

**North Andover School Committee
Regular Session**

Date: January 7, 2010

Location: Town Hall

Present: Members Allen, Burzlaff, Limpert, Nobile and Rhoton. Also present were Superintendent Hottel, Assistant Superintendent Hutchinson and Business Manager Mealey.

Public Comment

Laura McMillan asked for a copy of the agenda.

Chair's Report

Chair Limpert updated the Committee on the Race To The Top Memorandum of Understanding and stated that the Committee would be discussing this again later in the meeting. Chair Limpert discussed the presentation he attended by Willard Daggett.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Hottel discussed the Race to the Top workshop sponsored by the DESE that he attended yesterday in Worcester. He noted that the district is required to sign by January 13th if we want to participate. An estimate of the money North Andover may be entitled to receive from this program is based on title 1 funding and is approximately \$45,000 per year for four years.

FY11 Budget

Mr. Mealey discussed the elementary level services budget and the identified needs requested by the elementary principals. The FY10 budget did not take into account redistricting which is why you may see some variations in increases.

Mr. Gilligan, Mr. Landry, Ms. McCarthy, and Mr. Cushing discussed the elementary identified needs as follows:

- Teacher – Kittredge \$54,000
- Teacher – Franklin \$54,000
- Part Time clerical support \$35,000
- Part Time Library Paras \$50,000
- Full Time Library Media Specialist \$54,000
- Part Time Reading Specialist \$27,000
- Full Time Math Specialist \$54,000
- Professional Development – AYP Focus \$20,000

Ms. Allen asked the principals to rank the identified needs. The principals agreed class size is the highest priority so classroom teachers at Kittredge and Franklin would be their top priority. Chair Limpert asked the principals to come back to the Committee with the list prioritized and narrative and justifications as well as impacts to district if identified needs requests are approved or not approved.

Mr. Mealey discussed the placeholder for the consolidated facilities manager position. Mr. Valentino discussed the deferred maintenance needs including the Sargent roof causing leaks into three classrooms, sprinkler system at the Sargent School and repairs that had been on hold at Franklin and Kittredge. He stated that the playgrounds at the elementary schools needed to have repairs made to them and an inspector had been through each playground last year. In response to a concern raised by the Committee Mr. Mealey stated that he would get back to the Committee with the status of elementary playground equipment.

Mr. Mealey stated that the central administration budget changed very little from 2010 to 2011, there were no identified needs for central administration for FY11.

Mr. Mealey discussed the transportation budget. He stated that the addition of \$75,000 is a special education summer transportation cost that should have been included in the FY10 budget and that he and Ms. Zengilowski were working to cover the \$75,000 cost for FY10. In response to a question from the Committee Mr. Mealey stated that when discussing revolving funds at a future meeting he would show the full cost of transportation including operating and revolving funds and include in the transportation chart the bus runs funded by fees.

Mr. Mealey discussed the preschool and kindergarten programs. Ms. Connors discussed the preschool program and the possible need for an additional class due to the increased number of referrals the preschool has received. Ms. Connors discussed the accreditation process for the preschool program. In response to a request from the Committee Ms. Connors stated that she would put together a narrative regarding special education preschool referrals.

Race to The Top

The Committee continued discussion on whether to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Federal Race to the Top program. After discussions regarding on-going concerns about the ability to withdraw from the Memorandum of Understanding, it was the consensus of the Committee to schedule an additional meeting next week to decide whether or not to participate. It is anticipated that further information may be available from the DESE by Monday.

Kittredge Modular Sprinklers

The Committee discussed the possibility of reprioritizing the Capital Improvement Plan to move out the Middle School Roof Repair and add the installation of sprinklers at the Kittredge Elementary School, each project cost is approximately \$450,000. Having the Kittredge sprinklers on the capital improvement plan could assist in the appeal process currently underway for the Kittredge modular project.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that the administration work with the Town Manager and move forward on reprioritizing the Capital Improvement Plan without increasing the cost of the plan to include the sprinklers for the Kittredge modulares. Mr. Mealey stated that he would get back to the Committee with the estimated date for the appeal decision.

Public Comment

Ms. Whidden stated that she hoped the Committee would get feedback from principals and teachers prior to signing the memorandum of understanding for the Race To The Top program.

Ms. McMillan stated that even if the appeal does not pass for the Kittredge modular that she hoped the Committee would move forward with the sprinklers for Kittredge so the modular could be built in the future.

Ms. McNeil asked for clarification on the funds from Race To The Top. Chair Limpert stated that all money comes through the state not through the federal government.

Other Comments

Ms. Allen reviewed upcoming school events.

Adjourn

At 8:25 p.m. Ms. Allen moved to adjourn. Ms. Rhoton seconded the motion. The vote was 5-0 Ms. Allen, Ms. Burzlaff, Mr. Limpert, Mr. Nobile and Ms. Rhoton.