of this

- 00:11:25 Despite that, which is apparently normal at this point, and I will point out that although the audit committee.
- 00:11:32 Is taking this action tonight because there is an October 15 filing deadline, we will have the
- 00:11:38 external auditor come to our next board meeting, which is after that to present to the full board and give everybody the opportunity to ask any questions and hear his presentation.
- 00:11:49 So before for more general questions. Does anybody from the audit committee have anything they want to add



lynn mcbride

00:11:56 Covered you know



Sheryl Brady

00:11:57 Yeah, you got it.



Cathy Draper

00:11:59 Okay, thank you. And I will just add as usual Stevens whole team.

- 00:12:04 received rave reviews from our external auditor. They are co operative they're prepared. They do a great job, no concerns. So it's always important to express our, our thanks for their really excellent work, particularly given the difficulties of working in the corporate environment.



Sheryl Brady

00:12:22 Both the process and the results were

- 00:12:25 Well done. Excellent.



Cathy Draper

00:12:28 So no other comments, questions.

- 00:12:32 Case, all those in favor please say aye.



Sheryl Brady

00:12:35 Aye. Aye.



Cathy Draper

00:12:36 Any opposed, and extensions. Okay, thank you. Moving on. The next section, there will be no executive session, obviously.

- 00:12:47 So moving on to the approval of personnel items there was an update late this afternoon. I hope you will have an opportunity to look at that.
- 00:12:57 And as we go through will begin with the certified personnel, starting with what's always the most fun to me a granting of 10 year Melissa Santoro special education teacher so I congratulate her and thank her for her dedication to the bosses that inspired us want to grant or tenure.
- 00:13:18 Couple of resignations additional assignments. Unfortunately, a couple of reductions in force, but at the same time we call appointments and a temporary appointment. Are there any questions or comments on the certified portion of the agenda.
- 00:13:41 Okay, I see nine so I'll move along to the non certified personnel some civil service status changes from probationary the permanent a couple of resignations few appointments leave of absence and hourly rate assignment other adjustments.
- 00:14:00 And number of recall appointments of teacher aides and a substitute appointment. Any questions, comments on any of this.
- 00:14:13 No. Seeing none. All those in favor please say aye. Aye. Any. Anybody opposed.
- 00:14:21 Any extensions. Okay, thank you. Moving along to the business agenda and the agenda, which I will admit, I guess came after I last work. So I'm going to really quickly look at them as we do this.
- 00:14:41 So beginning with
- 00:14:45 The accounts receivable reports, of course, and I'm sure there's something that we need to hear from John



JMiller1

00:14:51 We have a little bit of information to add for this evening.

- 00:14:55 Since the materials were posted. We received approximately \$1.8 million
- 00:15:01 Per second bag is paid or June balance White Plains paid their July.
- 00:15:07 Oranges turbo sees paid July in August and the following districts, a dare balances for August elms furred Greenberg 11 mamaroneck also policies to an URSA LINE AND WE'VE HEARD FROM ROCKLAND both sees that our payment was delayed.
- 00:15:30 And that we should be expecting something by the end of this month, which is today. So we'll be following up with them quickly on their June balance.
- 00:15:39 And the other balances that are still open, June. Awesome.



Cathy Draper

00:15:43 Thank you. A. Questions, comments for john

- 00:15:47 Thank you as always for your diligence and following up with all of these people.
- 00:15:52 I know that you work.
- 00:15:55 Let's see. So the right document.
- 00:15:59 Moving on to the claims audit report looks good. It's always any questions. There's, there isn't a denim here for that.
- 00:16:11 Any questions, not too much tonight.
- 00:16:16 Contracts
- 00:16:19 Again, any questions.
- 00:16:25 Additional contracts individual contracts.
- 00:16:31 There is one change order, having to do with some electrical work.
- 00:16:36 And another change order, having to do with some window and door replacements.
- 00:16:45 Any questions on any of that.
- 00:16:50 Now this is an easy one.
- 00:16:54 In that case, all those in favor, please day I
- 00:17:00 Anybody opposed.
- 00:17:03 I just signed myself right out of Botox, because I had this open here.
- 00:17:10 Right back in
- 00:17:18 OK.
- 00:17:22 So moving on to the report of the district superintendent. Oh.
- 00:17:30 You



Harold A. Coles

00:17:33 Are talking. Hello, everybody.

- 00:17:37 Good evening, I'm a lot of things have been happening since the last time we met.

- 00:17:42Most recently, I'm going to try to divide this up into two different areas and go through summarizing it
- 00:17:47Just the superintendent's meeting we had Monday and Tuesday I want to point out a couple of things that I wasn't able to put
- 00:17:53In my information I shared with you earlier, and I'll send this out to as I cleaned it up and provide some additional information along with what I already shared snowed a pilot information different districts asking about the positive permission to come out sometime in September.
- 00:18:10The question that came out that there was going to be a pilot for snow days, school districts would have the option of piloting having remote learning being done during that time period.
- 00:18:21The stage case department hasn't created guidance for that they came out with a statement saying that we're going to look at doing this but they never came out with it. They're still reviewing
- 00:18:31It will come out soon the option will be given to districts to choose to do that or not. And it could open up the door for additional
- 00:18:41Instruction to occur on those days that otherwise might not be there. It could be do snowed to a snowstorm or through
- 00:18:49Some type of power outages. If you will have questions and concerns that were raised by superintendents and the district superintendent says in light would be what happens to those students that
- 00:18:59If this is chosen as an option do not have access to the internet or to power to be able to do the work. And those things are being looked at and being discussed.
- 00:19:10In our region or superintendents are thinking about at this point, but because of the defendant has been added or created that they're just at this point, exploring the idea of that happening if it should be possible to do it.



Sheryl Brady

00:19:22Happened to staff also right i mean if if the weather is really bad. They're not coming into school and then if they're working from home and have power outages. That's correct. And that



Cathy Draper

00:19:32Has a lot of power outages, as we know.



Harold A. Coles

00:19:34 Yesterday, but that was one of the things that came up within a region with this, the trees being one of the issues. So, so it's being explored. At this point, nothing's come out the way but when it does come out, we'll share it with all the superintendent's and with the boards as well.

