

MINUTES  
GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM  
SPECIAL MEETING FOR BUDGET DISCUSSION

JANUARY 21, 2010

IN ATTENDANCE:

GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION: Mary Beeman, William Bloss, Barbara Dudley, John Ireland, Chris Moore and Ted Zuse.

DISTRICT LEADERSHIP TEAM: High School / Athletics & Pupil Services portion – Richard Misenti, Mark Guarino and Chip Dorwin. Middle School portion - Anne Snurkowski and Catherine Walker. Elementary Schools portion - Nancy Bishop, Michael Biddle, Merry Leventhal and Paula McCarthy. Technology portion – Kevin Mitchill

BOARD OF EDUCATION STAFF: Thomas Forcella, Anne Keene and Linda Trudeau.

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

Mr. Misenti stated that the leadership team at the High School decided on the budget which is approximately 18% less than the current budget. Mr. Misenti added that most of the reduction is in textbooks line item. The funding of the NEASC accreditation was discussed. Mr. Dorwin discussed the proposed budget for the Athletic Department. Mr. Dorwin stated that the supplies and other expenses accounts have been reduced for the 2010-11 Budget. A discussion of pay-for-play was held. The Athletic transportation account was discussed. Dr. Forcella reviewed the Pupil Service Budget. Dr. Forcella noted that the reduction to the Excess Cost Grant by the State has not been determined. The elimination of two Special Education Coordinators was discussed. Dr. Forcella stated that how paraprofessionals will be used is still under review.

Mrs. Walker stated that the proposed budget for Adams is a reduction of \$65,000 or 34% from the current budget. A discussion of class sizes and enrollment at both Adams and Baldwin was held. The reduction to the Supplies and Textbooks accounts was discussed. Mrs. Walker stated that the 2010-11 Budget will be another year without equipment and that, due to the budget freeze, no equipment has been purchased for the current year. Mrs. Snurkowski stated that the budget for Baldwin is a reduction of \$31,945 or 33% from the current budget. Mrs. Snurkowski stated that with the reductions to the supplies account the school will have to get by with what they have. Mrs. Snurkowski stated that adding funding to the budget will only result in other cuts, such as reduced personnel, which would result in larger class sizes and that in her opinion that was not an option.

The proposed budgets for the elementary schools were reviewed. Mrs. McCarthy stated that Jones would be able to do without for a year but would not be able to for more than that. Mr. Biddle agreed that Lakes could do without for a year but not for more than that. A discussion of electronic resources that are available to the schools was held. Ms. Leventhal stated that it is important to keep the class sizes low and to focus on

intervention. Mrs. Bishop stated that it is important that the students do not feel the cuts. A discussion of lunchroom aides was held. The concept of instructional leaders was discussed.

Mr. Mitchill reviewed the reduction to the funding for the Technology Plan. Mr. Mitchill stated that smart boards will be purchased for all schools and that the purchases for 2010-11 will complete the smart board purchases for the elementary schools. Mr. Mitchill added that with the Federal Stimulus funds, which were used for technology purchases, the District is close to where they should be in the Technology Plan. The recent software purchases for the District were discussed. Training staff on the use of technology was discussed. Mr. Mitchill discussed the homework link for GHS that is currently being worked on. A discussion of phone systems and the mass evacuation system was held.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Dudley and seconded by Mrs. Renner the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Trudeau  
Accounting Manager