

Guilford Board of Education  
Finance Subcommittee Meeting  
Guilford High School, 605 New England Road, Guilford, CT  
Monday, March 8, 2010

BOE Members Present: Barbara Dudley, John Ireland, Alan Meyers, Chris Moore, and Susan Renner

BOE Staff Present:

Tom Forcella, Cliff Gurnham, and Linda Trudeau

Bill Bloss, Keith Bishop, and Ted Zuse joined the meeting in progress.

The special joint meeting of the Finance and Facilities Subcommittees was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

**1. Discussion of and Possible Recommendation on Bonding for the Design of Energy, Health and Code Compliance Projects at Various School Facilities Including Baldwin and Jones and Including Other Such School Facilities as Determined by the SBC and BOE**

Mr. Ireland reported to the subcommittee that the SBC reviewed all of pending projects at their meeting last week. He also shared the updated pricing for the mass evacuation systems noting that each school was well under the earlier estimate of \$40,000. He suggested a 30 to 45 minute presentation to the Facilities Subcommittee in the future.

Mr. Ireland also reported that he and Mr. Gurnham had more definitive information regarding the HVAC project at Baldwin. The design portion of the Baldwin project would be \$57,500 and would include air conditioning in the gym as well as the design work required to address the air quality issues in the upper and lower levels in the North Building. The subcommittee discussed whether they should include this and the energy project at Jones in the upcoming referendum. Dr. Forcella and several BOE members shared their concern for getting the operating budget passed and suggested these items be tabled for the time being.

After several discussions, a 4 to 0 motion was approved to move forward to the Board of Ed the \$247,500 bond projects for Melissa Jones and Baldwin. The new budget amount will be \$2,185,026 with these additions.

**2. Review of the Monthly Reports**

Dr. Meyers discussed the two Warrants that were issued for the Month of February. Warrant S021710 included such expenses as Medical, Life and Disability Insurances totaling \$878,346.95. Toner costs were also discussed. Mrs. Trudeau told the subcommittee that the E-Plus invoice was part of the consortium bid and therefore was at a reduced cost to the District.

Warrant S020310 contained several contracted services invoices. Dr. Meyers noted nothing appeared out of the ordinary.

**3. Discussion of Municipal Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant**

Mr. Gurnham told the subcommittee about the Energy Block Grant that was recently awarded. Over \$155,000 of upcoming energy related projects will cost the District \$11,000, for an annual savings of approximately \$43,000. The \$11,000 will be paid back from savings over about three months. The subcommittee discussed how these types of positive events should be publicized.

**4. Follow-up Discussion on Special Education Transportation**

Mrs. Trudeau reported on last month's outplaced student transportation. She told the subcommittee that Pupil Services handles the transportation coordination for all outplaced students. She also explained that for many special education outplaced students, change is not always positive and therefore they don't look to revise transportation for these children. STA's pricing tends to be higher than other vendors. Mrs. Trudeau also explained that ride sharing was something that Pupil Services tried to coordinate as well.

The subcommittee agreed that next year's budget should be reviewed for regular expenses such as septic pumping, special education transportation and security system monitoring services that may not regularly go out to bid. Mr. Gurnham told the subcommittee that certain recurring expenses are handled through the Town's bid process. He also noted that certain contracts, such as trash and security should be awarded for several years at a time due to the use of proprietary products and the time and money involved in switching from one company to another.

**5. Old Business and 6. New Business**

There was no old or new business discussed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jill Del Gobbo