Herkimer County Legislature
Education and Ways & Means Committee Meeting
Wednesday, July 29, 2020
Robert McLaughlin College Center
6:00 p.m.

**Persons Attending:**
Peter F. Manno (Chairman, Education)
Frederick J. Shaw, Jr. (Education/Ways & Means committee member)
Mark Gaworecki (Education committee member)
John P. Stephens (Education/Ways & Means committee member)
Bob D. Hollum (Education committee member)
William E. Keeler, Sr. (Education committee member)
Patrick E. Russell (Chairman, Ways & Means)
Kurt J. Ackerman (Ways & Means committee)
Raymond Smith (Ways & Means committee)
Raymond Johnson (Ways & Means committee member)
Vincent J. Bono, Chairman of the Legislature
James W. Wallace, Jr., County Administrator
Lorraine Lewandrowski, County Attorney
Sheri Ferdula, Budget Officer
Steve Billings, Personnel Officer
Cathleen McColgin, President, HCCC
Nicholas Laino, Sr., Vice President of Finance and Administration, HCCC
Michael Oriolo, Provost, HCCC
Jacqueline Woudenberg, Controller, HCCC
Donald Dutcher, Dean of Students, HCCC

*(Non-Committee Members signed in)*
Legislator Gregory Malta, Sr.
Legislator Robert J. Schrader
Legislator Ray Donley
Legislator Peter J. Campione
Legislator William Weakley

**Absent:**
N/A

Mr. Manno and Mr. Russell called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**Items Discussed:**

**EDUCATION AND WAYS & MEANS:**
1. Approve Board of Trustees Resolution #19-21 approving proposed operating budget for 2020-2021
2. Other

**Committee Vote Record:**

**EDUCATION AND WAYS & MEANS:**
Mr. Manno stated “I would like to introduce Dr. McColgin. She is going to do a few opening remarks.”

Dr. McColgin stated “Thank you Legislator Manno, Legislator Russell and thank you to all of the Legislators that are here this evening and to the staff of the Herkimer County Community College. This evening I will present to you our operating budget for the fiscal year 2020/2021 but prior to that, last year, Mr. Manno commented and complimented us on just providing a brief overview of some of the accomplishments, recognitions, we as a campus community have received. I thought I would start off..."
with a very brief introduction before Jacqueline Woudenberg, our Controller, will take over with the Budget Presentation. We also will talk a little bit about the restart plan. I have hard copies here. I will email a copy to Jim so that can be distributed to the rest of the Legislators who were not able to attend in person this evening. It occurred to me that last year while we spoke about accomplishments and recognition, I believe that it’s been a couple of years that you really had the student demographics presented to you. This is a snapshot in time, Fall 2019, of some of our student demographic information. You will see that when we talk about the enrollment breakout by gender and I will just make a note here. The 1,657, that excludes our College Now, high school students that are taking college courses and our PTech students because they are really still in high school. We have 1,657 students that are either on campus or studied with us entirely online. That’s the number we will be working with through the rest of these slides. We have roughly a 50/50 split. A little higher female than male. This demographic has not changed at all. We always have been a tad higher with females than males and there is nothing either manageable or significant about that except for the fact that that is our demographics. When you talk about full time and part time, full time – 76% of that 1,657 students that were studying in the Fall of 2019 were here full time. Full time is twelve credit hours or more. Part time was 24%. Now we do expect to see a little bit of an increase in our part time population coming into the fall and the reason being twofold. Number one we all know that when the economy is down typically enrollment at community colleges increases. We also know that with that increase many of the students are nontraditional students and they have outside responsibilities. Be it family, be it employment and so they study part time. I would not be surprised at all if for fall of 2020 we actually saw a bit of a shift in full timers to part timers. Enrollment by campus, the main campus, including concurrent enrollment which include our high school students gives a total of 2,601. 43% are studying on the main campus, 2% are the students who are at the Mohawk Correctional Facility. Good news is Marcy has also come to us and said we hear about all of the good things that you are doing at Mohawk, we would like you to start offering courses at our facility and we have started that this summer and will continue on through the fall. The difference between Mohawk and Marcy, Mohawk is full degree program. In fact we have had two commencement ceremonies at Mohawk Correctional Facility. Marcy right now is only courses, we will move to full programs. So 2% at Mohawk. 19% Internet Academy. Internet Academy are those students that are taking 100% of their degree requirements online. Every single course that they take is online and as you may remember we have roughly a little over twenty programs out of our forty plus programs that can be achieved totally online. 36% is our concurrent enrollment. Those are students who are in high school that are taking one, two, we don’t like more than two, three sometimes though courses while they are in high school. When we talk about where our students reside, where do they come from? So we broke it out into in state, out of state and outside of the United States who are international students. You will see that the vast majority, 92% of the students who are with us and that again move’s back down to the 1,657 removing the concurrent enrollment students, 92% of our students are in state students with 3% coming from outside the state but domestic. Domestic outside New York State. Connecticut, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, those seem to be the more popular states. Then outside of the United Stated is about 5%. Those are international students which we fully expect and we already know that there will be a drastic decrease in the number of international students that will be coming to campus this fall. Last year we had about 5%. That is roughly around one hundred students and they represented close to twenty different countries. When you talk about a diverse campus in the community, we are diverse. When you talk about in state, now here is from a county perspective and here are the top ten counties for New York State enrollment. 31% of our students are Herkimer County residents followed by Oneida at 17.8%. Then you have Montgomery, etc., etc., etc. That is the top ten counties that our students come from to study at Herkimer. Then just the last piece of demographics, it is our race and ethnicity. 63% white or Caucasian, Asian would be 2%, black or African American 17%, Hispanic or Latino 8% and then it goes down from there. 4% unknown where they just did not identify themselves. So that is a snapshot of what our student demographics looked like in the fall of 2019. Getting on to some highlights and recognition. Phaethon is our magazine if you will. It’s a small magazine and our 2019 edition was named best magazine in small college eastern division by the Community College Humanities Association. A lot of work by our faculty who shepherded this program, our students and staff who contribute to the program and we continually see a very good showing if you will with our Phaethon magazine. Our Medical Coding and Transcription Certificate were named one of
helping students who wish to remain in recovery, stay there and be healthy. We have a staff member, this is grant funded and the STAR Program. This is another relatively new program on campus and it’s for those students who are from day one they have the supplemental material that they need. And to have a $2.1 million savings in the likely hood of them being successful in the classroom goes down considerably. Now our students, they said you know what, we would love to have an online newspaper or newsletter and so the General was launched and I provided the link to it there which you will have when you receive the presentation. Some other highlights, the Board of Trustees recently adopted a Resolution that our campus will be entirely smoke and tobacco free. We will have a soft launch of this during the fall of 2020 where we will have information sessions, staff and students will be able to learn more about smoking sensation strategies. We do have a grant that provides funding for these activities and workshops. The soft launch will get everybody ready and then January of 2021, we are totally smoke and tobacco free. The upper left hand corner photograph is actually some of our students that had the opportunity to go to Washington. The Truth Initiative is the name of the grant that is providing us the funding for all of this so some of them were able to go to Washington and learn more about it along with just being able to be in Our Nation’s Capital. They did a lot of programming and social media during the spring semester. Bottom left hand corner, as you may all remember, was a very wonderful, exciting day when we were able to officially cut the ribbon on our Smart Read Electrical Technology, Smart Read Laboratory before everything went the way of COVID. The upper right hand corner, commencement, we held a virtual commencement. Thank you Mr. Bono, he attended. This is an example of how we actually had our students walk across the stage. Each student mailed in to us a photograph. Some were in their academic regalia and some were not but as their name was called by either Michael or Donny we showed the photograph and then they moved on. It was streamed live with Bluetooth technology and we also had it streaming live on Facebook. We literally had thousands of people watching and giving kudos and a celebration as much as you can do from a virtual perspective. Not something I hope we are going to do next year but if we have to we know how to do it. A big thank you to everyone who was involved. Some additional highlights is SUNY really came out with a hard marketing push this past year on several of the colleges that are a part of the SUNY online program. We are one of six or seven, both two year and four year. So out of the sixty four campuses, we are a part of a very small pilot group with two of our programs, Crime and Intelligence Analysis and Cyber Security Digital Forensics. So they said we are going to market this, we are going to market this, we are going to market this. Fall, not so much but in the spring we are now up to forty eight students so they really stuck with their marketing efforts and it really paid off. P.J. Anadio was just in the paper this morning in the O.D. P.J. is Coordinator of Athletics and Physical Education. He is also our women’s softball head coach and he was recognized for the Striving for Success Program by the Genesis Group this past year. He also, in this morning’s paper talked about community service. His program, Klutch Program, there was a young woman who had her softball equipment stolen out of her father’s car and so P.J. and several, if not many of our former softball team brought in the donations whether it was money or some of their own equipment and this young woman now has her softball equipment. If you didn’t see it this morning, its very heart warming. And as I said to P.J. this morning, I texted him, I said this is who we are. Marge Moore who is Director of Academic Supports Center and our Advisement Center was also recognized by the Genesis Group. That happened last fall. I spoke a little bit about this to you last year, Open Education Resources. This is where all of the supplemental classroom materials for the students is either provided to them by the faculty or they can go and get it from an online source. Obviously it’s also provided. Last year I told you that we were at $1.2 million dollars in savings for our students in our text books. This year we broke $2.1 million in savings and the reality is that we know if students don’t have their text books the likely hood of them being successful in the classroom goes down considerably. Now from day one they have the supplemental material that they need. And to have a $2.1 million dollar savings since its implementation in 2016 I am very proud of that. The collegiate recovery program called STAR Program. This is another relatively new program on campus and it’s for those students who are either in recovery or wish to enter into recovery. We have a staff member, this is grant funded and the staff member meets with students and they have meetings, they have activities and it’s just all about helping students who wish to remain in recovery, stay there and be healthy. I already talked about the live
virtual commencement. Middle States, Middle States was supposed to be here the end of March, April first was supposed to be their exit date, unfortunately we all know what happened. They postponed and will now be here virtually in mid-October. Athletics, here we go. It’s not the NATYCAA cup anymore, it’s the Daktronics cup and Donny has to keep reminding me of that because I keep wanting to call it the NATYCAA cup but we were ranked once again first in the nation by the National Association of two year College Alliance Athletic Administrators. Congratulations Don. Our men’s bowling team received the National Academic Team of the Year Award and head coach Tony DeLuca. We ranked second in our entire athletic program, second in the region for the Community Service Award, our student athletes are out there. You’ve heard about the Gram Lorraine Project where they adopt a family if you will and wrap the presents. They are down at Folts Home during the holidays. Christmas caroling, food drives, etc., etc. Second in the region for community service and this is not something brand new. They are consistently in the rankings. Last but not least, we had students who received academic recognition. Forty seven are regional student athlete academics, they have to complete twenty four or more credit hours with a GPA of 3.5 or higher and then we had forty two that were All American and there again it has to be over twenty four credit hours with a GPA of 3.6 or higher. A lot going on. We stress, Donny, all of the coaches’ stress, you are a student first and then you are an athlete and this is proof that that message is heard so thank you.”

