

If the district is hosting programs about the heroin issue in Monmouth County and it was expressed that we should keep our children involved, how can the BOE in good conscience cut all extra curricular programs and put our children on the streets after school?

The funds available as "revenues" to offset our "appropriations" are limited. Our budget must be balanced i.e Revenues must = Appropriations. The Board feels its' first priority is to utilize the funds to meet the State requirement to "provide a thorough and efficient (T&E)" education to the children of Neptune City. The Board agrees strongly that extra curricular programs are very important but at the present time there are, unfortunately, not enough funds available to provide programs that the State does not deem necessary for T&E.

From the advertised budget it appears that extra curricular activities cost the district approximately \$55,000 per year, is that correct?

In addition to that amount, transportation for athletics is budgeted under the "Transportation" section. That amount will be between 9,500 and 10,000

The district is projecting a 20% cut in federal funding. If the funding is not cut, especially since the district saw an increase in the current school year, will the district use the \$62,000 to reinstate the extra curricular programs?

Federal funding is mandated to be used to offset costs of providing services to special education students and students receiving basic skills. It is strictly monitored and cannot be used for any other purpose.

How many students attend Charter Schools?

Currently two. Just recently we were informed of another possible.

How much does the district pay for tuition to Neptune High School and Red Bank Regional?

Neptune HS \$12,500 RBR \$13,000

If you are cutting the athletics programs, and therefore, you are no longer transporting the teams, why is transportation increasing?

Transportation is provided to all special education students that are placed in Private School for the Disabled. We try to minimize the cost by entering jointure agreements with other districts that maybe transporting students to the same school. The location of the school and the vehicle type or special equipment needed will influence the cost.

The tax levy is increasing by 4%, how?

There is a State imposed 2% CAP on the tax levy, however there are some allowable adjustments that districts may be entitled to. We are entitle to an adjustment for enrollment this year.

The advertised budget reports that the district receives tuition students. What is the tuition rate that the district charges for these students?

\$550. per month

The current school year reports that we are receiving 6 students with \$15,000 in revenue from them; 2014-15 reports 5 students but \$27,500 in revenue?

The \$15,000 figure was an estimated figure at the time of budget preparation last year. We do have six tuition pre school students currently

Are we going to be increasing the tuition rate? Is 13-14 the current amount? If not, where is the extra money?

Any amount received over the estimated amount will be an addition to "Fund Balance" to be appropriated in a subsequent year.

The district has budgeted fund balance every year. This is the excess surplus at the end of the school year as reported in your audit, correct? How come it is decreasing? Where is the money going?

It is decreasing because we are not able to generate enough currently to replace what we are required to use. At the end of the 12-13 school year, you had a little over \$600k that is being given back in 14-15, correct?

Correct

Also, if the district has EXTRA money every year, do you not expect to have any "extra" at the end of the current school year?

We expect about \$100,000 to be added to the Fund Balance at the end of 13-14. The use of approx. \$600,000 takes the additional \$100,000 into consideration and will leave us with the State's allowable amount of only \$250,000.

If you have extra money, why can't you apply funds to next year so you don't have to cut our children's programs?see previous answer.

What percentage of an increase did the district project for health insurance? The health insurance rates have increased by 9.6%. If you are reducing staff, will they lose their benefits? Possibly depending on the number of hours worked.

What did the district project for 13-14 and was the actual increase?

We projected a rate increase of 12% for 13-14. I would have to do a little further checking but believe that was pretty close. We also hired additional personnel in 13-14 that were entitled to benefits or had changes to their level of coverage (2 adults to family/ single to 2 adults, etc.) Family coverage for 2013-2014 costs \$26,085 per year. For 2014-15 it will be approx. \$28,500 per year.

Why did the district have actual miscellaneous income in 12-13 of \$41,478 and only \$7,000 projected since then? Pre-school tuition was not anticipated at the time of 12-13 budget adoption. Tuition received for that year was recorded as Misc Rev. For 13-14 forward it is anticipated. Interest rates have fallen significantly and our only misc. rev. is interest on investments.

Had the district investigated other avenues to generate revenue, such as charging fees to use the facilities? Our facility is used by our community very frequently. We do not charge for that. We allow Mon-Ocean Ed Service Comm. to run an after care program at our school rent free to provide that service to our families with that need. The Board of Education has a policy on "Use of Facilities"

Does the district apply for any grants?

We have applied for grants in the past years with only minimal success. We were awarded a "Safety Grant" last year for the installation of video cameras and in fact are in the process of applying currently for another safety grant. We find most grants are specific for larger districts K-12 or have enrollment requirements. I would encourage anyone who is aware of a grant that may meet our needs to notify us the specifics