

Finance Committee Workshop

DATE: May 15, 2017 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Nokomis High School

Members Present: Chris Easton, Corinna Caron, Susie Hopkins, Bill MacDonald, Don Mendell, Chris Peppin

Other Board Members Present: Ryan Parker,

Staff Present: Mike Hammer, Trish Hayes, Don Roux, Liz Mares, Mary Nadeau, Angela Brown, Jane Stork, Denise Kimball, Lori Merrow, Suzanne Nowinski, Maxine Pare, Josh Grant, Licia Goodridge

- I. **Public Comments** – Members of the community addressed the finance committee regarding the proposed closure of the Hartland Consolidated School.

- II. **Review of Proposed 2017 – 2018 Budget**
 1. **Presentation of Budget Articles** – Superintendent Hammer presented the ED-279 breakdown which lists the areas of state subsidy that are scheduled to be reduced. He spoke about the declining enrollment both locally and statewide. The largest loss in state subsidy for FY18 is due to the loss of over 100 students. He shared budget documents which illustrated the cuts made to date to bring the budget to \$24,033,967.28 – a 1.10% increase over FY17. Mr. Hammer explained that we did not include items in the budget only to remove them to look like a cut. No programs or services to the students have been cut in this budget. The four options suggested by MSMA and Drummond & Woodsum were presented and explained to those in attendance. The options allow the board to choose how to use any additional funds which may be allocated to Regional School Unit #19 when the legislature approves a budget.
 2. **Question & Answer Session** – Several citizens asked questions about the move from Hartland Consolidated School to St Albans and Somerset schools. There is concern about the younger students' safety among the older students. A citizen thanked the committee for their hard work to bring in a responsible budget which he could support.

- III. **Other - None**

- IV. **Adjournment 7:14**