



# School District of New London

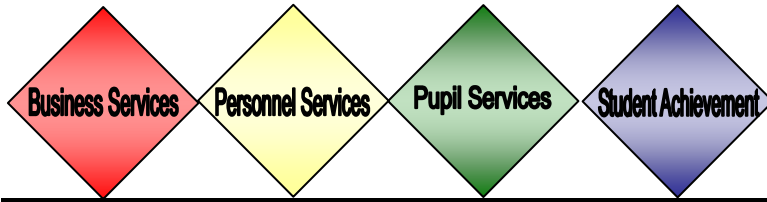
## BOARD OF EDUCATION

### MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Richard Yerkey

Director of Business Services

Date: April 2010



**Outside Bleachers** – Installed, finished, paid for, and beautiful. We have received many comments from community members about the positive appearance and presence that they have created. Great choice in bleachers and color school board members.

**School Bus Purchases** – The seven school busses we ordered in August of 2009 are scheduled for delivery the last week of May 2010. The total purchase price for all seven units is \$662,963 and will be paid for with a six year capital lease. We will have lease bids and authorizing resolution for you at the May 10 school board meeting for actual closing on May 28.

**Technology Lease Coming** – At the technology committee meeting held February 1 it was decided that ceiling mounted power point projectors would be purchased and installed in almost every classroom in the district. This is a total of 112 units. Twenty-one of these will be paid for through the Microsoft law suit settlement. The balance will be paid for with a three year capital lease funded with technology referendum funds. The lease resolution will be brought to the board at the April 26th meeting. Installation of the projectors was done at Lincoln School over the Easter break.

**Lighting in Sugar Bush Gymnasium** – About every four years we relamp and replace ballast for the lamps in this gymnasium. Cost to do this is \$990 for the tubes and the ballast. These are the original fixtures installed in 1962. Because of their age and relative inefficiency we have inquired about replacement of the fixtures.

Results of our inquiry are that we could install new high efficiency fixtures with lamps and ballast for approximately \$3,500. The new fixtures would use \$450 less electricity just during the normal school year, last about 1/3<sup>rd</sup> longer than the original tubes and ballast, and give us double the lumen output.

This would also be eligible for a FOCUS ON ENERGY rebate. Not sure how much yet. So watch for more information and a timeline for the project. Funds would come from the 10-11 maintenance project budget.

**Lamps** – While we're on the subject of lighting I would just like to give you an update on another change. Originally all corridor and classroom lighting was 40 watt fluorescent tubes, about twenty years ago the technology all shifted and ballast and tubes were switched to 32 watt tubes. We converted all lamps to 32 watt at that time and received a grant through New London Utilities to do so.

Now the technology has moved to 28 watt tubes from the 32 watt. Lumen output is the same but energy consumption will drop by \$6.40 per fixture (4 tubes) per year. In addition FOCUS ON ENERGY is offering a fifty cent per tube rebate up to June 1. We were just in the process of ordering replacement tubes so needless to say we have now ordered 28 watt instead of 32 watt. We also ordered enough tubes to get us through the summer replacement.

**Fraud over the internet** – Several weeks ago we were alerted to an attempt by an outside party to gain access to our checking account over the internet. Thanks to a very alert internet banking department at First State Bank we were made aware that someone through an e-mail to one of our employees had attached a program to one of our computers that recorded all login and password attempts by that individual. Since that day we now have a program that scans for and alerts us to any such programs being on our computers. This is used only on those machines of individuals working with internet banking programs.

We escaped a bullet that day but successful attempts are being made at other businesses and schools on a somewhat regular basis by professional hackers. It is for this reason that we have now added Internet fraud coverage to our other liability policies through Liberty Mutual Insurance. This will give us \$1,000,000 of fraud coverage for \$750 per year additional premium with a \$5,000 deductible. We continue to do everything we can to prevent these attacks by having dual authorizations on all accounts for internet transactions. Also, if the bank catches it soon enough they may be able to get the money back and keep the customer whole but there is no insurance by any banking institution to refund money stolen via the internet.