



School District of New London

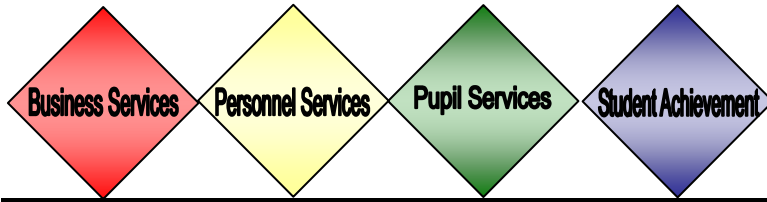
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MONTHLY UPDATE

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Director of Business Services

Date: August 2009



New Stadium – On schedule – looking terrific – within budget - **many positive comments** from staff and community. By the time you read this the blacktop for the track, bleacher pads and walkways will be in place. The sod has been in place for a couple of weeks now and looking good. Mowing and care of the sod will be taken care of by the firm that installed the sod for through the first seven mowings. The initial layout and striping of the football field will also be handled through our field architect.

The **concession stand** construction continues under the direction of John Daily with woods students supplying the necessary grunt. **Press box** construction by Dean Peterson is also underway. Another project underway is the former press box from Hatton Stadium is being converted to **storage for hurdles** at our new stadium.

Just to clarify any rumors concerning **seating** for our new stadium here is the straight scoop. For this season we will be using our **existing bleachers** on the home side (west – furthest away from the high school) and the City's bleachers on the visitor side (east – closest to the high school). Our fund raising group is continuing to raise funds for new seating and if we can put enough donated dollars together with project dollars remaining then new seating could be a reality for the Fall of 2010.

Another clarification – **portable toilet units** are being provided in the Northwest corner (home side – North end). Per code there are 20 of them (13 for the ladies and 6 for men). Why portables you ask?" About \$500,000 more money is the answer,

Parkview Addition – also **on time** and **within budget**. By the end of the week of August 10 we should be moving the furniture in and putting room numbers on the doors. New furniture was included as part of the budget as well. Rooms are complete with TV/VCR/DVD, PA system, computers, and telephones.

As part of the Parkview project we are in the process of replacing the entire fire alarm system. New pull stations (at the required height) strobes for hallways and classrooms. A new panel behind the main

office and a secondary panel in the North entrance (for fire department use). This system is expandable should further additions be added on at Parkview in the future. This new system is a \$24,000 project and will be paid for from our regular budget over the next 3 years.

Phone system for Middle School – we have completed a specification for this project which would totally replace our current phone system at the Middle School with a new voice over IP system that at some point can be expanded to include other buildings on our computer network. Initial estimates peg cost for this project at approximately \$60,000 so it is currently on hold while we try to figure out how to fund it. Hopefully the existing phone system doesn't die mid stream and cause us to fix it with a very expensive yet not futuristic or permanent solution.

Readfield Radio Transmission/Computer project – again we have a proposal on the table to link our Readfield School computer network to our computer base in New London with use of a radio transmission tower. A similar setup to the Sugar Bush system. This involves construction of an 80' tower at the Readfield School, an antenna placed on the water tower by Floral Hill Cemetery and an antenna on the high school roof. With this system we would replace the \$1,600 a month T-1 telephone line to Readfield and greatly increase the band width from 1.5 Mega Byte to almost 20 Mega Bytes to that building. Again the hold up is the \$54,000 price tag and how to fund it.

There you have all the exciting news, the **balance of my time** is spent finalizing one financial year and beginning another. **Financial audit**, State required **reports** for end of the year finance, transportation, census and the budget report for next year. In addition we have the **operational borrowing** to get set up. Also still in the process is **teacher negotiations**, possible insurance changes, and how that could affect the support staff contract. Last and certainly not least is to finalize the 2009-2010 budget for approval in September.