

SUNDERLAND SELECTBOARD MINUTES

Place: Remote

March 7, 2023

Attending: T. Fydenkevez, C. Drake-Tremblay, N. Waring, G. Kravitz

Others: J. Elias, S. Smiarowski, Frontier School Committee, Frontier School Administration

Meeting: Remote

Meeting called to order at 6:05PM

BUSINESS

The Selectboard joined the Frontier School Committee's public budget hearing. The Administration reviewed the Frontier budget, which represents more than a 9% increase to Sunderland's assessment. Frontier is receiving a minimal increase in Chapter 70 aid. 70% of the new school funds from the Student Opportunity Act are going to just 32 districts, while 212 districts must share 7% of the new funds. Frontier is in the latter group.

There was significant discussion of School Choice and whether the towns are subsidizing out-of-district students. Mr. Waring noted that 30% of the student body are school choice students. The administration noted that larger enrollments mean more educational opportunities and programs for students. Mr. Elias stated his hope that as enrollment for in-district students decreased, the school wasn't backfilling with school choice students. The administration confirmed that is not the plan. Mr. Fydenkevez noted that the amount the district receives per school choice student is the same as in the 1990s.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Fydenkevez motion to adjourn at 7:35PM, Mr. Waring second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoff Kravitz,
Town Administrator