- 00:19:48 One of the things that came up with that was that with transportation a memo came out after this, this memo came out and it came out on September 9 and this related to
- 00:20:01 That when you have school in session. You have to transport your non
- 00:20:07 Public students. And so one of the things that came up was that if this did go through a bit sad is going to have to figure out how to address this, because
- 00:20:17 If you're not going to school because of snow day, then you're not going to transportation transport students to
- 00:20:22 To non public schools. And so that's one of the areas that is one of the things that we're trying to figure out what the answer is going to be in the added to that the questions that we raised from the field about what they can do going forward. If they do choose this as an option.
- 00:20:36 I think I've been mentioned before about the school safety rules. We got more definitive answer from this certification department, this point.
- 00:20:47 Currently SCD requires that you have 12
- 00:20:51 By 12 evacuation drills, or those drills have to be locked down drills, there was a fire code requirement that they were saying that we need to have an additional 12 become
- 00:21:06 Experiences for news and the clarification was SCD changed their guidance. It didn't choose the fire code guidance and so they're in conflict.
- 00:21:17 And so we talked about the whole issue of how we can go forward. The drill process stays the same and that they're going to work on trying to with the
- 00:21:27 Fire code, try to work with addressing this but they're coming in alignment. One of the things that was pointed out was
- 00:21:34 In the world of hybrid. Do we have two drills for each grouping of kids. And that was one of the questions that was raised by several the superintendent, and the answer is no.
- 00:21:44 Experience has divided between the groups of kids so that all the children have an experience with the fire drill and it would be
- 00:21:51 A lockdown drills and so there's not additional fields that have to occur just the drills that are currently happening which
- 00:21:58 superintendents, we're very happy to hear because that's going to be. If not, then you're gonna wind up expanding depending on how many subgroups, you have the number of drills will be doing throughout the year.
- 00:22:08 The other point is that eight drills are required for the students to participate in the other drills can be done during times if you're not in school. So there's opportunities to be able to do drills outside of the school academic day and we found this out to
- 00:22:27 Require allows for there to be a waiver to Reno's and climate months, like in January, February, if the weather is really bad to not have those trails and you can get a waiver at that time to be able to do that which was something that we all were surprised to hear
- 00:22:41 Substantial equivalencies come up again.

- 00:22:45 At this point, they're looking at trying to do sessions to talk about with stakeholders, starting in October and November, and they're looking at coming prospects, who are region because they're targeting the regions that have the concentration of private parochial schools.
- 00:23:04 The idea is to meet with stakeholders. So they're asking for superintendent representation
- 00:23:11 Representation from the private parochial schools to meet with SCD to talk about what the their guidance is if they're coming out with and get feedback on it going forward.
- 00:23:22 So it hasn't gone away. It's resurging and at this point the meetings are going to be virtual I'll keep you updated as to what they are and when they're going to be happening in our, in our region.
- 00:23:31 One of the things that came up in September. Sure you've been hearing about all the different portals that with the superintendent's have had to be responding to one of them was in the opening a reopening server that needed to be done. And then there's a real opening
- 00:23:48 Opening and closing portal through the business poor that response. It's superintendents and school districts need to be providing
- 00:23:56 There's with this there's discussion yesterday with SCD that we need to make sure that our superintendents are
- 00:24:02 Every time there's a building closing, not so much a district would build and closing that there's a reporting of that in the state portal.
- 00:24:10 The reason for that is on on down line at the end of the school year they want to use that information to help with providing the necessary documentation for there to be at there's a waiver that needs to be done for
- 00:24:23 Student prod attendance information that that can be taken care of. So
- 00:24:29 That's one of the areas that we have our Chief Administrative meeting on Friday. I'll be highlighted with our superintendents, to make sure that
- 00:24:34 They're mindful going in and making those corrections whenever there is an as a closing or reopening
- 00:24:42 We weren't given the opportunity to share, we find out that there are going to be opportunities for districts that have not put the information in to go and put the information in now so
- 00:24:53 That's going to help and be able to get caught up on it so that they won't get behind. And what's going on.
- 00:24:58 Part of that one server that we did in September with with reordering process was if remember when we gave the presentation on the opening of our school plan we had different options that we can actually have as far as hybrid remote or in person.
- 00:25:19 In this real plan. We were asked to submit information on what our plan was specifically. And so the stage case department shared with us.
- 00:25:29 The total what they did and given so far what they had responding so they had over 1305 educational entities that submitted their information.
- 00:25:40 Out of that there's 101,160 that reported the information correctly. And out of that there was 19 to 20% that were reporting that there in person.
- 00:25:51 65 to 65% or hybrid and 16 to 17% are remote only. So that was the breakdown this point.

- 00:26:00 They're going to wind up looking at the districts that weren't able to the problems that didn't submit their information and number of them were private parochial to get that information so they can add them to the listing so



Sheryl Brady

00:26:13 What was the data that data is percentages.



Harold A. Coles

00:26:17 That data was for from the CD was asking for a reopening survey from every school district in the state. We had submitted information by certain time period. They also work hard that private schools and also charter schools, submit the information as well.



Sheryl Brady

00:26:34 So that may be old data, right, I mean that's not necessarily state, the current state of reality, this



Harold A. Coles

00:26:39 Is what was submit. We had to submit the information in September.

- 00:26:43 So this is as of September districts open their programs up



Sheryl Brady

00:26:48 I'm just wondering if school districts that decided to go remote on you know where they had planned to go to prod hybrid or whether that's reflected there.



