

Name of Committee: Override Study Committee – Capital Sub-Committee

Meeting Date: March 26, 2014

Time: 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Meeting Location: Town Hall

Members Present:

X Sergio Modigliani X Lisa Serafin Sheehan (Chair)

X Carol Levin X Timothy Sullivan

School Committee Members Present: Helen Charlupski (left at 8:20)

Other OSC Members Present and Participating: Susan Wolf Ditkoff

Lisa summarized that the purpose of the meeting was to prepare for tonight’s full OSC meeting and to review Sergio’s handouts. Lisa suggested she would quickly review the baseline need slide from the PowerPoint previously presented to the OSC and would transition to Sergio for a discussion of policy options.

Sergio oriented everyone to his color-coded classroom need and policy option matrix. There was a detailed discussion about how he arrived at the suggested 10 new classrooms for Devotion (being 5 new and replacing 5 sub-optimal classrooms) and about the 7 classrooms at Driscoll.

There was a discussion about whether this handout represented a long-term or short-term view. Tim suggested that since it aligned to specific, relatively short-term projects, it should better be viewed as a shorter-term piece. Sergio thought it represented a longer-term since it introduces the long-term impact of policy changes.

There was a discussion about whether starting in FY14-15 was appropriate. Susan suggested it was too late to implement a number of the proposed policies as letters had already gone out admitting people. Sergio suggested that it was important that the impact of policy decisions be presented.

Sergio reviewed his two-page handout describing the common space impacts of having one or two additional children in each class with specific discussion about calculating additional cafeteria seats. Sergio mentioned that we should be clear that there might be other sub-optimal spaces, such as offices. (Helen left at 8:20)

Carol made the point that the OSC is operating without direction about the amount of revenue the town might support, making it difficult to direct the specific options.

Each of the columns was reviewed in detail so the assumptions could be understood. The reduction in classes for Metco and Materials Fees were understood to mean that the programs were eliminated going forward, even for siblings. The revised kindergarten assignment meant that children enrolling after April 1 would be assigned to a school, but based on available space. Tim noted that the two classroom reduction also indicated that the average class size went from

Peter Rowe's pro forma assumption of 21 to 22.5. Tim noted that this was the case already for the existing 4th grade class of 653 students in 29 classes.

Sergio discussed his assumptions for adding children to classrooms, noting that his analysis was based on determining that in the 2013 section data from Peter Rowe there were 217 classrooms (non-kindergarten) that could absorb additional students. This provided capacity to add almost ten classrooms of children and he was assuming only gaining two classes, one if you assume higher average classes for kindergarten.

Sergio briefly reviewed his ten override options, showing scenarios that generated overrides ranging from the tax increases of 14.6% to less than 10%.

The meeting adjourned.