

ANSONIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS BOARD OF EDUCATION

MINUTES

PLACE: CENTRAL OFFICE ANNEX

DATE: 25 MAY 2010

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

COMMITTEE: FINANCE

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY: CHAIRPERSON George Boath

I. OPENING

A. Pledge of Allegiance.

B. Roll Call

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD	PRESENT	ABSENT	LATE (time)
MR. GEORGE BOATH, Chairperson	X		
MS. FRANCES DIGIORGI	X		
MR. JOHN LAWLOR	X		
MR. CARMEN PITNEY	X		
TOTAL	4	0	0

Staff Present:

Mrs. Merlone, Superintendent
Mr. Gaskins, Business Manager
Mr. Evans, Facilities Director

Board Members Present:

Mr. Nimons

II. Discussion and Action on Ansonia Board of Education proposed 2010/2011 Budget

ATTACHMENT #1

DISCUSSION: Mrs. Merlone, Superintendent, and James Gaskins, business manager gave an overview of the proposed 2010/2011 budget. While discussing athletics, Mr. Lawlor asked if the \$31,000 in gate receipts was what we collected this fiscal year including when we implemented the additional fees for baseball and soccer. Mr. Gaskins said yes. Mr. Lawlor then asked if this is the estimate for this year or for what next year is going to bring in. Mr. Gaskins said this estimate is for next year. The athletic director spoke to him that day and said that the number is expected to be higher for next year. Mrs. Merlone said she will clarify that and let the Board know.

Mr. Gaskins explained that there was \$110,000 in the budget for portable classrooms. We removed the portables from the budget and added \$25,000 for interior modifications to classrooms to create additional space within the existing buildings. Mrs. Merlone said we will construct a wall in the library and music room at Prendergast School. There will also be offices for the interventionists in the music room. Mr. Lawlor asked if these will be permanent walls or accordion walls. Mrs. Merlone said accordion walls are very costly so they will be permanent walls.

In speaking of athletics again, Mr. Gaskins said, as was done last year, we are going to let the athletic director and coaches come up with creative ideas on how to make the cuts and at the same time save the programs to the best of their ability. The Superintendent said this went well last year; however, we are at a disadvantage this year because we will be transitioning from one athletic director to another. Mr. Lawlor added, first and foremost, we should be committed to keeping middle school sports from gate receipts. We will have to find approximately \$14,000 in savings within the budget. Mrs. Merlone asked if new uniforms are needed every year. Mr. Lawlor said no. Ms. DiGiorgi suggested fundraising. Mr. Nimons

suggested selling placards for fencing around the softball and soccer gates. Businesses would buy ads. Naugatuck does this and it is very successful. Ms. DiGiorgi asked if it would make a difference if it is city property, not Board of Education property. Mr. Pitney said he believes the money would have to go to the city. Mr. Lawlor suggested that the Superintendent work with Chief Hale regarding the number of police officers at home games.

Mr. Lawlor asked if the Teachers on Special Assignment are going back into the classroom. Mrs. Merlone said yes, the intention is to put them in grades 4 and 2. There may be some resignations also.

Mr. Lawlor questioned the facilities budget. A lengthy discussion occurred regarding this.

MOTION: To accept the administration's recommendation for reducing the budget increase from 4.9% bottom line, reducing the budget increase from \$1,173,511 down to \$500,000 pending clarification between the Board of Education business manager, the board chair and the superintendent on the facility reductions, and recommend this to the full Board.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. GEORGE BOATH, Chairperson		X		
MS. FRANCES DIGIORGI		X		
MR. JOHN LAWLOR	1	X		
MR. CARMEN PITNEY	2	X		
TOTAL		4	0	

IV. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

	MOTION	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
MR. GEORGE BOATH, Chairperson		X		
MS. FRANCES DIGIORGI		X		
MR. JOHN LAWLOR	1	X		
MR. CARMEN PITNEY	2	X		
TOTAL		4	0	

Respectfully submitted,

Fran Perrotti
Recording Secretary
May 27, 2010