

Board of Education Work Session
MINUTES
Thursday, May 12, 2011
7:00 PM
High School Library

Board Members Present: John Sutton, Cheryl Smith, Janet Glenn, Terry Ostrander, Mark Pribis, Bradley Rooke, Joan Slagle

Administrators Present: Paul Berry, Trent Clay, Kimberly LaBelle

Stakeholder Proposal - Mr. Sutton

The Stakeholder Council proposal was discussed as an opportunity to increase financial efficiency and to maximize student achievement. There is a wealth of talent in the community; seek volunteers through the website and outreach within the community.

The initial meeting is to be held with the Superintendent and the Council. It should be a balanced committee. Start with sports and transportation. Then move into the areas of importance-i.e.: look at long-term (consolidation?), technology, and computer-aided instruction.

Propose soliciting volunteers for sports and transportation. Maybe more people interested to do this given the budget.

2009-10 School Report Card information – Mr. Clay

Mr. Clay began reviewing three main slides on the school report card information. The information was reviewed, explained and illustrated on a May 2011 school report card summary.

Comments:

- expand RTI/AIS into middle school and high school
- BOCES offers certificates for certain programs, can Galway do the same?
- Comparing our school to Saratoga County Districts around us, BOCES
- Why is our Regents number so low?
- What is it about Galway that is preventing greater achievement?
- Compare subjects, using item analysis.
- How can conversations help these students to achieve?
- Everyone needs to see the data.
- This summer teachers will begin curriculum work on the common core standards.

Updated Technology Plan – Mr. Berry

Mr. Berry presented information on the Galway Technology Committee – District Technology Plan Review: 2011-2014. New Plan contains a few changes. Two new objectives were noted. Need to use technology to increase gains in achievement. Technology matrix is being used currently in classroom. Use technology as a tool, not to replace education.

Budget Follow Up

Budget hearing – covered required elements and practical applications for Galway.

Summary - \$17,241,857 budget (-2.6% less)

Estimated tax levy increase - 4.6%

Two propositions – budget and purchase of 3 busses

Clarify few items:

- A. Admin. Component supervision—why an increase if we are reducing an administrative position?
Three administrators reflected; two under the program component in the budget.
- B. Question on program, contract transportation and district transportation.

Last year 2010-11 bus lease payments were made in 2009-10; however, we will have lease payments due for 2011-12 (on current lease agreements). Contract transportation-out of district placements.

Several meetings are occurring in planning all changes:

Guidance Counselors

Teacher Team

Supervisor Teams

A question was asked examining current transportation and the feasibility of consolidating any runs. Two runs could be consolidated - savings on mileage (29,120) 2 drivers eliminated (\$52,000) fuel savings, (16,000) for a total of \$67,632.

Current Est. number \$72,194

On 5/10/11 the following items were listed on the Web:

- Property Tax Report Card
- PowerPoint presentation
- 2011-12 Expenditure Budget Status

Fiscal Plan:

Preliminary information is being developed – planning includes actual numbers from 2007-10, estimated 2011, projected 3 years out.

Develop an average annual increase, builds on assumptions, uses information from buildings conditions survey.

Board Goal Status Plan would be completed by August, 2011.

Mr. Sutton has requested an exact computation on fund balance.

Other

Negotiations with GTA continue.

Joanne Donnan – spoke on the denial of her leave of absence.

Late busses will be reviewed if District moves to one consolidated bus run.