Donald Dutcher stated “I apologize very much, I do just want to make a public announcement. Kyle Roepnack, our athletic trainer, was named the Region Three Athletic Trainer of the year and that is voted amongst his peers and Kyle is a leader in the region and the nation. I forgot to send that to you, I apologize.”

Dr. McColgin stated “I will just repeat that for those on the phone, Kyle Roepnack, who is our Athletic Trainer, was recognized as the Region III, with twenty one colleges in Region III, he was recognized as the number one Athletic Trainer in Region III so congratulations. I will tell you Kyle is always working on professional development, what’s new, how can we do it better. He is very committed to his profession. We are going to move on to academic programs. Up in the upper left hand corner, we will be adding E-Sports to our athletic intercollegiate teams. The NGCAA has adopted and approved E-Sports so we will be under NGCAA as like all of our other sports. The other thing about E-Sports is that there are actually baccalaureate programs in E-Sports management. We have two articulation agreements for our business administration to move onto their E-Sports Event Management. One is Becker College in Massachusetts and the other one is SUNY Canton. Both of those have baccalaureate. Health Professions. Last year was the first year for Health Professions and I have to tell you it’s one of our top enrolled programs and we just signed an articulation agreement where students, if they complete their course work here they can seamlessly transfer to SUNY Upstate for medical imaging, radiation therapy, respiratory therapy, medical technology and biomedical technology. Very, very popular. It’s also kind of that gateway or pathway if you will for students who have said I’m interested in nursing but I want to start and get my pre-requisites and my co-requisites and then I will move on. Engineering Science, the board has approved for us to bring back our Engineering Science Program with Cree coming into the valley as well as an articulation agreement with SUNY Poly. They actually reached out to us to say please can we do something. Engineering Science is coming back as well as articulation agreements that are already in place. Last but not least, is our Cyber Security and Digital Forensics and we just signed a virtual signing ceremony with SUNY Empire State for an articulation agreement for our Cyber Security Program with their Security Studies baccalaureate program. Some good things happening with our academic programs. Student success. That’s the décor of our institution. How do our students succeed? Now the first thing I will tell you is that is not a mistake on the slide. I have fall 2017, 2018, 2016. It’s not a mistake. Those are actually the cohort years depending on who we are reporting it to is the cohort year that they want us to report on. Persistent rate, that student starts with us in the fall, they continue with us in the spring, we have a very healthy persistent rate at 74%. What is even more impressive though in my mind is our retention rate. Retention is fall to fall. Last year I reported that we were at a 56% fall to fall retention rate. This year, or this past cohort, fall 2018 cohort we are at 62%. Transfers, 26% of our students transfer, this is before they receive a degree with us, 26% transfer before they receive their degree and
then graduation rates is 30%. Again this is fall 2016 because they give students a little bit of time and then we report out. 30% might seem low but actually within the thirty community colleges we are one of the top performers with it comes to graduation rates. In 2019 and 2020 we had 417 students complete either their degree or their certificate here with us. So that is a little bit about the highlights. Another highlight, not really a highlight but as you know, COVID-19, we developed our restart plan as we have to, it had to be sent into SUNY, SUNY sent it to the state, because originally we were told we would have to submit our restart plan to the state as well, SUNY said no, we will vet it for you, our 64 campuses, we will certify them that they met all of the minimum requirements and then they will move on. Our plan was submitted to SUNY, it’s vetted, we are certified and we are moving on. I have hard copies for you here and will email the digital copy to Jim so it can be distributed as well. I don’t like to call it a plan anymore and I said this at our off campus meeting on Friday. I prefer to call it our best thinking app. On July 29th at 7:35 p.m. because as soon as you say this is how we are going to do it more information, more guidance comes, more mandates and we have to go back to the plan and change it. A lot of elaboration. We have had information from the New York State Department of Health, obviously CDC, the Governor’s office and I just want to publicly thank Christina Cain, Director of the County Public Health Department. She has always been available for phone calls and consultations and I just can’t thank her enough. I just want that to please go on record that we are so appreciative of her assistance. We will be bringing back employees. Right now only essential employees are here on a daily basis. Other individuals come to campus on an as needed basis. All employees will be coming back August 10th but we will not have 100% of all of our employees here at the same time. We are decreasing our population density so department managers have to provide us with a two weeks schedule as to who will physically be here and who will be working remotely from home. All of the guidelines we have, we have employee guidelines that’s part of the plan that you will all receive as well. It just tells how social distancing, when and where you have to wear a mask, when and where you don’t have to. If an individual feels they may be in a high risk health category because of underlying medical condition, appropriate accommodations will be made for them. If wearing a mask is contraindicated due to a pre-existing health condition we need documentation as well for that and appropriate accommodations will be made for them. It’s mandated that we screen every employee so thank you very much. You were the pilot group if you will to go through our screening. We are looking at an app right now where employees can just go on in the morning, fill out the app and then they are ready to go. Although temperatures will always be taken and people will be wearing color coded bracelets so that we know everyone has gone through the screening and has been cleared. Students will also be screened daily as well. So those are some of the highlights of the plan and with that we certainly have time for questions.”

