

North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200
Minutes of the Business Services Committee Meeting
District Office
6248 North Boone School Road
Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065
Tuesday, September 4, 2018
6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Ed Mulholland at 6:00 p.m. The following Committee members were present: Melissa Geyman, Dr. Mike Greenlee, Kelly Hanaman, Joe Haverly, Kelly Holsker, Tom Kinser, Matt Klett and Ed Mulholland. Absent: Mary Piskie.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

(none)

BUS LEASING AND PURCHASING

Ms. Geyman obtained quotes from Midwest, Central Bus Sales and American Bus Sales, providing a variety of bus purchase options. She presented the objectives of updating the bus fleet with buy/lease options in three years and after the initial three year update, move to a five year rotation to replace buses. She also reported that according to our insurance carrier, upgrading our bus fleet will have no impact on our insurance premium rates. Ms. Geyman shared that in the past there has been \$200K in the budget for new transportation, and the end fund balance for transportation is \$1,184,923.69. Ms. Geyman stated with current budget amounts there is an estimated additional \$350K in revenue, and there is a potential budget of \$550K to spend on new buses. She also conveyed the \$350K could be used toward buses or levied to another fund.

Ms. Geyman asked the Committee for guidance and if they wished to lease or purchase, noting that if we purchased all new, we would need to look at the bid process. Mr. Mulholland suggested getting a fleet of one type of bus to keep inventories of filters, etc. as low as possible. He also wondered with the difficulty in getting enough drivers, why we are purchasing air brake buses when two more driver tests are required. He felt the air brake endorsement was the most difficult to earn. Mr. Mulholland said in his opinion, Internationals were better buses. He wondered why Espar heaters were not in the specifications or quotations. He showed interest in a three year purchase/lease proposal, where we would lease four and purchase six. All Committee members were in agreement with that option. Ms. Geyman will investigate the air brake and Espar questions, and will be contacting the vendors regarding the ability to purchase extended warranties in year three.

PER STUDENT COSTS PER SCHOOL

Ms. Geyman presented an updated cost per student per school chart, along with the yearly utilities per student, as requested by the Board. Mr. Mulholland requested to see the resulting numbers once Special Education services were removed. Ms. Geyman will strip those costs from the totals and update the chart for the Committee.

CLASS GRADE SPLITS VS. TECHNOLOGY PURCHASES

Mr. Mulholland stated he had a robust conversation with a colleague who had concerns about the current splits in the elementary classrooms. Dr. Greenlee said we currently have grades 1/2 and 3/4 splits at CES and MES, and a 1/2 split at PGE. He stated if we didn't have splits, students couldn't stay in their community schools. Without splits, the District would need to add five more elementary sections which would cost \$275K in extra salaries per year. Dr. Greenlee said he works with the NBEA to stay within classroom caps. Mrs. Hanaman stated she was concerned with the sustainability of five more teachers, to avoid potential RIF's. Mr. Kinser noted one solution to avoid splits would be to have building level grade centers. Dr. Greenlee felt good teachers have the ability to handle splits, and historically we had not received many complaints from parents or teachers. Mr. Klett stated he had witnessed splits, observed the successes, and said he personally had no reservations with splits. Mr. Mulholland felt if we are focused on student achievement, then we need to have in depth conversations. The Committee suggested this topic be added to the CIA meeting agenda for continued input and discussion.

ONLINE REGISTRATION UPDATE

Dr. Greenlee stated Administration and IT are open minded with online registration. Ms. Geyman provided an outline showing the current registration process and identified initial roadblocks that included proper involvement from all impacted areas, broadband access, cost to implement and timeline for implementation. Her presentation showed they will be investigating the potential roadblocks, working with Power School to determine capability to implement and will be collaborating with other districts to determine their process, including their successes and roadblocks. Mr. Mulholland noted the need for a payment portal. Ms. Geyman stated in March 2018, there was an outstanding student fee balance of \$130,922.20 and as of August 31, 2018, there was an outstanding balance of \$64,931.70. She thanked the Board for reducing registration fees for families.

AP CLASS ENROLLMENT

Dr. Greenlee provided an AP class update showing the number of students in each class. He stated due to economics, AP classes are only held if there are a minimum of 15 students enrolled, but noted at times there can be withdrawals based on schedule conflicts and student choices to drop the class. Mr. Haverly asked for information regarding AP scores from the end of last school year.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(none)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(none)

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Ed Mulholland, Chair