Harold A. Coles

00:26:57 Yeah, I think it is. I think that in your plans, you have the option of going one or the other. And so what the reporting of this was what people were reporting on a date that they want to pass the board by

- 00:27:08 And it was a bit before the last board read this mean. So this is a couple weeks old. Yeah.
- 00:27:13 So you welcome. The other one is that
- 00:27:17 The years we had talked in the past about the financial transparency requirement. That's part of. Every Student Succeeds Act, the portal for that is going to be going live in the soon and that the deadline for submitting our data would be December 31 of this year.
- 00:27:38 The other question that came up to and we talked about this last time was that the Governor is waiting for the federal government to
- 00:27:47 Provide additional resources so that he can wind up releasing the 20% withholdings there were some talk about there being things that we're not going to be withheld.
- 00:27:57 But we found out recently that the July 2020 general state aid the August both sees aid in the August except access cost aid.
- 00:28:10 And the September xx costs age and one of those things that are not at this point, they're still being withheld and so
- 00:28:16 Those are some things that are being mindful of the planning going forward. The governor has with districts are looking at trying to try to prepare for the possibility that there might not be a
- 00:28:30 This is not might not be a withholding. It might wind up being a withdrawal or being a deduction and they're trying to be fiscally responsible and trying to gauge your
- 00:28:40 Services and programming. And that's part of what they've been trying to address and looking at trying to make sure they have the correct amount of staff and support so they can went to operating but
- 00:28:52 They're looking at trying to be very frugal frugal with their, their resources to this point.
- 00:28:57 The other thing that came up was that if you remember back in the summer, there was a discussion about the cares act and how the money that the districts were receiving
- 00:29:06 How they're gonna be able to use that money there was a court decision last Friday that basically said that
- 00:29:14 The part of education US Department of Education did not have a right to change the process and how the methodology was going to be used and methodology in the past was always used to
- 00:29:25 For title one monies you your number was based upon a number of students that you had that were food insecure.
- 00:29:33 And so that model stays the same. And with that model it winds up allowing districts to hold on where that money that was being sent to the school district as opposed to passing it on to the private parochial school
- 00:29:46 So it's going to allow for more resources for the book book districts to be able to work with, which is what there. Hopefully was going to be able to help with this.

- 00:29:53 With the governor was looking at using that money as an offset for some of the that they were going to be getting this year.
- 00:29:58 They're working on the, the numbers and how this is going to be distributed right now. So hopefully districts will be hearing soon about how those resources are going to wind up being able to come to them.
- 00:30:10 There was also
- 00:30:12 A DISCUSSION ON SEPTEMBER 25 that there was a an appeal that was given to the US Department education from our special education.
- 00:30:23 Education Department and part of the reason for the appeal was that
- 00:30:28 Based upon how they were being evaluated over the course of the year. They were one point from or one point from away from
- 00:30:38 Being put in a different category than what they're in right now. And they've been identified as needing services at this point and they're trying to appeal that then
- 00:30:48 If they do want to getting the appeal, then they will wind up having a stern just an oversight of the federal government over the special education.
- 00:30:56 And continue going on. I think part of what they're trying to just talk about what is sure with the in the education department is that
- 00:31:03 With the onset of coven a number of the interventions that they had put in place had not had a chance to fully come forward.
- 00:31:10 And because of that, they were not able to fulfill the requirements that they had planned on doing this year so will be more to come with that.
- 00:31:17 If there is more of a direct federal oversight. There could come with that could come with other issues as well that we might have one of dealing with in our social history program so
- 00:31:27 I'll keep you posted on that one forward and the last pieces I put on my other hat as a hat association of education service agencies and
- 00:31:38 Tuesday started working with them virtually on the Washington legislator trip that we want to. I usually do every year we go and speak with the legislators.
- 00:31:48 Had a great presentation yesterday.
- 00:31:51 The sun in the afternoon and I will forward you the PowerPoints that receive because I think that it's really insightful. Some of the things that are talking about legislative agenda wise, what the priorities are looking at trying to look at
- 00:32:03 But I think the highlight this year. And as you probably were after last night. The big focus is what's going to happen in November.
- 00:32:10 And so there's a lot of speculation and discussion that was being given to us about how to plan for going forward and looking at how to look at addressing what will be happening, depending on who's sitting in the White House or what kind of election one of having
- 00:32:26 There's then so I have materials to share with you some to look at as far as materials, looking at projections based upon numbers and looking at the trend data that was being shared it with with us yesterday.
- 00:32:42 Last day is tomorrow afternoon will watch to be in a debriefing and additional information and afford all this information and then the next separate
- 00:32:50 Discard hand out to you, just so you have it with the information. The last thing was that in this. You saw that on Monday morning we had our

- 00:33:02district superintendents discussion, we were looking at a culture responsive leadership and we saw a lot of time talking about as cultural leaders with that would look like.
- 00:33:11A wonderful presenters to wonderful presenters that sort of discussion with us and how we started having self reflective and
- 00:33:18Be self reflective about where we were and how we can better prepare and how we can have a discussion about looking at where we were.
- 00:33:25In what our thoughts and feelings about what is happening around us and what's happening as far as our own biases and it was a great opportunity for us to have a discussion as a whole and look forward to sharing additional information with you as we go forward. So that's it.



Cathy Draper

00:33:41Thank you. Hello.

- 00:33:43May have questions, but I have one that I'd like to start with, which is with respect the end withholding of 20% of state aid.
- 00:33:53Has that had and you may need help from the rest of the administrative team on this, but we see an impact from that on our programs and then willingness districts to pay tuition to us, especially for the CTE programs.



Harold A. Coles

00:34:06Good question.



jodonnell

00:34:09I'm actually going to speak to that a little bit.



Cathy Draper

00:34:11Okay, okay, we can wait. If you're going to address that. Yeah, I think it's sort of

- 00:34:16 You know, something we need to grapple with, or be aware of and since we don't yet know whether this is the attempt know we're supposed to get the September payments and fall, but who knows what's going to happen after that and well
- 00:34:30 Thank you, how anybody else have questions for Harrell.
- 00:34:37 Know, seeing none, we will move on to our Chief Operating Officer Jackie.



jodonnell

00:34:41 So it's all good news.

- 00:34:42 It's good news.



jodonnell

00:34:45 We have had a fantastic opening folks worked really hard from March to make sure that we had a really solid plan.

