



The Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors held its monthly Legislative Meeting on May 26, 2022

Next Work Session:
June 9, 2022
Next Legislative Meeting:
June 16, 2022

Board of Education Members

Susan Henderson-Utis President

Theresa Napson-Williams
Vice President

Ken Dinitz

Hillary Fletcher

Jackie Gusic

Shelley Hunt

Robert Kelly

Susan Layne

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Kelly Schaffer

Student Board Representatives

Ava Finnegan Mckenzie Grant Neil Sen

SuperintendentDr. Eleanor DiMarino-Linnen

More information available at www.rtmsd.org/administration/board

Board of School Directors UPDATE

May 2022

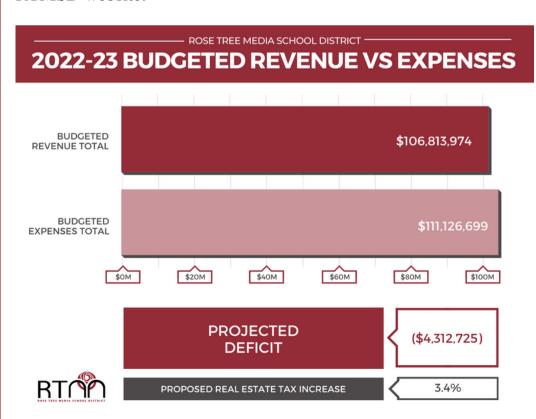
Highlights

Board Approves Final 2022-2023 District Budget

The Rose Tree Media Board of School Directors approved the District's budget for the 2022-2023 school year at its Legislative Meeting on May 26th.

The final 2022-2023 General Fund Budget for the Rose Tree Media School District includes expenditures of \$111,126,699 and revenues of \$106,813,974, and includes usage of fund balance in the amount of \$4,312,725. The budget includes an Act 1 index tax increase of 3.4%.

Additional information about <u>the District's budget</u> is available on the RTMSD website.



Health & Safety Plan Revised to Match Latest CDC Guidance

At a Special Legislative Meeting on Monday, May 16th, the RTM Board of School Directors voted to revise the District's <u>Health and Safety Plan</u>. The revisions focus on bringing the District's Plan in alignment with updated COVID-19 guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, which changed the categorization of "low", "medium", and "high" community transmission.

The latest revisions include the provision of moving to "mask optional" and removing the 2% trigger threshold that would require universal masking. The Plan continues to include the need for decisions when community transmission levels are "high".

Teacher Appreciation Week Celebrated in May

Across the nation and in the Rose Tree Media School District, May 9-13 marked Teacher Appreciation Week.

In her Superintendent's Report at the May 26th Legislative Meeting, Dr. Eleanor DiMarino-Linnen shared, "I want to communicate my sincere gratitude and appreciation for our faculty. This year continued to require an outstanding degree of commitment and work to address the academic, behavioral, social, and emotional needs of our students. Once again, our faculty has risen to the occasion, and I am proud to work with such an exemplary group of teachers."



Math Task Force Offers Updates and Recommendations

During the Education and Wellness Committee portion of the May Work Session, the Math Task Force provided an update about the district's math curriculum. Please <u>click here</u> to view the Task Force's presentation. The Task Force also recommended the adoption of a new math curriculum for grades K-8, a step approved by the Board at its May 26th Legislative Meeting.

The new curriculum will ensure that the Rose Tree Media School District continues to provide a rigorous math curriculum that is engaging and relevant for each and every student from kindergarten through graduation. Using a high-quality and standards-aligned curriculum, the District's vision for mathematics is focused on ensuring that students consistently participate in solving challenging and meaningful real-world problems and graduate with the ability to flexibly and resourcefully solve problems using critical thinking skills both independently and collaboratively.

Board Approves Updated Policies

The RTM Board of School Directors approved updates to the following policies at its May Legislative Meeting: Discipline of Student Convicted/Adjudicated of Sexual Assault; Overtime; School Bus Drivers and School Commercial Motor Vehicle Drivers; and School Vehicle Drivers.

Proposed policies on both Hazing and Bullying/Cyberbullying will be revisited for further refinement at the next Work Session on June 9, 2022.

All of the above policies were previously discussed at the April and May 2022 Work Session Meetings. More information about these policies is available in the May board meeting packet.

Points of Pride

At its Legislative Meeting on May 26th, the Board presented the **Rose Tree Media Award** to Nathaniel Hall, Luke Pyle-Ballak, Lucas Sampson, and Michael San Antonio for achieving Eagle Scout Rank as members of Troop #430.

The Board recognized *The Gryphon* for receiving the **Keystone Award** for Best Literary Magazine in the State. Penncrest High School's literary magazine, The Gryphon, is composed of all student writing and artwork. It is organized and edited by student staff



and dedicated student editors. The magazine is published annually in May and printed by Katie O'Neil in the print shop. The staff sponsor is James Zervanos.



The Board also recognized Joseph Maurizi for receiving the **Substitute Paraprofessional Award** from Kelly Education.

Mr. Maurizi is a substitute support staff member at Indian Lane Elementary School, who was named just one of just four recipients nationwide of the 2022 National Substitute Educator of the Year Award.

The Board accepted the retirement of several long-time RTMSD employees:

- Denise Roach, Bus Driver, 38 years of dedicated service.
- Anne Moss, Support Staff I, Media Elementary, 23 years of dedicated service.
- Kathleen Tangradi, Bus Driver, 21 years of dedicated service.
- Dr. Paula Voshell, Principal, Media Elementary School, 8 years of dedicated service.

