

A meeting of the Facilities/Transportation Committee of the Regional School District 14 Board of Education was held on Monday, March 8, 2010 in the Conference Room of the Central Office, 5 Minortown Road, Woodbury, Connecticut.

Present were Committee members Scott Baider, Carla Juhas, Stephen Paluskas and Stephen Sordi. Superintendent Robert Cronin, Business Manager Jay Hubelbank.

The meeting was called to order at 7:22pm by the Facilities Committee Chairperson Stephen Sordi

The committee discussed the following agenda items:

1. Transportation/Training/Licenses.- Mr. Hubelbank addressed the committee regarding First Student's application for employment process. He provided the committee members a document stating the established base eligibility requirements to be a bus driver or attendant for First Student.(See attached document.) In addition, Mr. Hubelbank displayed to large instruction manuals authored by First Student and used as training guides. Mr. Hubelbank agreed to retain these manuals at the Central District office for viewing. There was discussion regarding random drug testing, that the testing is done by an independent firm and requirement to be tested is unannounced. There was discussion the contract states no bus used by First Student can be more than 8 years old and the fleet average can not exceed more than 5 years old. Mr. Hubelbank stated he has had discussions with First Student regarding purchasing between 3-6 new busses for next year. There were no motions made regarding this topic.
2. 2010-2011 Capital Budget- Mr. Hubelbank presented the committee page 22 out of the 2010-2011 Superintendents proposed budget. The grand total for all proposed capital projects was \$228,000.00. There were no motions made regarding this topic.
3. Discussion of BES SIDEWALK project being funded by non-recurring funds.- The committee discussed the following project being considered for funding from the district's non-recurring fund account.
 - Bethlehem Primary School front sidewalks-(Estimated cost \$30,000.00-\$60,000.00). There was previous committee consensus this item was a high priority due to the present condition of the side walk and the potential for injury moving forward, as the sidewalk continues to deteriorate. Mr. Hubelbank and Mike Molson previously proposed installing heated sidewalks due to the northerly facing geographical location of the school. Mr. Hubelbank and Mr. Molson previously proposed; the facility committee recommend to the board, Consulting Engineering Services, Inc (CES) prepare a feasibility study for the installation of approximately 2900 square feet of sidewalk with a snow melt system. The feasibility study was quoted as \$1500.00 plus reimbursable expenses. Chairperson Sordi consistently has not been a proponent of the heated sidewalks proposal and shared some of his researched findings with the committee.
 1. Heated sidewalks will reduce the life span of the current heating system

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October 13, 2009

2. Potentially high electrical costs associated with operating the system.
3. Potentially high oil costs associated with operating the system.
4. Potentially high maintenance cost associated with operating the system
5. Lack of free energy to operate the system, unable to operate system on recovered energy such as hot water from a power plant.
6. Because freeze and thaw cycles will continue to occur, cracking and buckling may still occur.
7. The most likely cause for cracking and buckling is a poorly constructed sub-surface.
8. Salt products should not be used on concrete; it is recommended a potassium based non chloride deicer be used.
9. Ed Bishop, President and founder of Enhanced Living states-Operational Costs are on high side, it can take up to five times the amount of energy per square foot to melt snow that it takes to heat your home on a cold day. If your not discouraged by the cost, Bishop says the systems are very, very effective. (See attached document)
10. It takes approximately 200 BTU's per square foot to heat a sidewalk.

In addition, Committee member, Carla Juhas shared an email from an engineering friend, Matti Lilback with the committee. The email states the heated sidewalk "seems excessive" and suggested the problem of sidewalks cracking is not unique and to be successful a good subsurface is necessary and 4000# concrete should be used.

After a lengthy discussion, the committee agreed to request authorization from the BOE to go out to bid on a new "typical" style sidewalk, utilizing funds from the capital nonrecurring account. Prior to going out to bid, Mr. Hubelbank would present to the Facilities committee; a list of Engineers/Project Managers who would prepare the job specifications, engineering and bid documents. In addition the chosen firm would take on the oversight responsibility of the project. Mr. Hubelbank would present his list at the next facilities committee meeting and the project would be scheduled to be done this summer, immediately following the close of school.

The facilities committee adjourned at approximately 8:20pm- Chairman Steve Sordi made the motion to adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen F. Sordi-Chairman

Regional School District #14 Board of Education