



School District of New London

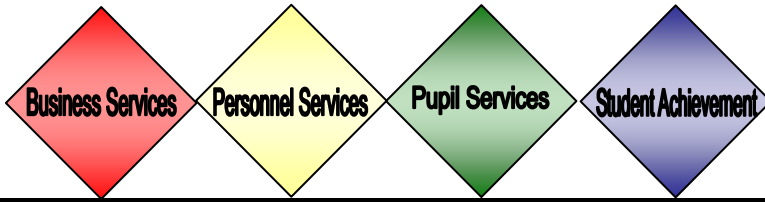
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Richard Yerkey

Director of Business Services

Date: March 2010



Outside Bleachers – One more month and we will see new bleachers in the stadium.

Inside Bleachers – BR Bleachers is completing all necessary maintenance and repairs on High School and Middle School bleachers on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 2 and 3. Better to get it completed now when BR is more willing to reduce pricing and our gymnasium schedule is more open then during summer. You will see a \$6,400 item on the April voucher list for this maintenance work. Had we waited until this summer the price would have been \$7,400.

Big Refund in the works – We alerted you last month to a possible refund of personal property taxes charged incorrectly to the Sara Lee Corporation because of a Department of Revenue calculation. That hearing has been completed and the determination is that Sara Lee was overcharged. We will be billed by the Department of Revenue for our share of the overcharge and we will have until February 15, 2011 to refund the town of Hortonia \$139,206.82. This will be included in our tax levy for the 2010-2011 school year and will increase the levy rate by 13 cents per \$1,000 of equalized value or \$19.50 on a property valued at \$150,000. This has no affect on our revenue limit.

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.

High School Boilers – We alerted you last month regarding four boilers at the high school being out of commission because of cracked heat exchangers. In working with our heating engineers we will at some point in 2010-11 be replacing two of the four boilers with new AERCO boilers with a replacement cost of \$59,430. We will be reducing our boiler count from ten down to eight. Experience and efficiencies have allowed this reduction in boiler count.

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 12th meeting.

Installation of the projectors will be done at Lincoln School over the Easter break. Balance of projectors this summer or as time permits before.

In addition to classroom projectors we also have on order a server and software to backup and maintain a file of all district e-mails as required by law. Total cost \$9,750. This from Modern Business Machines.

One final technology item that is on order is the necessary switches to upgrade the Sugar Bush computer network. Total cost \$7,692.25 from Heartland Business Systems. If we then, at a future point, upgrade the wireless connection to Sugar Bush we will increase computer speed to Sugar Bush and also be able to merge the Sugar Bush phone system with the new voice over IP system installed at the Middle School.

We do have a proposal from Faith Technologies for \$13,000. to upgrade the wireless connection and switches for Sugar Bush.

Snow Removal – To date this Winter has been kind to us. As of February 18 we have paid approximately \$25,000 for contracted snow removal and our budget was projected at \$50,000. Unfortunately one can never say it is over until we see March and April fade in to the past. We have, in the past, had to close a couple of days in March because of Snow.

Replacement Lawn Equipment – Not much to say here except opportunity knocks. The complete proposal included under new business this month.