

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
WOODLAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 50  
Board of Education Office  
1105 N. Hunt Club Road  
Gurnee, IL 60031  
Thursday, December 4, 2008

**Call to Order**

President, Bruce Bohren, called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**Roll Call**

Members Present: Gail Bennett  
Bruce Bohren  
Larry Gregorash  
Terry Hall (arrived at 7:25 PM)  
Carla Little (arrived at 7:04 PM)  
Mark Vondracek

Members Absent: Michael Bond

Administrators Present: Dr. Joy Swoboda Bob Leonard

**Citizen Statements**

There were none.

**Finance**

Bob Leonard, Associate Superintendent, discussed with the Board the following items related to finance.

- o Life health safety funds remaining
- o Fund balance target for newly established Tort fund
- o Working Cash Fund and overages
- o Payment to SEDOL for new school
- o Payment for computer lease

**Life Health Safety Funds**

When all work is completed, there will be approximately \$2.5 million remaining in the life health safety fund (including \$1.2 million of interest earnings). The Board will need to decide what to do with the money. Various options were presented including air conditioning for the south campus, upgrading of HVAC systems, and a variety of smaller maintenance projects throughout the district. If the Board wishes to commit to air conditioning, the district would require additional funds to complete the other projects in addition to life health safety funds.

**Tort Fund**

The tort fund has recently been separated in the budget. The tentative fund balance target is 80% of expenses. After discussion, the Board reached consensus to review the tort fund at the end of the fiscal year and set a target at that time when it reviews all fund balance targets.

**Working Cash**

The Board discussed various options in which to use the interest earnings. The consensus of the Board was to continue to levy the minimum amount for the fund and not to spend the principal of the account. A suggestion was to use the balance above the Board's target fund balance for the district's portion of the construction bond to SEDOL. It was also discussed that these funds could be used for fixed cost projects in the district. The Board will review and discuss at the February 5, 2009 Committee of the Whole meeting.

### **SEDOL Payment**

The Board previously approved to pay a one time cash payment to pay the SEDOL debt of \$1,191,892 plus accrued interest through July 2009. Options on how to make the payment were discussed including the working cash fund or access dollars from the bond and interest fund. The Board can also consider purchasing a bond to pay the debt. Closure on this discussion will occur at the February 5, 2009 Committee of the Whole meeting.

### **Computer Lease**

The Board has approved the expenditure to purchase new computers for the Intermediate and Primary schools for the FY 09 school year through a lease purchase. Future payments can be made through working cash or the operating funds. The administration was asked to look at laptops as well as desk top computers during the next computer purchase. Closure on this discussion will occur at the February 5, 2009 Committee of the Whole meeting.

### Board Customs Manual

The Board reviewed a draft of an outline for a customs manual and one for an operations/procedure manual for Board members. After discussion, it was determined that a customs manual is to explain or help with the individual or behavior of a Board member and the operation/procedure manual is to assist a board member as part of a group. Board members Larry Gregorash and Terry Hall will review the two sections, revise them and bring them back to the full Board at the January 28, 2009 meeting.

### Community Survey

The Board discussed other community and/or civic groups/organizations to present on district initiatives in 2009. Groups suggested include senior citizens (Warren Newport), Lake County Chamber of Commerce, League of Women Voters and the residents of Park City.

The Board received the results of the community survey at a prior meeting. The Board directed the external committee to review and analyze the raw data from the survey and provide a follow up report to the Board.

Dr. Swoboda shared a number of handouts with the Board regarding the topic of cultural diversity. Woodland is changing culturally as reflected by the number of different languages spoken by our students and their families and in the increased need for ESL staff. The Board will revisit this topic at a future meeting.

### Adjournment

A motion was made by Bruce Bohren and seconded by Larry Gregorash to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 PM.

On Roll Call, the votes were

Ayes: Gail Bennett, Bruce Bohren, Larry Gregorash, Terry Hall, Carla Little, Mark Vondracek

Nays: None

Absent: Michael Bond

The motion carried.

Approved by the Board of Education on December 17, 2008.

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President, Bruce G. Bohren

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Secretary, Gail Bennett