

District 88 Board Examines Options for Cost Containment

DISCUSSION ITEM: BUDGET AND COST CONTAINMENT

Superintendent of Schools **Dr. Steve Humphrey** and Chief Financial Officer **Mr. Bruce Martin** presented examples of cost containment occurring in other school districts to help with significant budget concerns. The district is **reviewing all possible options of revenue enhancement and budget reductions** for the 2010-11 school year. Factors impacting district deficits are due to the record low CPI, loss of interest revenue and cuts in the state budget and grant funding. District 88 will recommend an amount to reduce the budget by at the January 25 Educational Focus Meeting and will detail the impact to programs and services in February 2010. **A balanced multi-year approach is recommended** to allow time for the economy to improve.

BUILDING THE FUTURE IN DISTRICT 88:

- **Jeannine Eicker**, of Bovis Lend Lease construction management, recapped bid packages recently awarded and those that will be going out for bid in February. She also presented updates of projects during winter break, including new student locker installation, and showed photographs of the construction progress at each campus.

FINANCIAL AUDIT – FY 2009:

- **Mr. James Mathieson** with Mathieson, Moyski, Celer, & Co., LLP presented the **2008-09 financial audit reports** reflecting the June 30, 2009 year-end balances. He highlighted that despite deficit funds and the difficult economic times, the **district remains in the “Recognition” category which is the highest level acknowledged by the State Board of Education**. Copies of the audit and a general management letter have been issued to the Regional Office of Education.

DISCUSSION ITEMS REQUIRING NO ACTION:

- The **List of Bills** from December 2009.
- The **Treasurer’s Report and Budget Status Report** for December 2009 will be presented at the January 25, 2010 meeting.
- **Fundraiser contract** with anticipated revenue of \$1,000 or more.
- **Purchases for Addison Trail and Willowbrook:** Technology and Audio Visual Equipment.
- **Recommendation to accept a monetary donation** from Mr. Steven Zeidler to the WB Choir Program.
- Adoption of the **2010-2011 school calendar**.

SEPARATE ACTION ITEMS, which included the following, were approved by the Board:

- **Ratification of BTF committee actions** to approve Change Order #A276-0001 to RB Construction for window sill detail work in Area C at Addison Trail in the amount of \$15,264.

PERSONNEL ITEMS DISCUSSED FOR ACTION:

- Certified Staff Change of Status for **Jason Bugajsky**, AT Math Teacher to AT Math Department Chair; **Iridia Nevarez-Niewinski**, AT Dean of Students to AT Guidance Counselor; and **Rob Schader**, AT Dean of Students to AT Physical Education Department Chair effective the 2010-11 school year.
- Classified Staff Change of Status for **Suzanne Noivun**, WB Part-Time Special Education Teacher Aide to WB Full-Time Special Education Teacher Aide and **Veronica Noyola**, AT Guidance Secretary to AT Administrative Secretary.
- Classified Staff Resignations for **Zarko Kuljanin**, WB Special Education Teacher Aide; **Barbara Meredith**, WB Special Education Teacher Aide and **Kendrick Thomas**, AT Special Education Teacher Aide.

PERSONNEL ITEMS DISCUSSED FOR ACTION: (CON'T)

- Classified Staff Retirement for **Catherine Powell**, AT Special Education Teacher Aide effective the end of the 2009-10 school year.
- Buildings & Grounds Staff Resignation for **Charlie Whison**, AT Maintenance.
- Buildings & Grounds Staff Retirement for **Jack Garbacz**, AT 2nd Shift Foreman.

INFORMATION ITEM:

- **Mrs. Beth Yacobi**, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Learning, previewed the Educational Focus items that will be presented at the next board meeting on January 25, 2010. This will include **88's Best** for academics and a report from the Guidance Departments regarding course selection and registration for next school year.

She also presented highlights of the **“Race to the Top” competitive federal grants totaling \$400 million**, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education. District 88 received consensus from the board to sign the **Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)**, which will allow the district to be eligible for future grant funding sources if Illinois is not one of the initial states selected to receive money.

- **A Freedom of Information request** was received from Mr. Matt Arado of the Daily Herald and the requested information has been forwarded.

SCHOOL RECOGNITION:

Addison Trail Assistant Principal Mr. Adam Cibulka highlighted recent events and recognition:

- The Advanced Placement alumni lunch and learn was well attended and connected students seeking additional information about advanced placement courses with alumni.
- More than 100 AT graduates attended Young Alum Day and toured the building renovations.
- Letterman Club Week kicks off with “Pack the Place” for the girls and boys basketball games against Morton. Activities and spirit wear all week long will allow students to celebrate their Blazer Pride.
- Upcoming events include: Freshman Course Information Night, Young Hearts for Life Cardiac Screenings, “Little Shop of Horrors” musical and T.P.O. Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser.

Willowbrook Assistant Principal Mr. Sam Bentsen highlighted recent events and recognition:

- The Advanced Placement alumni luncheon was attended by nearly 250 students seeking additional information about advanced placement courses.
- Eighth graders from Jackson, Jefferson and Albright will be visiting this month for “A Look at the Brook” to learn about course selection, extra-curricular activities and the Warrior Code.
- The music department proudly sends three students to the IMEA All-State Music Festival.
- Upcoming events include: Battle of the Bands, Curriculum Showcase Night and the winter musical, “Peter Pan.”

Mark Your Calendars:

January 25, 2010	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education, Educational Focus Meeting	District Boardroom
February 15, 2010	7:30 p.m.	Board of Education, Regular Business Meeting	District Boardroom