- 00:34:53 We created a lot of supports for people. We put together small videos we, as you know, we created our own app, we created our own internal tracking systems.
- 00:35:05 We did a lot of education with folks we've had a really solid good opening. I think all of us are so pleased with how smooth it went
- 00:35:15 I do want to give a thank you to our entire leadership team. I think this weekend was the first weekend that
- 00:35:24 A lot of members of the team, we're not working. So they've been working around the clock and available 24 seven
- 00:35:32 And identifying issues solving issues, bringing evidence to the table, which is the strength of our team. And I think we've just had a fantastic opening so I'm glad to let you know that our systems are working
- 00:35:47 I do want to talk a little bit about our programs. I actually have stick if he would share a slide or two with you. We're not going into the buildings.
- 00:35:57 Because we have in our opening plan that visitors are really limited in the building. So even as administrators, we're doing things virtually so that none of us take any chance
- 00:36:09 Of being you don't add into an issue going between spots Vic. Are we able to bring those slides up because one of the principal said to me, Jackie, since you can't get in the building. I'm going to send you some pictures of the
- 00:36:23 Bolton boards that my staff put together for kids and they just really touched my heart.
- 00:36:30 So we can't even mask how excited we are to welcome you over. It happened Hill, and I think Vic you included a couple more.
- 00:36:42 Definitely a colorful year right

- 00:36:48And celebrate. So I just really loved these they sent me a whole bunch of them. I knew I didn't have a lot of time.
- 00:36:54But I look forward, maybe each month to bring you a couple of snapshots so that we're not able to be in the programs.
- 00:37:01I know Brian's been collecting some things on our behalf, because we have a lot to celebrate our staff has been very hard working our instructional staff.
- 00:37:10You know, just really deserves a big thank you. They're innovative I hear the great stories every single day and you know just thank you to our teams.
- 00:37:20You know, for always just stepping up and and doing the right thing. So really excited that we've had a good opening
- 00:37:26We have been looking at our numbers to see what they look like, you know, we start in the fall. Really going center by center and taking a close look at our finances.
- 00:37:37When we start our profit and loss meeting. So we're just starting to get into that. But right now, we've been pretty pleased with
- 00:37:46Where we are enrollment wise, we had a number of students, we are offering an all remote program.
- 00:37:54Because we have a number of medically fragile students and we have about a quarter of our population in those programs right now who started a remote, we have the rest of the programs are hybrid
- 00:38:07To limit the number of kids that are in a space to fit with the requirements outlined by the state guidance, but we have found that we may be able to start looking at expanding
- 00:38:22Those opportunities for kids. So as we see what the space really looks like and how we can access new space we're just in that place of study to see where we should go.
- 00:38:32Our numbers at CT Jim, you can jump in here in just a moment. Our numbers of CTE, I think, are not quite where they were last year.
- 00:38:41But we've been working with district by district our districts are committed to giving kids that opportunity and even districts have done remote have been willing to arrange for transportation for kids to come to those programs.
- 00:38:54So Jimena if you want to speak to CTR enrollments a little lower than we've seen, but it's still stable right now, I believe, is that accurate.



James Gratto Jr.

00:39:02Yeah, that's, that's fair to say. The numbers are not what we budgeted for we're down between 20 and 30 students, which is not bad. All things considered, because we budgeted for around 600 we're about

- 00:39:17575 right now, which is really a very good forum for things being what they are and we are fully in person at the CTE campus so
- 00:39:29The only students that would be remote is somebody unable to attend for a certain reason for a short period of time.
- 00:39:35So if they are unable to attend for whatever period of time, we are offering

- 00:39:40 Remote for them. But now, nobody can sign up for a full time. Other the remote for the full year. That wouldn't work because they have to be present for a lot of the skills that they have to learn. So CTS a little bit down but not not concerning at this point.



Sheryl Brady

00:39:56 Do you have any

- 00:39:58 You know data or even anecdotal.
- 00:40:00 evidence as to, you know, the cause, whether it's that students don't want to be in an in person on program or whether schools have cut back or



James Gratto Jr.

00:40:11 So we don't have that level of data yet be able to dig that deeply in. We do. We have had some students request.

- 00:40:19 A fully remote program which we've not been able to offer the best really very few students because it's school counselors, our school counselors and the district school counselors.
- 00:40:29 were well aware of that. So they will be working with their students back at the district to find other options of find out if there was a way that they could attend, but we will look at that data as the year progresses and see
- 00:40:41 Did, did certain districts drop five seats money wise and something like that. We're not there yet.



jodonnell

00:40:48 Are up special services, programs, they actually were having additional requests for students to come to our programs. So the intake process is up and running and they're seeing where they can fit the needs of students and

- 00:41:01 Offer them programs. So those requests are continuing so far we're feeling like things are fairly stable, but again, it's really early in the year to know those numbers.
- 00:41:14 And what the commitment will be long term, but we'll be we'll be talking to you about that each month, but we're pleased with our start right now and we're trying to be very
- 00:41:26 fiscally responsible and look at every little detail and plan for the future. So we feel like we're in a good place. I also as Jim to share just kind of something fun while we are here. There's an open house going on. So how do

- 00:41:42An open house like this is our second one and and i think that our teammates and the instructional programs came together with some really innovative ideas. So Jim, can you just share a little bit



James Gratto Jr.

00:41:53Sure, I was able to attend the Riley middle school, high school open house tonight. The first first virtual real or virtual open house for that program. Although Irvington did there's last week.

- 00:42:05Very interesting. The, you know, set up just like as a meeting. So the principal did a did a nice welcome a lot of staff members there and quite a few parents
- 00:42:14And so the principal actually our new principal Mark Elliott wrote a poem that he read just to kind of bring that he wrote
- 00:42:22He wrote upon the road to bring everybody together and that different members of the staff spoke kind of gave some overview of the graduation requirements the PBS program then went into breakout rooms. I was I was broken out into the high school
- 00:42:39Group and the teachers different teachers have different parts of the program to explain so they explained the grading system, the PBS system. The attendance system, the protocols for
- 00:42:50entering and exiting taking taking temperatures, all of that, if they're not feeling well. So explained all that to the parents pretty good turnout with the parents.
- 00:42:59Very positive with the field was really nice just to be able to see everybody for the for the parents get to see the teachers, many of them, they know each other from last year, the year before, so very positive really nice feel so I think everybody was pleased



jodonnell

00:43:18Thank you Jim.

