



**KANKAKEE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 111
BOARD OF EDUCATION ~ COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Committee Finance & Facilities Committee
Date: May 25, 2017
Time: 5:30 p.m.
Place: Lincoln Cultural Center, Room 217

Committee Members present:

Jess Gathing
Karen Johnston
Barbara Wells

Other attendees:

Joe Lightfoot
Genevra Walters
Robert Grossi
Robert Adamik

The following discussion was held:

1. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Johnston. Seconded by Gathing. Motion carried.

2. Student Fees

The finance committee discussed student fees for 2017-18. There are two proposed additions to the fee structure: \$50 Career Center Drop Fee and \$150 Out-of-District High School Summer School Fee. The remaining fees will remain the same as they were during 2016-17. The fees will be brought to the June 12 board meeting for formal approval.

3. Energy RFP

The District's energy consultant, Energy Purchasing Services, assisted with the District's Energy RFP on May 26. Four companies returned bids. The lowest bid was Direct Energy. The two year contract will provide the District with 11.14% in annual savings (\$32,750 per year).

4. Comprehensive Insurance Renewal

At the time of the meeting, the District still had not received its renewal information for its comprehensive insurance. The District's insurance broker, Pierce Pristach, reported that they do not expect the rates to increase and expect the worst case scenario to be a 5% increase. Pierce Pristach also reported that he reached out to other insurance companies and was told that no company could be competitive with the current rates with WRM (current insurance company). Mr. Grossi expressed concerns with the timeline to both the Finance Committee and Pierce Pristach over the past month. Mr. Grossi was concerned that the insurance company would wait until the end of May to present their proposal. Knowing that the District did not have time to seek alternative options, the insurance company could provide a substantial increase to the premiums. Ms. Johnston made a motion authorizing Mr. Grossi to seek out a different broker if the District did not receive a timely quote or if the District received a quote with a substantial increase. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wells. Motion carried.

5. Student Insurance Bid

The District conducted a bid for its student insurance and received three bids. The lowest bid was from Alliant Mesirow for a total of \$13,433. Motion for approval came from Johnston. Seconded by Wells. Motion carried. Bid will be taken to June 12 board meeting for final approval.

6. Attorney Information

The Finance Committee reviewed attorney costs for the past three fiscal years. In 2015, the District spent \$80,000 on attorneys. In 2016, the District spent \$53,000 on attorneys. In 2017 (YTD), the District spent \$70,000 on attorneys. The Finance Committee asked the District to issue a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to explore options with attorneys.

7. Breakfast After the Bell

The Finance Committee discussed the Breakfast After the Bell initiative that will be mandated to the District beginning 2017-18. The District would not be able to take on the burden of the additional costs to serve breakfast to students after the beginning of the school day (both financially and academically). The District will have a special board meeting to pass a resolution abstaining the District from participation.

8. Food Services Audit

No information to report. The District did not have the audit results by the time of the meeting.

9. Payment of Bills

The District updated the finance committee on some large bills that needed to be paid prior to the end of the fiscal year.

10. POTS Lines

The District will save an estimated \$32,000 per year by using its POTS lines more efficiently.

11. Budget Update

The District has only received 2/4 of its budgeted state categorical payments (\$1.1 Million per payment). Failure to receive 1 or 2 of the remaining payments could cause the District to have a deficit budget.

12. Bond Rating

The District received an A2 bond rating from Moody's, which was the same rating as it had in 2016.

13. QSCB Budget

The finance committee discussed the QSCB budget and how they would like to spread money between different buildings. The focus will continue to remain on the high school.

14. Student Workers

The District will have 43 students and 10 adults assist with summer cleaning. Students will be paid \$8.50 per hour. Adults will be paid \$9.00 per hour. The projected cost for the entire summer is \$178,556.

15. District Storage

The District is going to investigate new places to store furniture and equipment.

16. Maintenance Vehicles

The finance committee approved exploring purchasing a new vehicle for the Assistant Director of Maintenance to travel between buildings.

17. Construction Update

Dr. Walters, Mr. Grossi, Mr. Harris, and the architects met with high school students to discuss their needs, hopes, and vision for the construction of the high school. The committee reported that the turf project continues to meet its deadlines.

A motion was made by Ms. Johnston to close the meeting at 6:40. Seconded by Ms. Wells.