

Budget and Finance Committee Notes  
Monday, January 26, 2009

Attending: Board Members Garrity, Luccarelli and Wetmore; Administrators Duncan, Mikos and Petrizzo. Absent: Burke

**1. 2009-10 Budget:**

Proposed Budget Goal 2009-10:

To support student achievement through the development of a budget that provides for a Thorough & Efficient education in accordance with NJ Core Curriculum Content Standards.

The committee discussed the proposed goal, and recommended its adoption. It recognizes our core value – educating students – as well as the need to be flexible in tight economic times.

Second round budget reviews have been completed with all administrators. Governor Corzine is to give his Budget address on March 10, so we will not have state aid numbers until March 12 (which is exceptionally late this year). In fact that is eight days after we are scheduled to present our budget draft to the Executive County Superintendent and BA. For budget purposes, we are assuming flat state aid, as per guidance from the state. We are seeking data from the Township regarding the actual 2008 tax collections rate (it's been 97-99% over the prior several years), the disposition of 2008 tax appeals, and pending foreclosures (26 active at last count). As a result of county recommendation, during the 08/09 budget review/waiver process, we budgeted \$500K from miscellaneous income for the 08/09 the budget. With interest rates extremely low, this may not be possible for the 2009-10 budget. We should have a budget draft by mid-February.

**2. Policy 3281 -- Sponsorships:** This policy conflicts with Policy 3282 which was just adopted at our last meeting. The committee recommends that it be rescinded.

**3. 2009 Payroll Certification:** Will occur on January 30, 2009, as required.

**4. Other Matters:**

Aid-in-lieu-of transportation: A letter is going to all district and non-public school parents advising that we will no longer provide non-public school busing, eff. September, 2009, as the cost exceeds the maximum amount of nonpublic school transportation costs per pupil. Instead they will receive aid-in-lieu payments as opposed to transportation (in accordance with state law).

Energy Education Inc.: Bill Balicki is going for training shortly, and has already begun checking thermostat readings around district buildings.

Advocate maintenance and grounds review: Bill Gerichter is surveying all administrators about current conditions, and beginning to examine operations.

High School Newsletter: Effective with the next issue, the newsletter will be available on the website only. The current, final mailed issue contains multiple notices of the impending change. The change will produce savings in paper and postage.

Expenditure Freeze: The Commissioner of Education ordered school districts to freeze all non-essential expenditures. It has been our practice to freeze such expenditures from 12/31 on, for at least the past 5 years.

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Bus Accident: Last week's bus accident produced no injuries, but totaled the bus. It was one of our older vehicles.

**Next Meeting: Monday, February 23, 2009 at 5:30 PM.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara Garrity