Mr. Manno stated “Thank you Doctor for your presentation. Now for the fun part, questions and answers. Anybody?”

Mr. Bono asked “You mentioned in your curriculum here in academics the Criminal Justice program, how does that play out right now? The reason I say that is I heard that our neighbors to the west had increased or added a Criminal Justice program.”

Dr. McColgin stated “Well first of all we have Criminal Justice as an umbrella so we have Criminal Justice AAS and I am going to ask Michael to jump in as well, which is AAS programs designed for workforce. You graduate, you start work. We also have Criminal Justice AS, transfer to a four year for additional degrees. Then we also have the Crime and Intelligence Analysis, we have the Forensic Investigation, we have Cyber and Digital Forensics. Every community college in the State of New York has a Criminal Justice Program, the AA and the AS. Just like every community college has Business Administration Program.”

Mr. Bono asked “So it’s nothing new?”

Dr. McColgin stated “No. It’s nothing new. However, what is new is you know we started the pre-employment for the Police Academy, we’ve been approved for Corrections Academy so that will start in the fall.”
Mr. Manno asked “Doctor, chargebacks, how much do we get and how much do we have to give up?”

Jim Wallace asked if Mr. Manno could wait on that because it would be reviewed on in the Budget. Mr. Manno was good with that.

Mr. Malta asked “Doctor, the science program’s coming back, how long was that gone for?”

Dr. McColgin stated “I think it was gone when I first arrived so within the last five years.”

Michael Oriolo stated “It was less than that because you have a three year window where you can just bring it back easily and we were in the three year window. It was like a two year hiatus.”

Mr. Malta asked “So it’s coming back this fall?”

Michael Oriolo stated “Absolutely. The reason was SUNY Poly never knew it disappeared and when they came on campus they said they wanted to have an articulation with us with our engineering program and I told them it was gone but we could easily get it back and that’s what gave us the incentive to bring it back. A lot of our transfers that you see up there, the primary transfer is with SUNY Poly.”

Mr. Schrader stated “Doctor, when you say that you are going to bring these back, what kind of interest have you had with the correctional officers and all of that stuff?”

Dr. McColgin stated “We receive an Admissions Summary report every Monday. Dr. Stickrod who is our Director of Admissions pays very close attention to that plus Executive Council is also there.”

Mr. Schrader stated “With that note said, from a sales point of view because we are trying to get people to come here, when did you find out that we were being allowed to do this?”

Dr. McColgin stated “The board approved it just this spring.”

Mr. Schrader stated “Ok. I’m going to ask you this question. Financially, why are we just hearing about this now? That this is going to be something coming to our college.”

Dr. McColgin stated “You receive a copy of our minutes of our Board of Trustees.”

Mr. Schrader stated “No, I’m saying why isn’t it out there in the public for people to know? We are trying to solicit people to come here, why aren’t we trying to solicit saying that we are bringing this course to Herkimer Community College, jump on board. I’m just asking that because we move into the spring, I know COVID had a little bit to do with it but it could still be out there to get these people.”

Michael Oriolo stated “They do promotions that you don’t see because you are not the targeted group. Our PR department does meet the academic side, does look at the new programs that we have and then targets certain areas and certain age groups for those particular programs. A lot of times I won’t see the ad because I’m not the target group that’s going to take engineering science with people that already have the degree. It’s targeting certain areas and certain students that are receiving those ads. It’s been publicized at all of the high schools.”

Mr. Schrader stated “Yes, but what I am saying, I see your commercial on TV continuously and it’s a great commercial but wouldn’t you think that you would be putting some of this stuff in bringing new items that you could lure people in. People are watching TV. You are targeting the student but you may have a parent say I want my child to get a job. I think you have to get a broader audience. I didn’t know anything about this. If you ask any of the Legislators here if they knew anything about it they probably did not. We have children, we have grandchildren.”
Michael Oriolo stated “All of our new programs have a press release. The press releases go out to newspapers so it was probably in the newspaper and it does go out to media and they choose whether to do it or not. We can’t put ads out there on TV with the cost that is specific to a lot of programs so for example the most recent was this recognition for the CJ Forensics. It was like a ten minute presentation on WKTV. That was all free to us which is advertisement that yes we didn’t have but again we never know. We put it out there all of the time. We never know whether they are going to bite on it if it’s a slow news day or not or whether they have interest in it. So yes we do those things but we know through marketing the targeted area that’s going to be the most impacted for those students.”

Mr. Schrader stated “With the strategies that you guys are using, because I am looking at it from a salesman’s point of view, if a strategy is not working we would look to another strategy to do a little bit better or enhance it.”

