



School District of New London

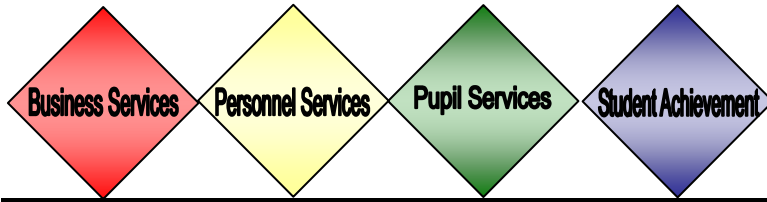
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Richard Yerkey

Director of Business Services

Date: January 12, 2008



New Computers for the high school CAD (Computer Aided Design) lab are now at district office and being set up for installation at the high school for second semester. Bids were received from Dell, HP, and Acer with HP having the best bid for the equipment specified. HP computers are purchased through Camera Corner Connecting Point in Green Bay, WI.

The subject of a very slow **T-1 line** servicing computers at the **Readfield School** was raised during our technology meetings. Up until this time we were unable to use a much faster radio transmission device because we could not broadcast a beam over the ridge South of Readfield. Town and Country Electric, at our request, is now looking at the option of using one of the higher cell phone towers as a relay for that transmission.

W-2 Earning Statements for 2008 have been run and are **ready for distribution**.

Over the Christmas break our Middle School **gymnasium floor** was completely **refinished** courtesy of Stalker Flooring. We also completed the **replacement** of the **food service prep sink** at the **Sugar Bush School** and **replacement** of the **food service water heater** at the **Middle School**. We have gone with a new computerized water heater that only operates when hot water is required resulting in considerable energy savings.

Another major task **completed** over the **Christmas** break was a complete **physical inventory** of all equipment and vehicles valued at \$300 or more. This has not been done in its entirety since the original in 1980. Middle School and High School were done the summer of 1999. This is necessary because of accounting/audit and insurance requirements.

Arsenic removal from the Sugar Bush well water is becoming a close **third in the running for most expensive** after snow removal and bus fuel. The latest information is that we must now replace the filter media in the filtration unit as it has reached its maximum life expectancy (about two years). The proposal to remove and replace the media as well as disposal of the media as hazardous waste is

approximately \$13,000. We hope to have this accomplished in February or early March so as to get an acceptable first quarter arsenic reading.

CESA 10 out of Green Bay has begun a new service of providing **energy audits** to school districts. Fees charged will be based on savings made. An initial site visit is scheduled for our high school and middle school on January 8.

Just an FYI on our **Employee Flexible benefit** plan which begins anew every **January 1**. We have 72 employees now taking advantage of the program for a total of \$105,016. This covers out of pocket medical expenses and day/child care. In addition all health/dental premiums paid by our employees are paid through this program as well. Savings for the employee are State and Federal taxes as well as social security taxes. Cost to the District for this plan is \$5.50 per month per employee or \$4,752 per year total for all employees.

Just a heads up that our two **John Deere** lawn **tractors** that are used for both lawn and snow removal work **are aging**. One of those identical units is now 12 years old and the other 9 years old. We have now reached a point of finding used replacement parts and pieces to keep the snow blowers and brooms in operation. If Wisconsin Winters continue as they did last year and this past December we're going to be looking to **replace** equipment **sooner than anticipated**.

Did you know that in addition to tank type electric **heaters** that we have been using in our **school busses** for many years that we now also have additional battery run heaters? These new heaters are referred to as WABASCO heaters. They run off battery power and are capable of heating coolant to a temperature high enough to start window defrosting immediately when the bus is started. These heaters can be operated by timer or temperature setting. The six busses we purchased last year came with these and the six ordered for next year also have these.