

BOARD OF EDUCATION SUBCOMMITTEE

BUDGET & FACILITIES MEETING Meeting Minutes

**December 12, 2011 – 8:30 a.m.
Daly Annex Building**

Attendance: Robert Ryan, Alan Baer, Larry Greenstein, Mary Callahan, Jim Ristano, Stephanie Joannan and three members of the public.

Fields:

The committee further discussed the possibility of rotating fields taking one field off line for one year starting next fall. Stephanie Joannan was invited to the meeting and explained to the committee how and when each district field is used by the various sports teams for games, practices and physical education classes. Ms. Joannan explained that the district does use off campus fields such as Harbor Links for overflow and that we could look into using other off campus fields such as Lions field, Sands Point Preserve, Bar Beach, Manorhaven Park or Christopher Morley Park. Rescheduling more away games is an option however this would involve transportation cost.

It was determined that the committee would recommend to the Superintendent and full Board that Seeber Field would be the first field to be taken off line followed by Sousa Elementary School field. Guggenheim would involve more rescheduling however all rescheduling would be done well in advance. This would also be an opportunity to add irrigation and electric to the Guggenheim fields.

If the district decides to rotate fields a scheduling would be established and announced well in advance.

Parking Fields:

The recommendation of renting parking spaces in the Monfort Lot during the summer months was further discussed. At this point it was decided to go forward and it must be determined who is going to be on site, signage, fees, towing, etc. Mary Callahan will recommend a discussion by the full Board of Education.

ERS Smoothing

The Committee discussed the possibility of smoothing expenses. The retirement system would allow \$750,000 of our \$2.4 million to be paid over 10 years, but this would add to future debt burden. We could offset the \$2.4million with an amount to be determined from our fund balance. Both options would then reduce the amount to be appropriated.

Facilities Use-Volunteer-Led Youth Groups:

The committee will look at the possibility of a charge per child for volunteer-led youth groups for use of facilities on Sundays or any other time the buildings would have been closed. This would require a policy change.

Bond:

The committee discussed the potential of a bond. At this point the committee thinks that the community must be made aware of the district's intention to have a bond. Based on a preliminary estimate we believe a \$6,710,219 bond would allow the district to complete the Schreiber and Weber roofs, Weber locker rooms, Schreiber pointing, and Weber pointing. The committee would like this to be a discussion item at the January Board of Education meeting. The Board of Education would need to decide what to include in a bond between \$3 million and \$5 million.

Refinance Energy Lease:

Because of timing the district will save \$15,000 per year by refinancing their energy performance lease.

Transportation Contract Approvals:

Mary Callahan informed the committee that since the budget was adopted, 11 to 13 new students are attending private and parochial schools. This year's budget needed \$250,000 in transfers. The CPI increased to 2.9% plus the added students resulted in an increase. The Transportation Department has requested the purchase of a new school bus. The committee discussed several options for the district to save transportation costs.

- Bus children to private and parochial schools collectively with other districts;
- Hire an additional employee as a bus driver.

Budget:

Mary Callahan will revise her budget worksheet for the Board of Education for the December 13th Board of Education meeting.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is January 23rd however, subsequent to the meeting it was determined that in order to be in sync with the January 10th Board of Education meeting the Committee decided to schedule an additional meeting on January 9th.