Denver Stickrod stated “I speak on new students as Director of Admissions. When I came in we had a pretty bad fall 2018 enrollment. There were about 698 new students give or take. For fall 2019 we had like 812. That’s pretty good. We are not going to see that growth every year. There are a lot of new things that help that but that was substantial. The goal for this year is a 2% goal for enrollment with is pretty much standard. We have done a lot of stuff as far as implementing new strategies for the Admission’s Office so I’m excited. I think we have done some pretty good things.”

Mr. Schrader stated “I’m not criticizing. I am just offering from a salesman’s point of view, if something is not working we need to try a different avenue to promote the college.”

Dr. McColgin stated “I will tell you that you will see actually that for this upcoming year, because of everything that is going on, some of the factors that we are dealing with every year as in the decrease in the number of students who are graduating high school and the population is decreasing. That one factor in of itself is enough to deal with but from an enrollment perspective, so we budgeted 11.4% to be down over last year in FTEs, full time equivalence, that’s the budget stuff. Right now in both new students and overall enrollment we are actually trending up. We are ahead of where we were last year. Now, do I think that’s going to hold until September 8th. No. The time is coming and now we are starting to see less students. We had a great push and let me tell you people were on top of everything but we are not digging out of the hole like some of our sister institutions are right now that are already negative decrease double digits from their year prior. We are not climbing out of a hole. We started at a positive. We started in the black and I do believe we will probably end up either flat or maybe a little bit down. I’m not a betting woman but I don’t think we are going to be at 11.4%.”

Denver Stickrod stated “Some of the other institutions are down 20% to 25%. Significant enrollment decrease. So being flat right now with the pandemic is a pretty big testament to where we are at. There are a lot of uncertainties. At least we are not in a situation where some people are.”

Mr. Johnson asked “With the sports, you have a great sports program here, now COVID has come along, soccer, basketball, which are huge for you guys, will those kids come?”

Dr. McColgin stated “NJCAA has made a determination that all fall sports for those colleges that are a part of the NJCAA are cancelled until the spring. Winter sports, like our basketball which starts in November and goes through the spring semester, they will just start in the spring. They will be delayed. They are allowing us to practice and if we choose to scrimmage. We’ve had long conversations with our coaches. We will practice so we will be in real good shape in the spring, but scrimmaging just doesn’t make sense to any of us. If you are not going to let students play, why are you going to put them in a van and transport them to another institution to play or bring another institution onto campus? Practices will take place and scrimmages no and keep your fingers crossed we can move forward in the spring. We will be busy this spring. It will be all fall as well as our spring sports. We have one turf which I love but you have both men and women’s soccer along with men’s lacrosse and practices and games. The other thing
the NJCAA did also is they limited the number of competitions that you can have so there again decreasing people coming in and out of your campuses and travel and they also decreased or limited the number of practices and scrimmages if you desire to have scrimmages that a team can participate in.”

Mr. Johnson asked “So they won’t lose their eligibility?”

Dr. McColgin stated “No.”

Mr. Gaworecki asked “Does that affect anyone that may be in a spring and fall sport?”

Donald Dutcher responded “The biggest ones that we have are cross country and track. A lot of students run cross country are on the track team. It’s really not going to affect them. We had a meeting this morning with the National office actually, if cross country and track are in the same season can we run the cross country on Tuesdays and have track meets on Saturdays or Sundays and just have the schedule for that. At Herkimer we are a little unique. Some other schools are really worried about that Mark. At Herkimer we have very few students that are on both sports. Very few males play two sports here just because the coaches do year round stuff. Here we might have a total of eight to eleven on any given year that might be on soccer and also play softball so we will work with those student athletes. We as a region are coming up with a schedule so we can help student athletes that still want to play multiple sports so our softball games might be on one day and our soccer matches might be on another day.”

Mr. Hollum stated “The Technology Corporations Cree coming to the area is there any plans to have additional programs to utilize?”

Dr. McColgin stated “The question is with Cree coming in to the valley is it the intent for us to add any additional programs. We are in close contact with Cree taking the lead. They meet with MV and us and all of the colleges in the valley and if it makes sense. Yes. But also if there is a new program it goes through quite a comprehensive vetting process so you just don’t say I think we’ll add XYZ program. We have made a commitment in the past couple of years that if it is going to be an expense, bottom line number of students, is the equipment heavy, do we need small class sizes because of the equipment and at the end of the day Jackie does her calculations and if it’s determined that this is going to be a program that is going to cost us, we are not entertained unless there is a compelling reason to bring the program here. Like if Cree comes to us and says you are the only college that offers or even has the ability to offer a certain program and then we go back to them and say sure but you have to help us.”

Mr. Hollum stated “So I understand enrollment is down everywhere. How do you project where the numbers are? How do you come up with you think there will be this many or that many.”

Dr. McColgin stated “There is a variety of different ways that we look at enrollment and enrollment projects. Enrollment is made out of three buckets if you will. We have new students, so Denver takes a look at demographics, our program profile, we take a look at workforce and what the needs potentially are. We listen to employers who come to us and say the Police Academy and the Corrections Academy are two prime examples of that. And then he makes his goals for new students. The other piece is those students who are transferring. That is close your eyes and throw a dart. You just don’t know about transfer students. The other bucket is our continuing students, those students who are here with us. The persistence and the retention rates that I showed you earlier. We take those students who are with us this year, we apply our percentage, our retention rate percentage to it and we say ok, we had 2,000 students with us in the fall total. How many of those are not on track to graduate so they are relatively new. We have that number, we use our percentages and the last category again is very similar to transfer students is returning students. They were with us, they had to step out for different reasons, and now they want to come back and finish and we have no control. So the two really are new students and continuing students which I say is everybody’s responsibility.”
Mr. Bono stated “I know we need to get into the budget talk but this is a budget question. Going forward with any capital projects, Jim and I and the rest of us had heard from the State, we get 50% match with the projects. Has the State had any inclination that the match will be taken away?”

Dr. McColgin stated “They have already cancelled one match on us, yes.”

Nick Laino stated “What’s happening with capital right now, used to be pretty easy as far as once you had your local monies. Not anymore. What is happening is that we used to go through SUNY, stamp it, move on. Not anymore. SUNY doesn’t have that power anymore. It has to go through the Department of Budget and so basically the Governor’s office, they are controlling the whole thing. For example, we had a small initiative, $140,000 project. We had $70,000 from the foundation, $70,000 match, got approved in the State budget for our E-Sports Program for our soft launch. They pulled the $70,000. So now we are not going to go forward with the other $70,000 because then we lose the leverage to double that money. Just like that. Then they also pulled the project from last year we are finishing up on a second part of the Electrical Tech Program on the $96,000 grant, and they pull that. I went back to them and said listen, the Governor is the one that basically initiated this program here. We are at the final stages. How can you take this money when it was his initiative? I guess that word helped out a little bit. They restored that money but it is going to be very difficult if it’s life, health, safety, but snazzy stuff, I don’t see it happening in the near future.”

Dr. McColgin stated “Some institutions had work and said if it’s not health, safety, don’t move forward with it.”

