

**GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2007
GUILFORD HIGH SCHOOL, GUILFORD, CONNECTICUT**

1. Call to Order

Chairman Bloss called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Board of Education members present were Keith Bishop, William Bloss, Cynthia Cartier, Barbara Dudley, Louis Iorio, Alan Meyers, Naomi Migliacci, Kathleen Nolan and Ted Zuse. Administrators present were Tom Forcella and Anne Keene. Also present were School Business Administrator Andy Potochney and Accounting Manager Linda Trudeau.

Chairman Bloss stated that the purpose of the meeting is for the Board to vote on the proposed 2007-2008 Budget to be submitted to the Board of Finance.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Nolan and seconded by Mrs. Dudley, the Board voted eight in favor of adding a public forum on the Budget to the meeting agenda. Mrs. Cartier was not present for the vote. No members of the public addressed the Board.

Dr. Forcella reviewed adjustments made to the proposed Budget. He stated that tuition for special education was increased by \$150,000 and transportation by \$15,000.

Dr. Forcella noted that several items were omitted from the proposed administrators' budgets. He stated that \$50,000 was added into the revised Budget for furniture including science tables for Adams Middle School.

Dr. Forcella explained that the expenses for medical insurance will be reduced by \$394,000, resulting in a net decrease in the proposed Budget of \$179,000. The revised Budget is \$46,010,692 representing a 6.01% increase over the 2006-2007 Budget.

Dr. Forcella stated that it is a goal of the district to have a long-term furniture replacement plan.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Zuse and seconded by Mrs. Dudley, the Board voted unanimously to approve the \$46, 010,692 Budget.

Chairman Bloss noted the outstanding leadership of Dr. Forcella in developing the Budget and expressed his appreciation to the administrators for their commitment to the process.

Mrs. Dudley noted that she believes the Budget is educationally sound and supports the priorities identified by the Board and the Strategic Plan including technology, world language, security and class size.

The discussion then turned to the capital portion of the Budget. Dr. Forcella explained that the most recent study completed on the roofs of the school buildings in the district was done in

2004. He stated that he is working with Director of Facilities, Cliff Gurnham, to develop updated figures and data about the roofs.

Mr. Gurnham stated that he has been in contact with H.B. Fishman regarding their roof study. He stated that they recognize that sections of the high school roof are failing quickly and should be given the highest priority. Mr. Gurnham estimated that the amount of money needed to repair and replace the high school roofs will be \$1,100,000 today, an increase of \$500,000 from the original \$600,000 estimate from 2004.

Discussion ensued about the high school roof including some improper installation of shingles on some sections. Mr. Gurnham explained that there are 29 sections of roof on the high school. Discussion also included roof warranty information, materials used and who might be responsible.

Mr. Gurnham will research the history of roof installations including installer and consultant information and warranties and report back to the Board. He will also research the criteria for State reimbursement for roof replacements.

Discussion continued about other roofs in the district including those at Adams, Cox, Lakes and Melissa Jones. Mr. Gurnham referenced the 2004 roof report from H.B. Fishman and Dr. Forcella distributed the executive summary portion of the report to the Board.

Mr. Gurnham noted that the Community Task Force on School Facilities is currently evaluating the Adams facility and any work including work on the roof would have to be done with consideration given to any potential renovation plans.

Chairman Bloss noted that a special meeting may be needed to revise the capital budget with updated information on the district's roofs. Mr. Potochney offered to contact the Board of Finance Chair to determine when the capital budget must be submitted.

Chairman Bloss expressed the Board's appreciation to Mr. Potochney for his exemplary service to the Town of Guilford and wished him well in his retirement.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Zuse and seconded by Mrs. Dudley, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lorri L. Hahn
Clerk to the Board of Education