- 00:43:20All of our districts, you know, both these we have our own internal programs. And then we also support.
- 00:43:26All of our component districts and some regional services when we think about interscholastic athletics and the lower Hudson regional Information Center.
- 00:43:35Each month. I'm going to try to bring you a little instructional report and I've done that in the past that I want to be really mindful of it in this
- 00:43:43Environment, because we could all get really disconnected from the work that's being done.
- 00:43:48So next month. Andrea burn will join us from special services. The following month we'll hear from the CTE.
- 00:43:57folks coming in Delhi Jackson coming to talk to us about what's happening in career tech ed. And then, of course, December is our three nights of budget.

- 00:44:08 meetings where we get to see a little bit from every team and what their work is and what they're thinking is about their financial plan for the coming year, given their current circumstances.
- 00:44:18 And then in January, we're going to hear from Tracy Raza cat.
- 00:44:22 Who is of course our adult in community education director, so looking forward to those reports for tonight's instructional report, I really wanted to go to that regional place and how we support the region.
- 00:44:35 Never has the work of the Rick been more on our mind, right. So we're providing the infrastructure.
- 00:44:43 Between PD and model schools of the Rick, they're providing the support that people need to do to make this migration and we talked a little bit last month about
- 00:44:52 You know, the, the change in the needs for bandwidth and you know even hardware hardware and software products.
- 00:45:00 Certainly the requests have increased. So I have Kathy kamli to do tonight instruction report briefly just to let you know the good work at the Rick and it's so Kathy, you get to take the next step in all good news. Nice report.



Kathy

00:45:14 Oh, that's true. And I'm the theme of celebrations. We had a wonderful celebration last Thursday evening. It was our tell awards, which is a culminating

- 00:45:27 Ceremony. It should have been done in March got pushed to April, then to June and then we said, okay, we'll wait to the new school year. So
- 00:45:39 We're still in the same place. We were so Sarah Marta Banjo the manager of our educational technology and Jeff Ron who came as the photographer, we
- 00:45:54 The three of us went to either the home or workplace of all the recipients. We had seven recipients three were
- 00:46:03 Outstanding educators three were outstanding leaders and one was outstanding lyric partner, and we hand delivered these beautiful awards. They were
- 00:46:15 Inscribed glass. We did that on Monday and Wednesday. So they would have it with them for our zoom celebration and we normally have this at eat at the Macy.
- 00:46:28 Center where they have. We have a wonderful lunch in so we missed the food, but certainly the camaraderie and the spirit was there anyway. We had a keynote speaker and we even had grandparents of some of the awardees
- 00:46:44 On the zoom and it was so touching. So we described their bios, and then they get a few minutes to speak and
- 00:46:53 It was just as emotional as it is when we are in person. So that was a wonderful, wonderful start to the school year.
- 00:47:04 School testing is on everyone's mind. Are we are on week we're moving ahead as if we are we have a scheduled for January regions and we're plugging along. We're meeting, like we normally would, for the
- 00:47:21 The online testing. But as far as I know, we're not letting any districts started for the first time. It's only districts that had been doing

- 00:47:32online assessments in the past because there's a training component and they just want to make sure that they don't add that to all of the other things going on.
- 00:47:44We're hearing a little conversation about attendance taking that might be different. Right up until now we've always reported absenteeism.
- 00:47:55You know, we only send up that data, but now is looking like we might be sending data for positive attendance where you present in person or where you present remotely. So that's in the works.
- 00:48:11October is cyber security month I read an article yesterday that said they were more cyber attacks in the first half of 2020 then all of 2019
- 00:48:24And another article revealed that the ransomware bad guys are now when you don't pay they post the data publicly. So when that's HR day though. That's pretty serious. I'm a happy ending to our bandwidth situation we are
- 00:48:48Complete with the bill down and tomorrow we will be announcing that as of Wednesday we will be turning on the faucet for additional bandwidth
- 00:49:00I really want to thank our vendor partners for horizon and great Castle were extraordinarily helpful. We reached very high up into the organization. We let them know what was at stake, and they were really came forward and were there for us so happy ending to that story.
- 00:49:25And that's it for tonight.



Cathy Draper

00:49:27Thank you.

- 00:49:27Kathy. I think it's great that you prepared to
- 00:49:30Administer assessments in person, because I think SCD came out today with a pronounced with that. That's what we need to do based on what Betsy divorces said so you were prepared and prescient. And I think it's great to know that.



Kathy

00:49:44Now we're ready.



Cathy Draper

00:49:45Yeah, and I'm so glad about the the bandwidth thing because I've been sort of worried about that and you



Sheryl Brady

00:49:50 Districts are very happy.

- 00:49:52 Tomorrow,



Kathy

00:49:53 Yeah, step will be will be doing a lot of happy dance is in fact I kept pushing and pushing on the vendor saying I really want to do my happy dance and we sent a video of feet dancing when it was finally done.



Cathy Draper

00:50:09 That's great.



Kathy

00:50:10 A little humor to a lot of stress. All right.



Cathy Draper

00:50:15 You guys have done great work. Anybody have any questions, comments about that for Cathy before we go back to Jackie.

- 00:50:21 Yeah. Okay. Thank you.



jodonnell

00:50:23 You're welcome. And that's the end of my report.



