

HEBRON BOARD OF EDUCATION  
Thursday, January 18, 2018  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
Gilead Hill School – **Music Room**  
6:00 p.m.

The Hebron Public Schools, in partnership with families and the community, is committed to fostering confidence, creativity, responsibility, and academic excellence in our children to enable them to explore the possibilities in their diverse world as respectful, contributing members of their community.

Minutes

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call Chairperson Erica Bromley called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.
- Board Members Present: Erica Bromley, Heather Petit, Kevin Williams, Geoffrey Davis, Maryanne Leichter, Kathy Williams
- Board Members Absent: Christopher Aker
- Administrators & Staff Members Present: Timothy Van Tassel, Donald Briere, Katie Uriano, Eric Brody, Stephanie Levin
- II. Pledge of Allegiance, Introductions
- III. Public Comment
- Amanda Veneziano, 26 Wood Acres Road, thank you for all you do not only here but outside. She also noted that nothing extra was added to the budget, it was kept streamlined and is a great environment for children to learn and grow. Ms. Veneziano asked that the budget move forward as is.
- Mal Leichter, 62 Wellswood Road, distributed a small spreadsheet not to scare anyone, just to be factual. The document showed if adding in the \$1,004,000 the State has reduced for Hebron, the increase in individual property taxes at different market values. Mr. Leichter stated that this was simply giving numbers to make people aware because that's what the town is going to have to do.
- IV. Board Member Comments
- No comments at this time.
- V. Discussion & Possible Action on the FY'19 Budget Proposal
- Mr. Van Tassel met with the central office staff and had discussions with the principals to find dollars from the 2017-2018 to offset the 2018-2019 budget in order to reduce it to -.02%. These offsets would be moved forward in the 2017-2018 budget with the permission of the board.
- Motion** by Kevin Williams to purchase textbooks and pay down the computer lease in the amount of \$49,374 in order to reduce the 2018-2019 budget. Seconded by Kathy Williams. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.
- Motion** by Kevin Williams to approve the 2018-2019 Proposed Hebron Board of Education Budget of \$11,586,421 at -.02%. Seconded by Kathy Williams.
- Discussion:
- Mrs. Bromley asked about the CABE membership. Mr. Van Tassel had spoken to CABE and reported that CABE would not reduce the cost of membership for the 2018-2019 year.
- Mrs. Petit stated that CABE does a lot of advocacy for schools and students at the legislature. That's an important piece.
- If adding in the cost of membership to CABE the budget would be .05%. A majority of the members of the board felt that would be too high.

Mrs. Bromley then called for a vote on the motion.

Vote: Yes: Erica Bromley, Heather Petit, Kevin Williams, Geoffrey Davis, Kathy Williams.

Opposed: Maryanne Leichter. Motion carried.

VI. Public Comment

No public comment at this time.

VII. Board Member Comment

Mr. Williams stated a Communications Committee Meeting is being scheduled and the priorities of the committee will be to communicate the budget we are presenting along with communicating the purchasing that has been set aside for this year so people understand where the sacrifices are being made.

Mrs. Petit felt there should be clear messages on the budget reductions to get down to a -.02%.

Mrs. Bromley said if the district had continued with a maintenance of effort budget keeping everything the same as the 2017-2018 school year the budget increase would have been 3.02 %. It's very important to communicate that.

Mrs. Petit asked if it was possible to have a flyer made. A flyer will be done for the school district.

Mr. Van Tassel spoke about plans for communications in regard to both school year budgets.

VIII. Adjournment

**Motion** by Kathy Williams to adjourn at 6:34 p.m. Seconded by Kevin Williams. Vote: Unanimous. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Karen Conderino  
Board Clerk