

**SHELTON BOARD OF EDUCATION
FINANCE COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING
November 19, 2007**

Chairman Win Oppel called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

IN ATTENDANCE: Committee Members: Arlene Liscinsky, Win Oppel, Tom Minotti, and Paula Ellis (7:05)

Also in Attendance: Allan Cameron, Director of Finance; Robin Willink, Superintendent of Schools; Tim Walsh, Chairman, Board of Education (6:45); Board of Education Member Gene Kierce.

It was the purpose of this meeting to finalize the proposed 2008-2009 Foundation Budget. Five Year History of Expenditures and Foundation Budget Estimate by Object, Summary of 2008-2009 Foundation Budget Estimate by Family, and Summary of Budget Changes (10/30/07, 11/07/09, 11/19/07) were handed out by Allen Cameron. Win Oppel reiterated that the premise of the foundation budget is to do next year what is being done now.

Certified Salaries There has been no change in the Foundation Budget. The Certified Salary positions exist with people in place. The foundation includes a 3.3% increase.

Support Staff (Classified Staff) This item reflects an increase because it contains a reserve for negotiations.

Benefits It won't be known until the end of the year. The Board is using the same numbers as the City. Discussion followed regarding the derivation of the numbers.

The 2008-2009 Budget Books were handed out. The Benefits section was referred to for discussion. Benefits could increase around 11%.

Instructional Materials Win Oppel clarified that licenses for software packages were added in last year as computers were added, thus driving the large bump in Instructional Materials. Dana Urban, Director of Technology was quoted as saying the renewing licensing under the SP option includes upgrades on a yearly basis. It was established that accreditation had no expense this far out. Win Oppel questioned the validity of the 2.4% increase for the consumables in this family. He thought there should be a review to see if more dollars should be added. Robin Willink felt the textbooks were okay, but teaching supplies should be increased to 6%. It was felt there should be more allotted to Library books in the order of \$10.00 per student. Further discussion regarding consumables.

Program Improvement and Staff Development required no increase.

Professional Services It was felt that payroll services should be reviewed.

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Tuition The Talented and Gifted budget increased 45.5% based in the increase in enrollment. It was agreed to increase Valley Regional Adult Ed. Private school tuition was okay. Regular education was over by a large amount that was expected to be covered by the Excess Cost Grant.

Student Transportation The bid opening is December 4, 2007. A large increase is expected. Fuel increase is based on best knowledge from the consortium.

Administrative Expenses The increase is due to postage increase.

Heat and Utilities Electricity, gas and water show 0% increase, waiting to get update on new contracts. Fuel oil increased 36.6%.

Building and Equipment Services No increases are shown. It was suggested to go out to bid for painting. Building repair and Facilities Maintenance is being held at \$375,000 awaiting more information. The Committee wanted Bill Banfe to list the items in priority order. It was stated that the Board's priority is building and grounds and painting. Further discussion was held regarding budget to take care of grounds and capitol improvements.

Equipment Win Oppel felt replacement of uniforms is an ongoing cost of doing business and should be included in the budget. It was felt that new equipment should be increased to \$50,000. The Committee wanted to see Technology equipment prioritized.

ADJOURNMENT Tom Minotti moved to adjourn the meeting. Arlene Liscinsky seconded the motion. A vote was taken with all in favor. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Faith B. Hack
Recording Secretary

