

**Westford School Board Meeting
November 15, 2011
Westford Commons**

Board meeting started at 6:34

Administrators present: Grant Giseler, David Wells

Board members present: Martha Heath, Alison Weinhagen, Andre Roy

No visitors were present

Motion by Alison to add funding for "robotics club" (approx 4000)

2nd by Andre
Motion passed 3-0

Grant opened discussion with common level of appraisal (cla) went up/approximately 102%

High school and cte tuition up 100 and 200 (impact is approx 9950 dollars on proposed budget)

Proposed budget is approx 14,250 less than last year's budget

Education spending cost per pupil is up due to less students/Westford is 12,233 whereas state is 12287
Still lower than state/still a good trend for Westford

Tax rate 1.22 (homestead rate)

Staffing reduction in 7/8 team (thru retirement)
Rif absolved by retirement of staff member

Marilyn McConnell arrived at 6:53

Use fund balance available to use for driveway/roof repair/oil burner replacement
Question asked by Martha: do we have any energy efficient goals/replacement/plan of action/ etc?
Efficiency studies in are in place

Capitol plan purposal: use 5000 plus 65000(could decrease to 59000) proposed to drop to 59000

Student achievement is better than state wide average and cost per pupil s \$50 lower than fy 12 state wide average

True tax rate will depend on base rates/base education amount

Erin McGuire arrived at 7:20

Question raised as to whether expend dollars for capital improvements or earmark a portion for one time instructional enhancements

Continue to spend on annual basis for technology replacements/enhancements

Explore possibility of taking some monies from capital improvement line for enhancements in direct instruction (expectation is that this will result in better achievements/improved scores etc)

Mike Deweese arrived at 7:36

Question raised/is there anything that we can do to purchase materials that will improve student performance

Administration will explore this emphasis, they will look at items that will definitely improve or show the potential to improve student performance

Defer window replacement(-6000)

Next meeting on 1/3/12

Executive session entered at 7:32

Exited executive session at 8:45(?)

Meeting adjourned at 8:46