



# School District of New London

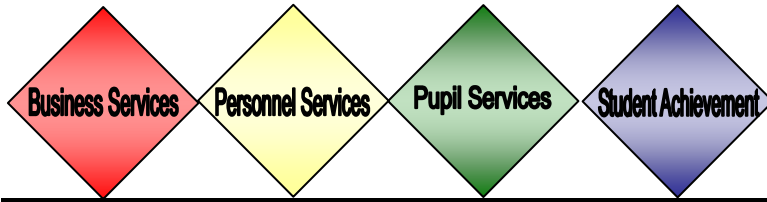
## BOARD OF EDUCATION

### MONTHLY UPDATE

By: Richard Yerkey

Director of Business Services

Date: October 2009



**New Stadium** – Should be receiving final change orders the week of 10/5 and know exactly what our bottom line on this project is. We have commitments of; \$5,000 from First State Bank and Festival Foods toward our scoreboard, \$14,000 from the NL Gridiron club for the new goal posts, and \$35,000 from the NL Booster Club for the press box.

**Phone system for Middle School** – To be presented for approval at the meeting of 10/12 will be a new Voice over Internet Protocol (V/IP) and intercom system. This will be the second step in merging our fiber optic computer network with our phone system. Last Spring and Summer we upgraded the majority of computer switches in our computer head end and the middle school switches to make this merger possible. With board approval we hope to have this system installed over the December Holiday break. Not only will this be a step to upgrade our phone technology but also the replacement of a 30 year old antiquated phone system at our Middle School.

**Readfield computer network link** - 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 a 140' 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 Megabytes to almost 20 Megabytes.

Applications for a conditional use permit and variance are both on file at Waupaca County and hopefully will be approved by the end of October. We have also requested, through the New London Utility, rental of a space on the water tower for our equipment. We also hope to have this system operational by January 1.

**Middle School Track** – Just a heads up that since this area is used for both football and a recess area and since dog waste are not being cleaned up in that area that we are now locking the area from public use.

**Audit & Finances** - The first phase of our financial audit has been completed. Once the audit firm gets the numbers back to me I will be putting together the final portion of the audit, the Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A). This is the part of the audit where school management, not the audit firm, talks about the finances of the district.

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 completed at the time of our next financial audit (June 30, 2010). This needs to be done every three years.

**Bleachers** – As we all know about the major issue we need to deal with in our new stadium is bleachers. Currently we can seat 960 on the home side in our 40 year old bleachers. We can also seat about 500 on the visitor side in the bleachers owned by the city.

What we would like to do is to be able to purchase new bleachers for the home side which would seat from 1500 to 2000. Then move the existing school bleachers (960 capacity) to the visitor side. This would give us total seating capacity of 2500 to 3000.

We have been working on a proposal request to three major bleacher suppliers in Wisconsin. It is our plan to have this request out by October 16 and to have initial proposals with estimated budgets back by November 6.

By November 6 we will know how much we have remaining in the original budget for the stadium and how much new bleachers would cost. It is our plan to then make some very important fund raising requests and see if we can get the job done. All information will come to the board at the November meeting.