

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

JANUARY 12, 2009

IN ATTENDANCE:

GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION – Mary Beeman, Keith Bishop, Alan Meyers, Kathy Nolan and Linda Sanacora. Bill Bloss joined the meeting in progress.

GUILFORD BOARD OF FINANCE – Michael Ayles, Kimberly Brockett, Louis Federici and Ken Gamerman.

BOARD OF EDUCATION STAFF – Thomas Forcella, Andy Potochney, Cliff Gurnham and Linda Trudeau.

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m.

Dr. Forcella noted that the Board of Education has not discussed the Proposed Budget at the time of the meeting. Dr. Forcella stated that there will be a meeting on Thursday, January 15, 2009, with the Board of Education and the District Leadership Team. Dr. Forcella stated that of the seven categories that make up the budget, four are increasing and three are decreasing. A discussion of staffing has held.

Dr. Meyers stated that there was a discussion with State Legislators that morning and that they paint a grim picture of the future. The Governor's budget cut, the State's Health Insurance plan and unfunded mandates were discussed.

Mr. Gamerman questioned the .40 reduction in teacher's salaries. Dr. Forcella reviewed the changes to the Teacher's Salary line item that equal the reduction. The decrease in the Capital account and potential bonding projects at Adams Middle School were discussed. Mr. Federici questioned if reopening contracts and renegotiating salaries was considered. Dr. Forcella stated that he knew that has been done in the past but it is something that takes years to recover from. The impact of a lean proposed budget on future budget years was discussed. A discussion of the increase in medical benefits was held. The Tuition account and the estimated amount for the Excess Cost Grant were discussed. The special education program that Madison will be running was discussed. The Paraprofessional's line item and the use of paraprofessionals by the District were discussed. Discussions were also held regarding custodians, snowplowing, coaches' salaries, textbooks, audio visual supplies and classroom supplies.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Trudeau  
Accounting Manager