

# Community Consolidated School District 46

Finance Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, January 21, 2014 at 6:30 p.m.

Grayslake Middle School, 440 N. Barron Blvd.,

Grayslake, IL

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**IN ATTENDANCE:** Ellen Correll, *Sue Facklam*, *Rob Roop*, *Steven Strack*, Chris Bobek, Ray Costa, Eric Detweiler, Diane Elfering, Daniel Frey, Jennifer Miller.

Motioned by Steven Strack and seconded by Rob Roop to approve the agenda as presented.

Yeas: Facklam, Roop, and Strack.

Nays: None.

Motion passes.

Discussion Topics:

- Possible cost saving options: Close a school, grade level centers, raise class size, facilities cost reduction, reduce secretarial staff, reduce administrators.
- Registration fees.
- County school facilities staff.

## **Review and discussion of scenarios and reductions to be considered.**

### Close A School:

- Save money on building and staffing, but lose money on transportation.
- Many committee members not enthusiastic about closing a building, unless enrollment is down.
- 5 years down the line, will we wished we had closed a school?
- It would take over a year to close the building.
- In order to sell a property, you have to have it appraised and then have it go to public auction. Then it can go to a realtor or you can transfer it to another company/person (park district...etc.)
- Money from the sale goes to the capital outlay funds. It couldn't be used for the ED fund.

### Grade Level Centers:

- We would be moving students around, which would then potentially mess with our Title 1 money.
- Transportation costs may be more.
- Would reduce staff by about 10 people.
- What about the students who have a difficult time with transitioning?
- How about parent who have students with special needs?

### Raise Class Sizes:

- Would be more difficult to work in small groups or one-on-one with students.
- Kindergarten would remain at 25.
- 1st & 2nd from 25 to 30.
- 3rd-8th raise from 30 to 33.
- You hope for parental support and realize that it isn't always there due to both parents working.

### Facility Cost Reductions:

- Keith and Ellen worked together to reduce facility costs by either having their staff members do projects; applied for roofing and paving grants; and extended the time period for projects being completed.
- Taken out: paving, roofing, floor tiles, carpet, roof top units, and boiler units.
- Trip Hazard: brickwork, which has become uneven.
- "Maintenance" line item for each school is \$5,000 per year, which is basically a reserve fund for those unexpected/emergency projects.

### Reduce secretarial staff & one custodian:

- You would need to have a "floater" person to fill in for both secretarial & custodial position. Place the "driver" into more of a maintenance position. (Driver covers mail/lunch/deposits/print center.)
- Reduce "drivers" down to 1 instead of 2.
- Print center deliveries once a day would potentially cause teachers to copy at their schools due to the speed of getting copy center copies.
  - There is very little difference between the print center costs verses the actual copy costs.
  - IEP meetings – do parents really have to have a printed copy of the IEP? Can't it just be e-mailed to the parents as a PDF?
  - Report Card Rubric – does every parent have to have a copy of this 3 times a year?
  - Progress reports – why are they sent home 3 times a year? Don't the parents have Power School they can go on?
  - The curriculum (and lack of) is causing teachers to develop their own material since our district's curriculum is out of date.
- Secretarial staff being downsized has a concern for student safety. Parents being let in, phones ringing, a child who needs urgent care (diabetic). It would be difficult to eliminate one position without a concern for student safety.
- For Custodial staff reduction, we would need to think about placement of individual custodians.
- Print center contract is up in 2016. Is there a penalty for early termination?
  - The 14 machines are up in November if we are going to make a switch.

### Reduction of Administrator:

- Big question – how would the larger buildings get all of their evaluations completed?
- Could we share a Curriculum Coordinator with other districts? According to Common Core curriculum, we should all be teaching the same thing.
- Could we consolidate with another district? Districts don't want to give up their own control over their own district.
- Curriculum Directors could be shared between districts.
- Can payroll be outsourced (ADP)?

### New Ideas

- Tunnel or walkway at Prairieview to eliminate bussing.
- Internet costs.
- Grant money for things like lawn spraying for dandelions.
- Snow removal: we do our own snow removal but we have had 5 or 6 lawsuits for not having proper snow removal.
- Lunchrooms: could we make our own lunches? It would cost money to get the kitchens up and running.
- Do we raise prices on programs (lunch, music, sports)? Would the participation fall off?
- GMS sports are fully covered by the fees charged. Park is only a few hundred dollars short of having full coverage.
- Solar and wind: we don't have to invest in the infrastructure; we just need to lease the property out to the company.
- Verizon does want to use our tower. The offer has already been turned in. Hoping for a higher one.

### Update on Levy

Not much to update. Still expecting the same. The December CPI is 1.5.

### One Cent Makes Sense

- Add an additional tax on things that are already taxed.
- Needs to be approached with other districts so that it forces the Regional Office of Education to put it on the ballot to vote.
- Ellen shared that we did try this about 5 years ago and it was not successful.
- This may be a better time to try this because other school districts may be more likely to support.
- It is split equitably based on how many students you have.
- Lake County Sales Tax is currently 7.5 percent.
- Suggested getting all of the "feeder districts" board members together to discuss this with CCSD 46 leading it. Ellen will contact the other boards.
- Chris Bobek has been in contact with D127 and Round Lake district regarding the tax assessments and how they are being assessed - more towards new property. There is a discrepancy. Chris talked to the assessor and "Marty", who is the person who is responsible to changing over property when it is assessed incorrectly, being marked incorrectly.

Consideration of breaking into sub-groups to research and investigate other potential revenue ideas and expenditure reduction ideas. Not Necessary

**Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – GMS**

Motioned by Facklam and seconded by Strack to adjourn the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

Yeas: Facklam, Roop and Strack.

Nays: None.

Motion passes.