Cathy Draper

00:50:26 Well, we are moving along so beautifully tonight and thank you for so much good news because these days. We need good news and

- 00:50:33 It's really nice to know that we are operating so close to normally in this environment and probably learning things that are useful going forward. Anyway, so
- 00:50:43 That's really excellent. Okay. Moving along to the next phase of our agenda, which is comments from members of the board. I will start by asking when whether she has anything she'd like to say



lynn mcbride

00:50:56 Okay, I attended the conference for the partners who votes Association average TV and we went over the resolutions. Okay. And most of the resolutions for that newspaper presented and we're

- 00:51:19 At what with the exception of can you hear me.
- 00:51:24 1313 which had to do with the nurses, the M and M ization data their concerns. Was that the Bi Directional nature of direct solution.
- 00:51:39 Unless the school nurse is a medical professional providing the agents. There was a concern over allowing or requiring school nurses to upload student data provided by the family into the
- 00:51:55 Nicely this NYS is report so they just didn't want to the family information into the official report so that
- 00:52:06 They said no decision until more information is available. There were three other additional
- 00:52:17 Recommendations that newspaper
- 00:52:21 did not approve. But he wanted to
- 00:52:26 And that one was that they wanted
- 00:52:30 A renewable tenure every five years. This was against that but it was felt that the process can be food students here and colleague me back, it will not be driven by test scores and it was intended to be instructive and not you
- 00:52:49 Okay.
- 00:52:50 The other option A resolutions that
- 00:52:55 They're supporting West part is supporting has to do with policies, I think, Jackie had mentioned this before. It's coming from to member districts Pleasantville and also obviously at the resolutions conference. They're asking that that

- 00:53:17 This should encourage laws, regulations and policies that for both come from competition between bosses when they provide non instructional service to districts that was resolution 25
- 00:53:31 And resolutions waiting six this for shooting courage laws, regulations and policies that promote competition for and between bosses when they provide non Instructional Services to districts
- 00:53:47 So these two districts will be at the resolutions to, you know, operate on doing for that. And it was just the school board Association.
- 00:53:58 Society to affect support.
- 00:54:02 Man, that's the only report, I have



Cathy Draper

00:54:05 Was there any significant discussion of those policies related but



lynn mcbride

00:54:09 There were significant

- 00:54:12 Links, but um I think that it was a mixed discussion. But in fairness Pleasantville and obviously our members and they spoke
- 00:54:23 To it and so that in support of them, but they weren't some mixed discussion. I certainly
- 00:54:30 spoke against it and people voice. Why this
- 00:54:39 Didn't want to support it, but I guess in support of their colleagues. That's all I could say



Cathy Draper

00:54:46 Well, we're glad we had you there to speak about this on our behalf. That's important.

- 00:54:53 So where do we need to go with these resolutions next



lynn mcbride

00:54:58 Uh, well, um, I think john said that he would be there and

- 00:55:04 Always our delegate delegate and I think we should. Me personally, I think we should support this.
- 00:55:13 And the you know the platform. I think everybody's got a copy of the resolution.



Cathy Draper

00:55:19 Yes, we have a



lynn mcbride

00:55:20 Okay, and I, I would be in support of of what they put on, you know, voting yes approval. You have to, I guess, approve these decision.



Cathy Draper

00:55:34 Right. I mean, I want that we get the rest of the bikes.



lynn mcbride

00:55:39 I see no reason to to

- 00:55:44 Depart from the news for recommendations. Well, I don't have a problem with 10 you know
- 00:55:52 I think
- 00:55:56 It's, I don't think it's that important to
- 00:56:00 You know, I don't know how the rest of the board fields. I know teachers would be upset but i i personally don't have a problem.



Cathy Draper

00:56:10 So, thank you. I agree with you on those points. I think we need to have a board consensus because of John is going to be our voting delegate he needs to know where we stand. So

- 00:56:22 Make it simple. Anybody who has a different point of view, from what Lynn just expressed
- 00:56:28 I see a no.
- 00:56:31 Okay.
- 00:56:33 Nobody okay so John I think you know where we stand as a board in terms of these resolutions.
- 00:56:39 And again, Lynn, thank you for doing that. I often have to work during these meetings and can't attend them. So I'm really glad you can not mention my conflict of interest. So I'm glad you can do that.
- 00:56:54 Anything else no



lynn mcbride

00:56:55 That's it.



Cathy Draper

00:56:56 Okay, thank you, Valerie.



vcermele

00:56:59 Williams or me.



Cathy Draper

00:57:01 Oh, what we have to work for start



Valarie D. Williams

00:57:07 Good evening, everyone.

- 00:57:10 And
- 00:57:13 It's very dynamic and exciting times that we're living through
- 00:57:20 The children are enjoying their online experience says, but some children are not because it's not it's not one size fits all. And
- 00:57:32 parents and educators and staff and, you know, I'm just everyone, we're really concerned for the health, safety and welfare and education for all. So we're all doing the best that we can. But we're all very concerned in these
- 00:57:55 uncertain times
- 00:58:00 Thank you.



Cathy Draper

00:58:04 Thank you. I muted.

- 00:58:07 Sure.



Sheryl Brady

00:58:09 So my monthly thank you to you know the leadership team everybody who's on this zoom and the entire you know Southern Westchester Cosi staff or the Herculean effort.

- 00:58:23 On we are just so appreciative of all the work that's being done and all the wonderful news on john if you have any conflicts that come up. I will be at the conference also. So if you need me as any kind of backup. I'll be there. So,
- 00:58:43 Thank you.



Cathy Draper

00:58:45 It's always nice to know that there's a backup here because we know things are going to go. So thank you. Sure.



Robert Johnson

00:58:54I just wanted to comment on the west plot. You know, I've been. I was a member of West pot on the board there for a while and I remember that Pleasantville had some issues with misbah

- 00:59:06And ardsley as always voted voted the both these budget down. So this does not surprise me that they would try to, you know, they would try to influence the whole body with their with their agenda, which I'm not quite sure I know exactly what it is.
- 00:59:26But anyway, uh, you know, we know some of the personalities involved and they believe strongly in what they believe in. I think that's fair and I do not believe that the body.
- 00:59:37Then the body will approve these to add on resolutions. So I totally support with Lynn said, and I know john will represent us well at the conference. And thank you, Cheryl and this will be the first year that I feel like I wouldn't really need to go.
- 01:00:00Guys are are very, very supportive in that
- 01:00:03And going up there and being on zoom. I guess it's not even going off to Buffalo. So it'll be on zoom. So
- 01:00:13Anyway, and again, yes. Thank
- 01:00:15City.



Sheryl Brady

01:00:16This is, you know, it's back in New York.



Robert Johnson

01:00:20But



Sheryl Brady

01:00:20Are they doing live. It was no it was supposed to be.



Robert Johnson

01:00:24Right. Right. You know, right.