Mr. Bono stated “We’ve been told that all awards and grants are in jeopardy.”

Nick Laino stated “Good evening everybody. I would like to just introduce a couple people that some of you may not know. Denver Stickrod is our Director of Admissions, Mike Oriolo our Provost, Donny Dutcher, he is the Dean of Students/Athletic Director. He is doing both. Bob Woudenberg our Director of Facilities, Edris Noori who is our Network Administrator, really acting in a roll of IT Director and he is a graduate of this institution in 2016. It’s nice to have a graduate work here. Before we get going on the budget I just want to have Bob Woudenberg just mention one thing and it was on Cathleen’s report about the restart. We hear a lot of things about air quality and Bob, if you could come up here for the people on the phone. Just to let you folks understand what we are doing so if you get calls that we are not paying attention to what we are trying to accomplish here so I would like Bob to take us through what we are going to be doing here.”

Bob Woudenberg stated “Obviously when the Governor announced that all malls are going to have to have HEPA filtration in their air paneling systems, that really brings up all kinds of questions to everybody else. Why aren’t we doing that? We need to put HEPA filtration in. Then the recommendation came out to other facilities that they need to at least get to a MERV 13 filtration. Our systems that we have here are currently on a MERV 8 filtration. A MERV 8 does not catch the size of a COVID virus molecule. It will slip through MERV 8 filtration theoretically. It’s also an extremely sticky type molecule that’s the reason why it’s so dangerous, it gets in you and it stays there because it is so sticky. The chances of getting through are extremely slim. The chance of it getting through the rest of the air system without getting stuck somewhere in the duct work is another unlikely that it would ever happen but I understand why he is putting certain regulations in the malls. There is no control of who is going into those malls. You can’t control people walking in there. You can tell them to put a mask on or whatever, they take it off and do whatever they want to do. And you are obviously not checking people coming in the door. Here, we are checking everybody coming in the door. You guys experienced a little bit of it. We are fine tuning it. It’s going to be much quicker once we get the classes going here, plus we also have other non-contact type things that you just walk up to and breathe into automatically and move on. With all of that said, one of the things that guide us from SUNY and a bunch of engineers that were on a WebEx meeting with SUNY, they all said the same thing, if you have a newer system, yes, try and
upgrade it to the MERV 13 as a minimum. Still not quite to the HEPA filtration but it’s supposedly small enough to catch that molecule. You guys that have older systems, you can’t. If we try to take our system, move it to a MERV 13 filtration, what we are going to do, well we are going to do a couple things. The main thing we are going to do is we are going to reduce the air flow, that’s the last thing we want to do. We want to increase the air flow. We want to turn that air around more in each one of these classrooms and hallways. We couldn’t bring ourselves up to a MERV 13 because it’s going to reduce everything down and put a tremendous amount of stress on our equipment so one of the things, which is a little bit of an overkill, this whole move up to a MERV 13, that was just a recommendation and none of that is required so they say if you can’t move to MERV 13, increase your airflow and use as much outside air as much as you possibly can recirculating the inside air. That’s the approach we are going to start with. The other thing that we are going to do is we are going to take this over and above. We are going to put in a UVGI System. Ultra Violet Germicidal something or other system and basically what that’s going to do, every bit of air that comes through that system is going to go down the line and go through the UV system. It’s going to kill every virus, it’s going to kill every germ, it’s going to kill mold spores, it’s going to kill all kinds of things. It’s going to aide in having to clean the duct work, it’s going to aide in having to clean the fans that draw this air through because by doing that, by killing everything it’s going to pass. It’s not going to be harmful to anybody. What’s passing through is going to kill everything. These systems are used in hospitals, operating rooms and super clean room type applications. Things like that. It is a bit of overkill but for us with an old system it is actually the cheapest and most effective way to protect anybody and everybody and improve the air quality.”

Nick Laino stated “And the other thing is we have a lot of different people coming from all over the place, the country, international, etc., so we know this is on our staff’s minds. It’s already been sent in for questions and stuff. That’s the approach we are taking. I thought it would be important that the Legislature knew so if your phones ring and they say you are not putting in HEPA filters, no we are not but we are doing this.”

Barb stated “What is the expense of this system?”

Bob Woudenberg stated “Right now we are still in the final engineering stages of figuring out exactly what we need for the system. We have thirty two different air handlers on the entire campus. Each one of those has to be equipped with this system. One quote right now is $18,000 just for our RMCC building. We did this one area when the guy quoted it so he is going back and adding some so a couple grand more or something bringing it to around $20,000. Our foundation is actually working on a grant with us. We don’t know if or how it’s going to go through but they are working on a grant.”

Nick Laino stated “And it’s also CARES Act eligible for our CARES Act money that I will get into with the budget too.”

Bob Woudenberg stated “Just for this building it’s that so to shoot from the hip we are probably looking somewhere in the ball park of $150,000 to try and do the campus. Might be a little bit more, might be a little bit less.”

Barb asked “Does that include the dorms?”

Bob Woudenberg stated “No, it does not include the dorms.”

Mr. Gaworecki stated “I’m assuming this won’t be our last virus we come across. Is there a long term plan to get everything up to the HEPA level?”

Bob Woudenberg stated “At this point probably not. With this UV system, I don’t care what virus goes through it, it’s going to get killed. Even the mold spores, everything. We have an old system here. Some of our stuff here goes back into the 60s, early 70s.”
Mr. Gaworecki stated “So this is the long term thing?”

Dr. McColgin stated “Yes.”

Bob Woudenberg stated “Yes, this would definitely be a long term thing.”

Nick Laino stated “You are talking major mechanical HVAC upgrades.”

Bob Woudenberg stated “Now we are not saying if for some reason our systems have failed us and we are having to replace it we would go to a much more modern system that could handle a HEPA filtration. Right now, because of what we have it cannot handle that.”

Mr. Bono stated “Shouldn’t we wait until this maybe blows over for another six months. I’m not sold. It sounds great Bob but somebody walks through that door asymptomatic, that system does nothing for us.”

Bob Woudenberg stated “Nothing is a guarantee.”

Mr. Bono stated “Right. For me, I don’t know how the rest feel, to wait six months. I’m not saying it’s political but this may be all political some of this. This may all go away by the first of the year and to put that money into that now, I just think we are shooting from the hip. Just wait it out. I have never known of any other virus or anything to come through the duct work and anybody that gets sick from this…”

Nick Laino stated “Jimmy I am with you. Here is reality. We have a pretty decent sized staff out here and this is hot. This is really hot with them right now so to wait and see what happens, I don’t think we can with what we have heard so far. I am with you. I don’t want to spend but I think we have to because of the temperature here.”

Mr. Johnson stated “You are still not going to satisfy everybody here. There is going to be people out there saying that’s no good or go on the internet and that doesn’t work or whatever. You are never going to please. If you please 50% you are doing good.”

Jacqueline Woudenberg stated “Regarding the funding of the UVGI plan, those expenses would not come out of our operating budget. We have received a base grant of about $760,000 from the Federal Government under the CARES Act. One of the things we can spend that money on is for health and safety and this is obviously a health and safety type expense. That $150,000 or whatever it turns out to be, will come from that $760,000 that we already have here.”

