



School District of New London

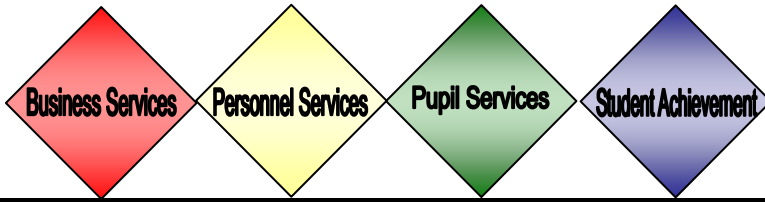
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Richard Yerkey

Director of Business Services

Date: February 2009



Replacement of T-1 Computer communications line to Readfield. Town and Country Electric, at our request, is now looking at the option of using the cell phone tower southeast of the high school by the water tower and the cell phone tower in Readfield for much faster radio transmission devices.

During the first week in February we replaced the filter media in the **Sugar Bush water treatment** system. We will take a water sample during the second week in February and should be back under the required limits for Arsenic. Replacement of the media cost \$11,000 and disposal of the contaminated media cost \$1,200. This apparently will be an every other year project.

As of February 9 we have exceeded our **snow removal** budget by \$20,000. We budgeted \$25,000 and are already at \$45,000.

Having mentioned snow removal I do want to **recognize our grounds person Patrick Korth, district maintenance person Chuck Gorges** and all our building custodians who have done an excellent job of keeping our walks and entrances clean and ice free for the most part. Patrick sees a lot more moonlight than sunlight on those days as his day usually starts around 2:30 A.M.

Our **diesel and gasoline prices** are now at the lowest price since prior to January of 2007. We are now paying \$2.26/gal for diesel and \$1.72/gal for gasoline. (remember were Federal Tax exempt)

Boiler/heating repairs have been major in the last month. We had a heating coil freeze and burst at the high school. We have three boilers at the high school which need repairs totaling \$4,900 for all three. We also have one boiler at the high school which needs a new heat exchanger that cost in excess of \$20,000. Unless the boiler manufacturer is willing to handle this under warranty it is doubtful that we will repair this unit but simply scrap it out for parts. We have ten two million btu capacity boilers at the high school so dropping one will not leave us short of boiler capacity.

We should have our six **new busses**, ordered for the start of the 2009-2010 school year delivered sometime in March.

Our **food service request for proposal**, required by the Federal government, is now being advertised. There will be an advertisement the Press-Star the week of Feb 9. We have sent invitations to bid to the eleven firms that the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Food Services has indicated. A pre-proposal meeting is scheduled for February 25 and bids will be due on March 15.

We have spent considerable time since the Christmas break considering **repair and/or replacement options for our running track** located by the middle school. More information will be forthcoming on this.

We have also spent considerable time on completion of the financial and equipment plan for the recently approved **technology funding**. Establishing funds not only for network and classroom equipment but for software, training, and grants.

New computers are now in place and operational in the high school Computer Aided Design lab. Over the coming summer we **will be replacing 600 outdated Gateway computers throughout all school buildings** in the district.

It's **budget time** again; principals have received budget information and materials to begin the process **for 2009-2010**. We all see daily news bits on the anticipated State budget for schools, most of it not positive, but in reality we're probably not going to know anything for certain until September or October.

For **Sugar Bush** parents and staff we will hopefully **replace the sidewalk** in front of the main doors this summer. Constant heaving from the frost continues to cause door opening problems. New sidewalk will be pinned to the foundation and set on piers to eliminate this problem.

