



School District of New London

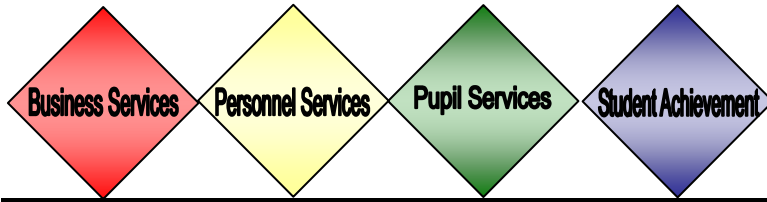
BOARD OF EDUCATION

MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Richard Yerkey

Director of Business Services

Date: November 2009



Phone system for Middle School – Has been approved, ordered, and will be installed over the Christmas Holiday. This will be a new phone system and interconnected intercom system.

Readfield computer network link - We received approval from Waupaca County on October 22 for the conditional use permit for the tower construction. We have one more hearing for the variance to allow this tower to be constructed within 500' of a neighboring residence. That hearing will be held at the Waupaca County Courthouse building on November 19. Even with the November 19 meeting for final approval we have a timeline for completion of early December.

As early as the week of Nov 2 you will see the very early stages of getting ready for the tower construction begin to happen.

In addition to the tower construction in Readfield there will be a **small tower and two dishes** placed on the **Floral Hill water tower** to send and receive the signals from Readfield and transfer them to our network in the high school. A \$1,200 per year rental agreement has been worked out with the New London utility for this purpose.

OPEB Study to begin soon. Now that our teacher contract has been settled we can begin the required other post employment benefits (**OPEB**) study. A required actuarial study which determines our long term liability for retirement benefits now in place. This is required by the State and Federal government and must be updated by the time of our next financial audit (June 30, 2010). This needs to be done every three years.

Bleachers – We have been working on a proposal request for new bleachers for the home side of our new stadium. Initial request for proposals went out to three different bleacher contractors on October 16 and we hope to have information with estimates back for discussion by our board on November 6.

Broad Band vs Narrow Band – New Federal Communications regulations require that all of our two way communication devices be converted to

narrow band from broad band. This must take place before our license renews in 2013. Hopefully most of the equipment we currently have is already capable of narrow band and just needs to be set that way. A complete survey of our equipment will be done by Baycom of Neenah and Green Bay. Baycom has been supplying and installing all of our radio equipment ever since they bought out Fox Valley Communications in the early 80's. My target is to have this all completed by the end of next summer at the latest.

For those wondering what the **difference** between **broad** band and **narrow band** is, just think about the settings on your flashlight. If you turn the lens one way the beam is very broad, if you turn it the other way the beam becomes very narrow. The government is now requesting the narrow setting to allow for more radio users in the same space. I am told that this will not have any negative affect on our radio communications.

Finance – Final budget levies have now been set by our board, levy reports, budget report, and the Special Education budget report have all been filed with the State. The only report still due (12/1) is the final audit report which is the responsibility of our audit firm Erickson & Associates of Appleton. It does however include the Management Discussion and Analysis (**MD&A**) which is our responsibility.

Sad note: Someone, since our last home football game, has found it necessary to take some chemical and etch some letters into the sod in the center of our new football field. The damage covers an area about 15 yards wide by 10 yards high. There seems always to be someone bent on ruining good things for those who have done them no harm.

Heating Season is upon us and all school boilers have now been inspected and are in the process of getting all necessary repairs and adjustments.

Readfield Property. Just a note that the former video store by the Readfield School is now being used for storage. The former owners have now totally vacated the premises. Heat and water is shut off and plumbing and septic system has been drained.