

REGULAR MEETING – FINANCE SUB-COMMITTEE

Approved 3/22/2010

Litchfield Board of Education

Monday, February 22, 2010, Intermediate School Art room, 6:30 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Litchfield Board of Education Finance Sub-Committee was held on Monday, February 22, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. in the Intermediate School Art Room.

Members Present: Mr. Noone (chair), Messrs. Simone and Gorman (arrived 6:35 p.m.).

Also Present: Dr. Wheeler, Mr. Katzin, Mr. Falcetti, Mr. Shuhi, Ms. Carr, Ms. Della Volpe, Ms. Marinelli, Mrs. Longobucco, Mr. Matthew Brennan (LPS Computer/Network Specialist), public and press.

MOTION made by Mr. Gorman and seconded by Mr. Simone: to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 25, 2010.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Communications – none

Public comment – none

Old Business

- a.) Budget 2010-2011: several corrected budget pages were distributed.
- Budget Reduction Options: Pay for Play is not a comfortable option.
 - Technology: Request from previous meeting to show technology program as it would look with a possible additional \$35,000 reduction. Details were presented by A. Longobucco.
 - Fiber Tech. lease line – OpenOffice vs. Office FiberTech. lease – details were presented. Lease is up for renewal; 3 options. (1) Monthly Fee (2) Up-Front Payment with Annual Fee, and (3) Up-Front Payment Only. Details were provided for each option as to advantages and disadvantages. Discussed whether there can be a connection from the state line on Route 202; no local service is being run out of the Center School; changes in future technology could make a long range contract a risk. OpenOffice & Microsoft Licensing: Pros and cons of each were presented working through a consortium for savings; costs were presented.
 - Town Pension: Request to fund at 120%; an increase of nearly \$62,000; it is now funded at 100% in the 2010-2011 budget proposal.
 - Open Discussion: LHS World Language – current 1.0 FTE would be reduced to .2 FTE; discussed importance of language instruction and what should be taught at various levels.
 - Pay-to-Play: Not supported in the past; discussed cutting middle school sports. If Grades 7&8 sports are changed to intramurals, coaching stipends would be needed; this will be investigated.
 - Questions regarding Art budget.
 - Administrative Furlough Days: Administrators accepted. Central office administrators will also take furlough days.
 - LEA and AFSCME have not agreed to concessions at this time.

- Extra Duty Pay: Student activities, advisors, clubs, etc. – up \$20,000.
- Budget Summary: 2009-2010 Budget: Business Manager will review total central office positions, clarify FTE's and reductions.
- Discussed Object 1030 – Psychologists and how figure was arrived at.
- Discussed Field Trip funding, custodial costs, supplemental skills, ELL tutor (should be reviewed).
- Library Catalogue Update: Discussed books not being purchased; system needs replacing.
- Discussion of upcoming budget meetings.

b.) Consolidated Maintenance Proposal – discussion was postponed.

New Business – none

Strategic Plan Discussion – none

Future Agenda Items – continuation of budget discussions

MOTION made by Mr. Simone and seconded by Mr. Noone: to adjourn the meeting at 9:03 p.m.

MOTION carried. All votes were in the affirmative. There were no abstentions.

Respectfully Submitted
Donald R. Falcetti
Litchfield Board of Education