Sheryl Brady

01:00:26 Easy would have been easy to go



Robert Johnson

01:00:28 Yeah, and some of the end. Some of the I BELIEVE ME SOME OF THE the workshops are really great I, you know, I've been going there for the last

- 01:00:35 Maybe 10 years or so. And I've gone to some really great workshops. So it's unfortunate that there's not that live experience. And I don't think you get as much out of it from the zoom
- 01:00:48 You know, it's important to keep the keep advocating for the kids to have our region and I you know I really give
- 01:00:57 You know, kudos to to Cheryl and to John for for being being there this year. I am so busy at this point with all my work that I really don't have time in time to to think in those kinds of it, think about going to conventions. I'm just
- 01:01:17 Trying to, you know, help my students and help my students family and get and make sure they feel confident and coming back eventually if we do open in Connecticut, because we've been on a hybrid model ourselves. We have a blue blue day and a Green Day. So we're have
- 01:01:32 The TISA same lesson twice.
- 01:01:35 It's just on sometimes confusing to teachers and kids, they have to use Google Classroom. They have to be virtual, you know, so it's
- 01:01:48 It's it's it's putting a lot of pressure on us and again compliments to both the staff for administrators and teachers for for doing all day can and getting those CTE kits in, and that's just amazing to me, you know, the 500 kids that we have 570 because we have for CT
- 01:02:07 That is just, it's an amazing feat for our area and congratulations to our staff for for working hard and making sure those kids have authentic experiences.
- 01:02:20 Okay, it's



Cathy Draper

01:02:22 A good job.



jfiliberti

01:02:28 Just a real quick note, I wanted to thank everybody wanted to thank all the administrators and all the teachers.

- 01:02:35 You know, right now I have my wife is in a nursery school working full time my oldest daughter's a teacher in the Bronx my middle daughter will be starting in the Bronx on the 13th so
- 01:02:55 I know from a family perspective how difficult this is and I just have to give everybody a shout out and two thumbs up for the efforts that everybody's putting in place to get through this. I know we're all looking forward to a time when we're on the other side of this looking back
- 01:03:14 You know, so just wanted to say thanks as far as the convention goes, I would go into a building and sit by myself.
- 01:03:21 And probably have a lot of fun. If I could do it. But, you know, we'll have to, we'll have to settle for second best which is which will be online. But other than that, all as well. And thanks again to everybody.



Cathy Draper

01:03:33 Thank you. And I will just add my thanks first of all to the staff as I do every time. Because I think you're doing an amazing job and really difficult circumstances, but also I don't know who's listening to us if anybody but

- 01:03:48 I think we need to thank our component districts and the parents who send their children to us and the adult students who come to us.
- 01:03:55 All of these people who have continued to use our services and have shown
- 01:03:59 The confidence that we can do what we do very well, even in these circumstances, and that their children will be safe coming to our programs and that we can deliver education effectively.
- 01:04:12 Whether it's remotely in person, whatever it needs to be for a particular
- 01:04:16 Student and the districts feel that confidence as well as the parents who that we are doing what their students need and then the best thing for a particular student is a CT program that they should spend
- 01:04:30 Money that's hard to come by this year.
- 01:04:32 To support those students. So I think it's really wonderful that we live in a region where we get that kind of support from all our component districts and from our, our parents and our students. So, you know, my thanks over the airwaves to to all of them as well.
- 01:04:46 So moving on to the last phase of our agenda, which is comments from members of the staff and I'm going to start with upper left on my screen with Jim



James Gratto Jr.

01:04:58Of just just echoing and thanks Catherine. That was very well put and acknowledging this work of this teaching staff instructional staff and all the support staff.

- 01:05:09Really has been an amazing journey, watching the connection that they have with their students and seeing it personally through the open house but hearing about it regularly because we're not really visiting this
- 01:05:21But we did recall a number of teacher east at this board meeting.
- 01:05:26Which is really a good sign because be of us has lived together through the time periods when we had to have reductions in force, we still
- 01:05:35Have some people on riff status, but to bring back that number of teaching teacher aides. It's really amazing. So it's a really positive sign for what we're able to do so. Thank you. Thanks to all the teaching staff as well.



Cathy Draper

01:05:49Thank you. And let's see who else moving down to Gianna.



JMiller1

01:05:55Nothing. Thank you.



Cathy Draper

01:05:57Thank you. Suzanne.



Suzanne Doherty

01:06:01just echo what Jim said I had one of our I was having trouble reaching one of our feature eight. So I asked the principal to reach out and they were ecstatic.

- 01:06:09To be able to deliver that they were like, Oh really, can I do it and I was like it was just so nice to hear the joy there so it was nice to deliver some good news this month.



Cathy Draper

01:06:18As it is today. It's nice to have that. Thank you, Cathy anything else.



Kathy

01:06:23No, I did all my bragging already



Cathy Draper

01:06:26You did it very well. I have to say. And Steve anything else.



Steve Tibbetts

01:06:31Yes. Um, I just have a couple quick things. So this time of year always is challenging in the business office because we have three years, we're thinking about, we're thinking about last year. This year, next year. So we've actually kicked off our budget process for next year already

- 01:06:49So just to just to highlight a couple items you know we're, we're hoping that our enrollments maintain
- 01:06:56Similar level level to what they have this year for next year's budget and so forth. Time will tell. As we go through the budget process, but a couple pieces out there.
- 01:07:06That drive our budgets. One is health insurance and night, our primary plan is the night shift plan.
- 01:07:14And nice ship generally puts out quarterly reports on how the plans doing and what they project, the rates to be for next year. It's a calendar year plan.
- 01:07:24So at this time of year, they'd be putting on projected rates for 2021 as of now, they haven't put a report out in about a year and most likely it's coven related. We haven't heard
- 01:07:38You know if that's the case or not, but
- 01:07:41It's concerning because I don't have any data to support what the rates may be for next year at this point.