Mr. Manno stated “I think if it saves one life it’s worth it.”

Dr. McColgin stated “I know you want to get to the budget but talking about receiving phone calls, something else you will read in the plan but I just want to quickly go over it with you. Residential students – so we will be bringing students back onto campus. Housing Corporation, we have been in close contact with them, we have determined that the best course of action is to limit one student per bedroom. That does take our occupancy down from approximately 630 down to 350. One student per bedroom but they will still be sharing a bathroom. For those students who wish to come onto campus they are receiving a detailed check list from the Dean of Students. They must quarantine for fourteen days prior to coming to campus, coming to move in day. When they arrive on campus they will first go through the screening, very similar to what you experienced. They will have to attest that they did precautionary quarantine for the fourteen days and then a rapid COVID test will be conducted. There will be a portion of the parking lot designated, they will go and wait in the parking lot. Urgent Care will be conducting the testing and if they test positive which I hope not, they will be told they will have to return home and we will help them with their course schedule until it’s safe for them to come back. If they test negative they will then proceed with check in. We are allowing only one family member to help his or her child, student, who will also be tested. So if a parent or family member tests positive, the student tests negative, then the
parent will have to remain in the car and we have RAs, student ambassadors and staff that will help that student move in. Once they are here, then I think we mentioned it earlier, they will be treated as a family unit. So students who are sharing the same apartment, all in separate bedrooms, they will not have to wear a mask while in the common area of the apartment and the kitchen, etc. And then periodically Upstate Medical Center is providing what they call Pool Saliva testing. We will pool our men’s soccer team. You can do I think it’s up to twenty-five. Don’t quote me on that number but you can pool several individuals. If the entire pool comes back negative you are good to go. If the pool comes back that you have a positive then you go and individually test the twenty-five or whatever the number that was in the pool to then isolate. We do have apartments already set aside in the event that we do need to quickly get a student into isolation because of a positive test or if they have been in close contact and here is where Christina will provide us with information to say yes you need to quarantine that student. You need to quarantine the other students. That type of thing. We have four individuals here on campus who either have or will complete the Johns Hopkins certificate training course in contact tracing so if we do have a positive case here on campus be it a student or a staff member we will be assisting Christina and her team with helping to identify where that individual was so that the contact tracing from the Department of Health can be as expedient as possible.”

Mr. Stephens stated “Doctor you said something that caught my attention. Jim Wallace and Jim Bono and I and a couple of other guys that meet once a week, we discuss all of the numbers and stuff like that. You mentioned that if a student comes in and a parent or family helps them and the family number tests positive, are they testing them when they get here? So if they get here and test positive that student can’t come to campus either.”

Dr. McColgin stated “Right.”

Mr. Stephens stated “You said we would have someone to help move the student in.”

Dr. McColgin stated “No, I am sorry. I apologize. They can’t come.”

Mr. Stephens stated “If that family member tests positive and that student has been with them, nobody is coming here.”

Donald Dutcher stated “Urgent Care told us though, and I will go back and check with them, they said if the student tested negative and the parent positive, don’t let the parent out of the car. We have to test that student within 72 hours. We have to tell that student to stay in quarantine in their room and then we have to test them again in 72 hours.”

Mr. Stephens stated “The information we get is they are fourteen days if they get exposed to someone.”

Mr. Bono stated “The problem lies in the results. The results are what, seven to ten days out.”

Dr. McColgin stated “They would be in quarantine while they are waiting for that time.”

Mr. Bono stated “I know there is not that many test sites out there and we are fighting for this. I think the only, lack of a better word, credible test site is Griffiss. I know there were some issues with Primary Urgent Care with false positives. I talked with Christina about it and she will be giving the scoop on that. Again, there are not that many providers.”

Dr. McColgin stated “The thing with Bassett is they are up to more than 48 hours. It’s like five days.”

Mr. Bono asked “The batch testing that you are talking about?”

Dr. McColgin stated “That’s through Upstate Medical Center.”
Isabella Crandall “What kind of proof will the students have in hand to show us that they have been quarantined?”

Dr. McColgin stated “It’s just like any other person who goes into precautionary quarantine. We are telling them you are attesting to this, you are taking the pledge. If we find out differently it is a violation of our Student Code of Conduct and I said it once and I will repeat it, as long as the day is long there will be a zero tolerance.”

Isabella Crandall asked “So we are just taking their word?”

Dr. McColgin responded yes.

Mr. Stephens stated “We are running into the same problem with people coming from out of state. They have to self-report. I got a phone call today on somebody. Hey, I know this kid lives in North Carolina, what’s he doing home?”

Mr. Wallace stated “My niece and nephew got called every day for fourteen days.”

Mr. Hollum stated “Not to keep the subject going but I see that the electrostatic sprayers are being used in the schools in the city. Any consideration on those?”

Bob Woudenberg stated “We have. We have two Clorox ones already on campus. We have two more that are on order plus we have some victory units that are on order. We will be spraying in between classes and things like that. When class is dismissed they will be going in there and taking care of things of that nature. We are going to be doing constant wipe downs throughout the day and things like that while people are moving around campus. We are going to do as much as we possibly can in that area. So yes we are well into the electrostatic type spraying units.”

Mr. Johnson asked “Do you have staff to do this extra work?”

Nick Laino stated “No. We are light on staff.”

Bob Woudenberg stated “We are extremely light on staff”

Nick Laino stated “We’ve got a couple things we are looking into.”

Bob Woudenberg stated “There is going to be a reduced number of classes on campus. Primarily going to be the labs and true hands on stuff that cannot be taught online. There are going to be a lot fewer with breaks between classes so when a class is released we have time to get through several classrooms to take care of it before the next class.”

Mike Oriolo stated “We will make sure that we are not having back to back classes so we will have time to do that.”

Mr. Schrader stated “Doctor, you told us before this is going through SUNY. When will you know when your plan has been accepted?”

Dr. McColgin stated “It has been at the end of June. We received a notice of certification. I had to attest to it.”

Mr. Schrader stated “I know at a prior meeting we talked and you said you didn’t know for sure if the Governor was going to accept it.”
Dr. McColgin stated “No. What SUNY did was we originally on the Command Control calls, all colleges were told that not only, because there were privates on the call as well, we were told that our plan had to be submitted to the State. So the President said to the Chancellor of SUNY, we are submitting our plans to you. Can’t you do something? I mean this is redundant, right? So SUNY had a conversation with the Governor’s Office and so SUNY certified on the path of each campus and then submitted on our behalf to the State. We have been certified since late June early July.”

