

Region #9 Board of Education  
Meeting of the Committee on Financial Oversight  
April 26th, 2005  
Location: Joel Barlow High School Redding, CT  
Minutes

Attendance: Coppinger, Eichhorn, Heller, DeSalvo, Poltrack, Gombos, Cable and  
Board Members: Bonfanti, Pemberton, Shapiro and Harris  
Admin: Calabro, McLiverty, Mas and Fossbender  
Public: Kubic, Nycper

Ms. Gombos calls the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.

Item #2 Discussion and possible action regarding the Capital Improvement Plan

**Motion:** The FOC recommend that the Region 9 Board of Education accepts the guidelines for the Capital improvement Plan dated April 26, 2005, as recommended.  
Maker: Poltrack/Heller

Discussion:

Mr. Coppinger asks if we were going to combine improvements and infrastructure into one category.

Group response is that it is not necessary.

Mr. Coppinger asks as regards 10.51d. If we have no appropriation in the Capital Reserve line item can we transfer any surplus into that line item at the end of the year?

Mrs. Gombos responds that we have to have some dollar (greater than zero) amount in the Capital Reserve line item before we can transfer any end of year surplus into that line item.

Mr. McLiverty states that there is a difference between the Capital Reserve Fund and a Capital Reserve line item in the budget. The Capital Reserve line listed in the budget item is transferred over to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mrs. Gombos states that the motions tonight related to the Capital Reserve Fund have been reviewed by counsel and our auditor as well as Mr. McLiverty.

The plan is for us to adopt the Guidelines for the Capital Plan and then to accept the Capital Plan. The Plan is not laid out for a five year period, it is a capital plan of items that are necessary over the next five years, their estimated life and the total cost. We are not going to lay out , in the plan, specifically which year we are going to attack these particular items, but that these items exist in the plan. The back up documentation (explanatory text) for the plan will lay out what makes the most sense in terms of a 5 year time frame for these items.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> issue is that the 2005-06 budget does not have a line for the Capital Reserve, but we can set up by motion before the close of the 04-05 school year set up to move any surplus (if any surplus) up to 1% of the operating budget into the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mr. Coppinger states that he does not see how this is any different from what we have already done.

Mr. McLiverty says that the R9 BOE will have to approve a line item transfer of \$1 into the Capital Reserve line item for the 2004-05 budget before the end of the fiscal year (June 30, 2005). Once that transfer has been made then the R9 BOE can move any surplus for the 2004-05 school year into the Capital Reserve line item (up to 1% of the operating budget).

This action creates a bridge for moving money into the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mr. Coppinger asks if we have a Capital Plan line item in the 2005-06 budget?

Mr. McLiverty states that do not and that the R9 BOE will have to make a similar motion prior to the close of the fiscal year 2005-06.

Ms. Gombos states that in the future we should always include in a proposed budget a line item for the Capital Plan.

Mrs. Gombos states that it is lo late for us to change the proposed budget before the referendum vote.

Motion Passes unanimously.

**Motion:** That the Region 9 BOE accept the Capital Plan as presented and dated april 26, 2005, for the following items: Irrigation pump system, new well, outdoor storage building, backflow preventors for domestic water system, new spectators stands, stadium track resurfacing, fencing of track and field and building areas, maintenance shop renovations and equipment, presentation equipment, computers, video production lighting, improved theatre lighting, treadmills, Concept II Rower, fractional plate, wrestling mat, base pads in gymnasium, classroom furniture and fixtures as recommended by the Financial Oversight Committee.

Maker: DeSalvo/Cable

Discussion:

Mrs. Gombos explains that there are two parts to the Capital Plan; the Plan and the explanatory text. The only difference between the two is that the "Text" includes the year to year projection of how we believe we will attack the issues of capital concern.

Ms. Cable suggests a quarterly review of the plan for at least the first year.

Mr. Calabro reviews all the items listed in the Capital Plan.

Motion passes unanimously.

**Motion:** The Region 9 BOE accept the recommendation of the FOC and use the surplus funds from the 2003-04 budget to reduce the net expenditures in the 2004-05 budget as set forth in the Connecticut state statute 10-51.

Maker DeSalvo/Poltrack

Mr. Coppinger asks why we don't just return the funds to the towns. If we use the surplus to pay down the expenses for the 2004-05 year then the money will not go back to the towns in the same proportion that they were acquired.

Mrs. Gombos states that the towns thought we would use the funds and that the money was reported that way in the audit reports for the two towns.

Mr. McLiverty says that the two towns will receive back the same percentage of the surplus that they contributed.

Motion passes 5 in favor, 1 against Coppinger.

**Motion:** That the FOC recommends the Region 9 BOE move to appropriate surplus funds, up to 1% of the total budget, from the 2004-05 year as determined by the Region 9 BOE, to the Capital Reserve Fund.

Maker: Coppinger/Heller

Motion Passes unanimously.

**Motion:** That the FOC accept and recommend that the R9 BOE approve the invoices approved by the C3 committee as follows:

Maker Poltrack/Heller

|                      |            |
|----------------------|------------|
| O&G INDUSTRIES, INC. | 263,701.67 |
| EdMor Invoice 16     | 32,201.52  |
| EdMor Invoice 18     | 24,662.00  |
| ADT                  | 16,508.00  |
| Jim's Tree Service   | 1,237.50   |
| Jim's Tree Service   | 900.00     |
| Jim's Tree Service   | 2,175.00   |
| Jim's Tree Service   | 1,800.00   |

|                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Danbury News Times | 132.62            |
| Town of Redding    | 1,220.50          |
| CT Post            | 113.60            |
| Crystal Rock       | 7.11              |
| <b>Total</b>       | <b>344,659.52</b> |

Motion Passes unanimously.

We will now move into a joint meeting with the BOE.

Mrs. Gombos states that we have set up a sub committee to deal with policy issues and that group includes Ms. Cable and Mr. McLiverty.

Next meeting date May 5<sup>th</sup>

Mrs. Gombos asks the public (Mrs. Kubic and Mr. Nycper) if they would be willing to hold off on public comment until after the executive session .

No complaint from the public.

Enter jointy session with the board and enter executive session at 7:20PM

Re-enter public session at 8:25PM

Mrs. Kubic and Mr. Nycper are not present for public comment

**Motion:** to adjourn  
 Maker Coppinger/ DeSalvo  
 Motion Passes unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm

Note BOE meeting continues.

Submitted May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2005  
 Paul N Coppinger  
 FOC Secretary