

GUILFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING  
TUESDAY, October 25, 2011  
ADAMS MIDDLE SCHOOL CHORUS ROOM, GUILFORD, CT

Dr. Meyers called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Subcommittee members present were Alan Meyers, Keith Bishop, Sue Renner. Board members present were Barbara Dudley, Bill Bloss, Christopher Moore. Administrator present was Anne Keene, Interim Superintendent. Staff present were Andy Potochney and Linda Trudeau.

**Preliminary 2012-2013 Budget Discussion for Public Input.**

Dr. Meyers noted that this was the first of three public meetings on the 2012-2013 Board of Education budget. He invited members of the public to provide input on the budget for next year.

Jennifer Milano questioned if the Board of Education will include funding for the implementation of the anti-bullying legislation recently passed at the State level in the 2012-2013 budget. Dr. Meyers commented that there was a presentation and discussion on bullying at a recent workshop with administrators so there is awareness of this important topic at the local level. At this time he is not aware of any impact an anti-bullying program will have on the budget. Ms. Milano suggested that the Board of Education go beyond the ideas included in the legislation and provide training district-wide for students starting at an early age to lay a foundation for improvement in the future.

Margo Burkle was present on behalf of St. George Church and Our Lady of Mercy School in Madison. She thanked the Board for their efforts to help provide some bus services for the current school year for Guilford students who attend Our Lady of Mercy School. It was helpful for the Board to provide a letter stating that Our Lady of Mercy could contract for bus service directly with STA as long as any service provided would not interfere with services for Guilford public school students. Ms. Burkle noted that they are hopeful they can make arrangements for a morning run from St. George Church to the school, but they will be unable to provide for afternoon service at this time. She requested that the Board continue to give further consideration for a better solution to provide bus service from either students' homes or a central location for FY 2012-13. In response to a question by Mr. Bloss, she noted that this would involve 46 students in grades 1-8.

Ms. Burkle commented that there are issues unique to Our Lady of Mercy, such as its relationship to St. George Church, that could separate it from other private schools attended by Guilford residents.

Rachel Alford, a parent of an Our Lady of Mercy student, thanked the Board of Education for the consideration they gave to the request for transportation assistance.

Father Anthony commented that a benefit of working out a way to provide bus transportation for Our Lady of Mercy students, is the potential to eliminate 46 cars from the Town roads.

Mr. Bloss requested that information be provided on any potential legal responsibility to provide bus service for other private schools attended by Guilford students. Information on cost and the capacity of the current busses would also be beneficial. Dr. Keene agreed to obtain the requested information.

Dr. Meyers noted that, when the dates are established, notice of the other two public hearings on the budget will be published in the paper and posted on the Guilford Public Schools website.

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, and seconded by Mrs. Renner, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Terry Holland-Buckley  
Clerk to the Board of Education