Nick Laino stated “Welcome everybody to the budget. I know it’s late. We encourage questions during the budget. Before I turn this over to Jackie, when I think about this budget this was difficult and painful. There are four areas that I want to just touch upon and we will get into it more but these are the areas that say a lot. We are putting this budget together with just under 1,500 FTEs which is low. Low for this college. We are not asking the County for any money for the operating. We all believe there is a lot of pressure on the County right now with your revenue. It’s going to be the same amount from the prior year. We are building this budget with 20% reduction in State aid. Is it 100% finalized, 20%, don’t know but that’s how we are building our budget. One of the biggest things, and we will talk about this at the end, also with a capital consideration, we are appropriating fund balance and we will get into what is there and what is going to be left that we project of $1.9 million. I’ve been here fifteen years, never appropriated $1.9 million for fund balance. We are also going to talk about as Jackie eluded to, the CARES Act money. The college received about $1.5 million. Half of the money has to go directly to students. We cannot touch that $750,000. The other $750,000, that we can use for things that qualify. So we will talk about that but I wanted to give these certain points right now of how we are all making this work right now. Jackie, everybody knows Jackie Woudenberg? She has been here thirty-seven years”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Thank you and good evening everyone. This was a difficult budget to put together due to all of the unknowns. Especially as they relate to COVID-19. What you see up on the screen is the summary of our budget and we will just run down these line by line. As Nick said, we built this budget on FTEs of 1,491. That is for fall and spring enrollment. Our winter and summer programs we will still run but we have not included them in the budget because the enrollment in those sessions has been fairly unpredictable, so what we didn’t want to do was to rely on that enrollment to balance our budget. As Dr. McColgin said, the fall and spring at 1,491 is an 11.4% decrease over our budget for 2019-2020 fiscal year. Because of the enrollment decline our student revenues will decline by approximately $2 million dollars. What we did with tuition was to increase both our full and part time tuition. Full time will increase by $146 for the entire year bringing the total full time tuition to $5,016 annually. That seems like an odd dollar amount but it is a 3% increase over our 2019-2020 rate. Becky speaks with somebody at SUNY Central Administration who indicated that if we stayed at 3% or below we would not be scrutinized at the SUNY Board of Trustees level on what our tuition rate is. So we chose to go exactly the 3% which is the $5,016 for full time in-state student.”

Nick Laino stated “Regoverning by the Board of Trustees, County Legislature, SUNY Trustees.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Part time tuition rate will increase by $5 from $174 to $179 per credit hour. And then our non-resident tuition which is for all out of state students and international students and those students who happen to be a New York State resident but don’t provide us their certificate to prove it, those students tuition is increasing $500 from $7,500 to $8,000. Even with those tuition rate increases, the decline in enrollment and not budgeting for winter and summer decreases our student revenues by just a little bit over $2 million dollars.”

Mr. Stephens asked “Jackie, is that 3% annually?”

Jackie Woudenberg responded yes.

Mr. Stephens stated “Ok so next year we do another 3% and they are not going to scrutinize us next year either? Not saying that’s what we will do.”
Jackie Woudenberg stated “That all depends on what the situation is next year.”

Dr. McColgin stated “And the other thing that we can’t do is we can’t exceed maximum TAP.”

Mr. Stephens said thank you.

Jackie Woudenberg stated “We are below the TAP cap still even with this. State Aid, for 2019 - 2020 you might remember us talking about State Aid being at a funding floor which was 98% of the prior year. They have rescinded that funding methodology and have gone back to weighted average FTE funding. Base aid funding. And as Nick stated folks at SUNY System indicated that we should plan on a minimum of a 20% decrease in State aid.”

Nick Laino stated “That didn’t officially come out but from our intelligence we are going to be conservative, that’s how Herkimer is, that’s how the County is, that’s how we are.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Right. So between both the return to the FTE funding and the 20% reduction our State Aid will reduce by about $1.3 million. 20% of that $1.3 million equates to about $810,000. Charge backs, everybody’s favorite subject. We are still under the traditional charge back calculation formula which takes into account every other component of the budget except for sponsor. The way the formula works in a very simplistic manner is if other revenues go down, if expenses go down charge backs go down, if expenses go up charge backs go up, it’s kind of a balancing act. So, because of the significant decrease and the student revenues and State Aid of $3.3 million dollars all together the charge back formula mitigates that somewhat by returning $1.8 million dollars to us in charge back revenue.”

Mr. Manno stated “Jackie, while it’s true we hold the sponsor contribution level, we allow the college to keep the charge backs.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “The capital charge backs.”

Mr. Manno stated “Yes but some counties do not.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Right, that’s not this charge back. This is operating. All colleges keep their operating charge backs. There is a capital component that is restricted so it’s not included in the budget and that’s what Herkimer County allows us to keep.”

Mr. Manno stated “Thanks for clarifying that.”

Nick Laino stated “It pays our long term debt.”

Mr. Manno stated “And every year I ask how much it costs to educate a student and how much they pay in tuitions and every year it’s a good deal. It’s thousands of dollars difference but somebody who used to work at the college actually had a different idea and he wrote a letter to the editors saying Mr. Manno says that this is a great deal. He said it would be a greater deal if the sponsors increased their contribution. So, we can’t make everybody happy.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Just to answer the question of what does it cost to educate. Simplistically I took the $22.9 just shy of $23 million dollar expense budget and divided it by the 1,491 FTE and it’s about $15,400.”

Mr. Manno stated “So it’s a great deal for a student.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Other revenues increasing slightly and this is mainly due to the success that we’ve had in investment and treasury bills. Hopefully that will continue but we will have a less cash basis in order to do that investing so I’m keeping my fingers crossed on that. And then, as Nick already stated,
Nick Laino asked “Before we get into Personnel, any questions on the revenue side? (no response) At the college we have four unions. We were in negotiations with two unions, kind of when all of this hit. It was kind of a good place to be though. The two unions, the Professionals Association, which is faculty and staff, and the Administrators Association which is basically all of the Administrators except for maybe ten or twelve of us, and not just Administrators, support people too are in that union. We were successful and they were cooperative and willing. Where we deliver for next year, we went out just until next year with a zero for both unions. So basically the union for adjuncts, things have been quiet there. We are trying to form a contract there so there is no update there and then CSEA I think carries us through December but that would be the only, when you see an increase in this budget, is CSEA personnel through December. I just wanted to clarify that first so everybody understands it.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Under Personnel and Benefits you can see that we are budgeting approximately a $700,000 decrease. The main reason for that is not filling vacant positions. Whenever a position becomes vacant the Executive Counsel looks at it in a great level of detail to see if there is an alternative to just refilling that as is. Every part time line was reviewed quite thoroughly for historical usage, five years historical usage to see if any adjustments could be made there and they were and then as I spoke about under the student revenue, since we are not budgeting the revenue and the enrollment for the winter and summer sessions we are also not budgeting for the expense. They balance each other out if you will so it’s really a bottom line essentially zero affect. Of course, as you all know we are self-insured for health care. Very difficult thing to predict. We have had a couple, probably three or four, near catastrophic medical issues this year for us and we are just hoping that that doesn’t increase for the rest of this year at least.”

Nick Laino stated “It’s always something that, part of the County planning, you guys have the same challenge in front of you. Any other questions on personnel?”

