

MINUTES
JOINT MEETING OF SUBCOMMITTEE
GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
GUILFORD BOARD OF FINANCE

DECEMBER 15, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE:

GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION –Keith Bishop, Barbara Dudley, Alan Meyers and Sue Renner. Bill Bloss and John Ireland joined the meeting in progress.

GUILFORD BOARD OF FINANCE – Michael Ayles, Kimberly Brockett, David Egan, Louis Federici, Ken Gamerman, Matt Hoey and Jim O’Keefe

BOARD OF EDUCATION STAFF – Andy Potochney and Linda Trudeau. Thomas Forcella joined the meeting in progress.

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

A discussion regarding discussing Special Education expenditures at a public meeting was held. The anticipated reduction in the Excess Cost Grant was discussed.

The effects of Salaries, Benefits and Special Education costs on the 2010-2011 Budget were discussed. Dr. Forcella stated that these costs will increase the budget by 5 percent. Dr. Forcella stated the priority of the schools is instruction and that the principals submitted budgets that were 20 to 30% less than the current year. Dr. Forcella added that that there will be staff reductions in the 2010-11 Budget and that he has some ideas on other ways to further reduce the budget.

The contractual increase for teacher’s salaries was discussed. A discussion of facility needs and there impact on the budget was also held. Mr. O’Keefe suggested that a Board of Education Budget that included a 3% increase might pass at referendum. Dr. Forcella noted that savings in heat and other areas will reduce the budget so that not all the reduction will be from salaries. Pay-for-play and raising class dues or parking fees as possible revenue sources were discussed. Privatizing the management of Food Services was also discussed.

The process and timeline for the new High School was discussed. Dr. Meyers stated that the Board of Education is reviewing projects for potential bonding that included the replacement of the roof at Lakes and replacement of fire alarm systems at every school.

The next joint meeting of the Board of Education and the Board of Finance was scheduled for January 12, 2010 at Guilford High School.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Trudeau
Accounting Manager