

MINUTES
FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE
GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
APRIL 6, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE:

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS: Alan Meyers, Mary Beeman, Keith Bishop, William Bloss, Louis Iorio and Linda Sanacora. Kathy Nolan and Ted Zuse joined the meeting in progress.

BOARD OF EDUCATION STAFF: Thomas Forcella, Andrew Potochney and Linda Trudeau

Mrs. Beeman reviewed the financial reports for March 2009. Mrs. Beeman discussed the status of the seven categories of the budget. Mrs. Beeman noted that expenditures to Lee Rail Embroidery & Trophy, Tech Depot, High 5 Adventure Learning and F.J. Dahill Co. were made in March. Mrs. Beeman discussed purchasing storage containers versus leasing them.

Dr. Meyers questioned the use of parents insurance for services to special education students. Mrs. Trudeau stated that she contacted the attorney regarding this issue. Attorney Littlefield stated that the District can ask parents to use their own insurance but strongly cautioned that the request must be made to as to not imply that the services would not be provided if they do not agree with the request. A discussion of the procedure to request parents to use their private insurance was held.

Mr. Potochney stated that he has not reviewed the latest projections for the 2008-09 budget with Dr. Forcella but that it appears that we will be approximately \$100,000 under budget. Mr. Potochney added that this will be in addition to the \$50,000 of prior year encumbrances that were canceled and returned to the Town. Mr. Bloss questioned the increase proposed in the 2009-10 budget for Medical insurance and whether an update of the Medical Fund could be received. Mr. Potochney stated that he would request an updated report from the Town and provide the Board with a copy.

Dr. Forcella discussed the funds from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). Dr Forcella stated that there still is confusion about how the funds could be spent. Possibly uses of the funds, including purchasing software, technology equipment and establishing an alternative program, were discussed. Mr. Bishop questioned if there were any restrictions on limiting the use of equipment or materials purchased with these funds to only special education students. Dr, Forcella stated that to his knowledge there was not any restrictions and that purchases could be used to benefit all students.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Bloss the Board voted unanimously to add an executive session to the agenda for discussion of legal issues. Mr. Bloss invited Mr. Potochney and Mrs. Trudeau to join the Board in executive session.

Upon a motion made by Dr. Meyers and seconded by Mr. Bishop the Board unanimously voted to adjourn from executive session at 7:25 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Trudeau