Mr. Shaw stated “Yes Nick, I’ve got one. On your student revenue the $2 million reduction, if you raised the price to the students who are attending how many less students are there than you had last year?”

Nick Laino stated “If we increase tuition, remember we could raise tuition more. We don’t think it will get past the SUNY Board of Trustees.”

Mr. Shaw stated “Right, I understand that. You raised it the 3% but a $2 million decrease in money means you had less students.”

Dr. McColgin stated “Yes. 11.4% less.”

Mr. Manno stated “Nick, I don’t know if you want to say a few words about those four projects. The pool, ball fields with the water, etc.”

Nick Laino stated “You know what I am going to do, if you don’t mind Mr. Chairman, towards the end we will go over this.”

Mr. Manno stated yes.

Nick Laino stated “We are going to go to the equipment line because you see $0 to $300,000 here? Primarily this line has to do with IT equipment that we are in dire need and especially with the strain that’s being put on us right now. Edris, can you say a few works?”

Edris Noori stated “Hello everyone. Like Nick said our equipment is very old, they simply don’t have the capacity to support our needs and these days we rely more on technology to support our learning and business objectives, so we really need upgrades. Any questions?”
Jackie Woudenberg stated “The final line in the operating budget under expenses is that “other” category which is everything that is not either personnel or equipment. You are seeing a $220,000 increase in that but I can assure you that that increase is entirely due to items that we believe may be covered by CARES Act monies. We included it in the operating budget just on the off chance that it won’t be approved to have CARES Act reimbursement but if we do get that then we are at a zero change in the “other” category. So the total expenses would be $22,981,578 or just slightly less than the FY20 year. So then it begs the question, what does this do to our fund balance? On the slide you will see two years, FY20 which is the year we are currently in and then FY21 which is the year in which we are presenting the budget on. On September 1, 2019 we began the year with an unreserved fund balance of just shy of $7 million $6,000,967. We are hoping, and again my fingers are crossed, that our normal operations will not use any fund balance. I know we have just a month left to go but as I stated before, health claims are so unpredictable that I cannot give you any assurance that that will hold for the rest of the year.”

Nick Laino stated “In the last quarter our State Aid was delayed and we were one of the last schools to receive monies for our State Aid allocation, is reduced by 20%.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Right, and that’s that $296,000 negative you see on the screen. That’s the 20% reduction in our fourth quarter State Aid for this year. That would leave our fund balance at $6.6 million, just shy of $6.7 million, which would carry forward into next year. Our normal operations next year, we’ve used $1.184 million and then the State Aid reduction, which I indicated earlier, is $810,000 for a total of $1.9 million use of fund balance. That would bring us down to $4,000,677 at the end of next year.”

Nick Laino stated “And just so everybody is clear on the CARES Act, there is no CARES Act money there. We are waiting on certain guidance on that. We want to maximize that three quarters of a million because equipment like IT, equipment like infrastructure, we want to do that but we are building this conservative, but we’ve got the $750,000 still with the CARES ACT money. I just wanted to be clear on that.”

Mr. Hollum stated “Question on the fund balance. Are we, I believe last year it was around $5 million?”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Maybe with the presentation of the FY20 budget so it would have been like two years ago.”

Mr. Hollum stated “Okay, so maybe it was two years ago.”

Nick Laino stated “We showed profit.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Our budget managers did an outstanding job in saving wherever they could.”

Nick Laino stated “I can say one thing, from percentage to budget, we are either number one or number two in the State where percentage to budget is because they send that out every year.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “But what it does do is provide us our cash flow for when we have cases of delayed State or delayed TAP or delayed tuition payments.”

Mr. Gaworecki asked “Does having too large of a fund balance reduce your likelihood with getting State Aid?”

Jackie Woudenberg responded “No, it has no bearing.”

Mr. Schrader stated “Question, so you take the $330,000 or whatever for IT, are you guys going to tell us about this or are we going to find out through other means. A couple things happened up here that we had to hear through someone that wasn’t even on the Legislature that money was spent or whatever.”
Nick Laino stated “Actually, that’s good news. I don’t usually bring the good news so I would like to tell you about it.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “We will try and claim as much as we possibly can, it has to go through audit, once it goes through audit then we can report on, this is what the CARES Act money was spent on.”

Mr. Schrader stated. “Another thing that they are checking up on now, you can attempt to get more money from the Federal Government? Is there going to be another round of the CARES Act?”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “No. Not that we have heard. There might be for individuals.”

Nick Laino stated “If there is something that we are eligible for, we are going after it.”

Mr. Wallace stated “There is supposed to be $107 billion for K-12th grade plus most secondary schools at minimum. One question Jackie, and it always scares me every year, I’m listening to you on charge backs, we are going to take a $400,000 hit next year using your logic just so the Legislators understand with MVCC and everybody else, correct?”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “I can’t speak to what the other colleges budgets look like but if they experience anything similar then yes.”

Mr. Wallace stated “Everybody is in the same boat.”

Jackie Woudenberg stated “Yes.”

Mr. Wallace stated “Just so you know it is a $400,000 hit to us.”

Mr. Stephens stated “I know this might seem insignificant but Dr. McColgin and Nick and Mike and I and Jim Wallace, I sat in a room with you folks probably three years ago know and we had discussions and had concerns and I brought up the idea of an Alumni group to do fund raising. I know there is a foundation but this would be totally separate. There has got to be alum out there, benefactors that have money. Have we made any progress in that area? I come from a private college. I’m heavily involved with that to the tune of tens of millions of dollars a year.”

Dr. McColgin stated “I shared and continue to share your thoughts and your concerns. I come from a public two year. I am an alum for Cayuga Community College. I have voiced my comments and there has been some headway.”

Mr. Stephens stated “I truly believe that there is money out there to be had.”

Mr. Russell stated “I would like to have a motion from the Ways & Means committee.”

Mr. Manno also requested a motion from the Education committee.

Item #1 – On motion of Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Johnson, for the Education Committee and on motion of Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Bono for the Ways & Means Committee, Item #1 was voted on, approved, and moved for Resolution. Unanimous.

Item #2 – N/A

Nick Laino stated “I just want to end by saying one thing on capital. This will just take a minute. At one point we met with some of the Legislature. There were four issues. Parking lot, baseball field, softball field, those three we are not talking about. Where we would like you to consider helping us out next year is the roof for the Library. We’ve got some problems in there. There is some mold now upstairs so we
have been patching it, glueing it, band-aid, whatever, it's not working. So what we are doing now is working on a cost. It could be somewhere maybe $500,000 maybe $700,000, I'm not sure, don’t quote me but as soon as I get those numbers I will bring them to Mr. Wallace so he can share and we can come down to talk about it. That probably will pass with SUNY Capital in the OB because it is life safety. We have a good shot to get that 50% match if the monies come from the sponsorship so that is the only thing we would like you to consider. More information to come.”

At 7:50 p.m., on motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Bono for the Education Committee and on motion of Mr. Stephens, seconded by Mr. Bono for the Ways & Means Committee, the meeting was adjourned.