- 01:07:48 So that's going to be a challenge as part of the budget, I think, to from an insurance perspective, it's going to be an odd year because with the
- 01:07:56 With the kind of the shutdown, no one was going for routine checkups and things like that for probably a three month period. So that's certainly going to impact.
- 01:08:06 The claims history in the plan. So maybe that's why there's the delay. So that's one piece of the budget that's sort of unknown right now.
- 01:08:14 The other piece is the TRS rate and what that would look like. We do have the ER. The ERS Employee Retirement System that rate goes from April to March.
- 01:08:27 And as we remember at the end of March 2020 the equities markets, the stocks NASDAQ and Dow Jones were significantly below where they are today.
- 01:08:40 And those were the ending figures for the ERS plan so that rate has picked up a little bit. A couple of basis points, but not significant enough where it's going to, you know, significantly impact at least our budgets.
- 01:08:57 But the TRS rate that's still an unknown right now, but I think the markets did recover quite substantially.
- 01:09:05 That that program goes on a July to June year so when they look at the returns as a June 30 2020 it's definitely much better than it was at the end of March for the year system, but those are the two pieces of the puzzle that we're sort of
- 01:09:23 still figuring out at this point for the budget process, but we really are diving in next week into projecting our compensation.
- 01:09:34 Rates for next year, just for budget purposes, nothing, nothing other than budget purposes as well as the fringe benefits. So those are the biggest drivers of our budgets.
- 01:09:44 The Rick is also working on their license renewals and things like that. So it's, it's, WE'RE IN FULL SWING again in the budget, believe it or not.
- 01:09:53 Anyone have any questions related to the
- 01:09:57 Budget.



jfiliberti

01:09:59 I do, Steve.

- 01:10:00 Yes. Can you just can you just repeat the one piece that you talked about where you said one of the systems.
- 01:10:09 I guess it's tied into the stock market returns as of the calendar year that ended in March.



Steve Tibbetts

01:10:16 Right, so the both the both the pension systems do invest in the equities markets, but the the operating year of those plans is different.

- 01:10:28 The TRS the Teachers Retirement System their year goes from July 1 to June 30 the ERS, which is the Employee Retirement System. They're
- 01:10:40 Like accounting year investment year for the for better terms goes from April 1 through March 31 so and they are looking at their returns for the
- 01:10:51 Plan, you know, the year ended March 31 2020 I don't know exactly what it was, but it's not as great as it would have been because the market did that V shape.
- 01:11:04 Down and up in the March timeframe, so that's that's why the rates ticked up a little bit in that particular plan.



jfiliberti

01:11:14 Is well being that from the end of March from April to to the present.

- 01:11:24 The stock market has recovered almost everything it lost. I mean, depending on your investments, but in an overall in an overall category, you know, the market has done very well since dropping so precipitously in March.



Steve Tibbetts

01:11:43 Correct.



jfiliberti

01:11:43 And what I'm wondering is, is if using the March data is going to impact schools and require them to potentially

- 01:11:54 Make additional investments toward the retirement systems. Is there any. Is there any opportunity, especially during this very difficult time for the state to take into consideration, what's happened in the last six months.



Steve Tibbetts

01:12:11 Yeah I don't know specifically. But if I had to guess, I would probably say no because that's, that's how they've always looked. They just looked at that time period. Sorry.

- 01:12:29 During that time period that's that's what they can look at, because they can't forecast to the next year because then it would impact the next year's rates. Another thing that deters
- 01:12:39 At least I don't think the state would entertain that is because most school districts were a little different because we have the Rick and a lot of those employees are in the ERS system.
- 01:12:50 Are spread between TRS and ERS about 50% between the two systems for our employees but a traditional school district has so many people in the TRS system is probably an 80
- 01:13:03 Split that the impact to to our local districts is not as significant as it is to us.
- 01:13:11 Already, yeah.



Cathy Draper

01:13:14 But there will be impact on other municipalities. So, you know, we have schools they the impact of choosing that not choosing. But having that date to determine the the contribution amount means right

- 01:13:27 And the state.



Cathy Draper

01:13:28 Exactly.

- 01:13:31 State, Steve.
- 01:13:33 Valerie anything
- 01:13:37 She said, No thank you muted. So I could read lips there.
- 01:13:41 Brian anything



Brian Howard

01:13:44 I just want to say that typically falls to me this time of year to take pictures of those wonderful Bolton boards that Jackie shared earlier.

- 01:13:52 One more thing has kind of fallen by the wayside and coven but I am appreciative of the fact that our teachers that are principles are sharing those images and
- 01:13:58 We're working with them to do you know virtual PR and tell the story of the new school year. So it was nice to see those images tonight.



Cathy Draper

01:14:06 Thank you Victor

- 01:14:10 Nothing.



Victor Pineiro

01:14:11 I'm good, thank you.



Cathy Draper

01:14:13 Did I forget anything. Or does anybody have anything else you'd like to say before I ask for a motion to adjourn.



Kathy

01:14:21 Can I just tell you something funny.

- 01:14:23 Please, when we were delivering the awards. Of course we had masks on, and Jeff was taking the pictures and we were all smiling, even though
- 01:14:34 The mascot.
- 01:14:36 So we can, we did it every single time. Every time the camera came up. We just smiled and we laughed because what gets health



Cathy Draper

01:14:44 Threat right. It's like when you see somebody the grocery store and you think you're smiling at me realize that they have no idea what your expression is underneath the mask. It's crazy. So let's say you wanted to say something else. Yeah.



Valarie D. Williams

01:14:55Right. Yeah. And I just wanted to thank the both these for providing the my fi

- 01:15:01Why Wi Fi computers to the students. So it's very helpful.



Kathy

01:15:07Thank you.

- 01:15:08That was something that all 12 Rick directors got together and we worked with the Koji company, and it was it was a wonderful opportunity. We're so glad so many districts took advantage of it.
- 01:15:25We had one district by 1000 of them, and they were a really great price and and I would say about half of our districts took advantage of that offer



Valarie D. Williams

01:15:38Great, thank you.



Cathy Draper

01:15:42Okay, anything else.

- 01:15:46Speak up wave, whatever that case into a journal. Those in favor please say
- 01:15:53Anybody opposed.
- 01:15:56Thank you very much. We will see you in October, if not before for something else. Thank you and good night, everybody.



vcermele

01:16:04Thank you. Goodnight.



Brian Howard

01:16:05 Goodnight, all

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