

GLENBROOK DISTRICT 225**FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES – November 16, 2010**

Next meeting date: TBD

7:30 – 9:00 AM

Glenbrook South Room 128

Finance Committee members present: Julie Bezanes, John Finan, Gary Freund, Scott Martin, Paul Pryma, Kim Ptak, Mike Riggle, Hillarie Siena, Joel Taub, Brian Wegley, and Jeff Wolfson. Also present was Steve Caliendo.

AGENDA ITEM #1: Update on Free and Reduced Breakfast Program

K. Ptak presented an update on the Free and Reduced Breakfast Program. At the September 27, 2010 board meeting, the Board of Education approved offering a free and reduced breakfast program to students meeting federal eligibility. The estimated cost of offering such a program was \$9,000 - \$30,000 depending on participation levels.

On September 29, 2010, a mailing was sent to all eligible families informing them of the program. To date, the average number of breakfast meals sold per day is 20 at GBS and 5 at GBN. If this trend continues, based on a 170 day school year, the annual cost to the District is estimated at \$5,738. The District currently absorbs the full cost of the free and reduced breakfast program.

Both Principals Brian Wegley and Paul Pryma stated that they were very pleased with the free/reduced breakfast program thus far and Quest's services overall. It was discussed that the free and reduced breakfast program is fairly new and it is anticipated that the participation numbers will increase over time.

It was also noted that the free and reduced lunch meals sold to date has increased over 60% from last year. The total estimated annual cost of the free and reduced lunch program is \$81,000. Under the current contract, Quest absorbs this full cost.

Future Action: The Administration will continue to monitor the free and reduced breakfast program for participation levels and the cost to the District. If necessary, the Administration will bring any further recommendations to the Finance Committee for discussion.

AGENDA ITEM #2: Transportation

There was a request made by Board Members for more information regarding Transportation; specifically Ridership as a Percentage of Enrollment and 2010 District Report Card Information as it pertains to transportation.

H. Siena presented a 5-year historical analysis of student ridership as a percentage of enrollments. Ridership across the District is averaging between 16% and 18% of total enrollments. Ridership has been declining slightly but overall is steady. For the 2010-2011 school year there was a 50% sibling discount offered. This discounted fee is not materially impacting ridership numbers overall.

H. Siena presented an analysis of gross expenditures from the transportation fund for the 2008-09 school year. The overall gross expenditures were \$2,216,560 and breakdown of these expenditures was presented. The gross expenditures do not include revenues collected. Transportation revenues collected during the 2008-09 school year were \$3,077,051.

The expenditure lines were discussed in detail with some follow-up questions for the Administration to research and report back to the Finance Committee at a later date.

Future Action: The 5-year historical analysis of ridership and transportation fund expenditure information will be sent to the Board of Education in the next information packet. The Administration will gather information on overall costs for a district that runs transportation in house. The Administration will gather information on the savings the District has experienced since starting the leasing of the 14 passenger buses.

AGENDA ITEM #3: Enrollment Projections

H. Siena presented enrollment information for the District. The enrollment information presented was a 5-year historical analysis as well as enrollment projections using the Cohort Survival method for the next 5 years. The Cohort Survival methodology was reviewed and discussed. For the enrollment projections for the next 5 years, GBN is forecasted to remain stable with a slight decline; GBS is forecasted to experience a fairly large enrollment increase over the next 5 years. Enrollment projections are used by the Board and the Administration to assist in planning for staffing, building, and budgetary needs.

Due to a number of uncertain factors with the economy and housing market, as well as the 10-year census that was just completed, the Administration would like to discuss with the Board the prospect of having a professional demographer work with District 225 and our feeder districts.

Future Action: The Administration will meet and discuss with feeder districts the use of a professional demographer and give a recommendation to the Board of Education.

AGENDA ITEM #4: Update on Financial Projections

H.Siena presented an updated 5-year Financial Projection for the district. The updated financial projection as of 11/16/10 has CPI forecasted at 2.0% and the most recent student enrollment projections factored in. The District is projected to have fund balances above the Board goal of 33% until fiscal year 2015. It was noted that the projections do not include any General State Aid revenues, anticipated revenues from new property growth, or anticipated federal monies.

Future Action: Members of the administration will begin meeting at the end of November to look at cost containment and budget reduction strategies to control expenditures so that the District's fund balances can remain at a healthy level.

AGENDA ITEM #6: Other

No other items were discussed at the meeting.