

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
Thursday, April 17, 2014
4:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Collin Crull 4:00 p.m. The following Committee members were present: Dr. Steven Baule, Mrs. Rhonda Boeke, Mrs. Jeannine Plath, Mr. Brian Reininger and Mrs. Deb Torrison.

AUDIENCE TO VISITORS

(No Audience to Visitors)

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Capital Outlay Budget

Mrs. Boeke distributed a draft of the proposed Capital Outlay 2014-2015 budget.

Dr. Baule shared the high school has asked for three smartboards, but he'd like to consult with the Technology Committee before agreeing to move in that direction and committing to a smartboard at the secondary level. It will remain in the budget as a placeholder. Three smartboards were requested between Capron and Manchester. The middle school has requested new tables instead of desks to have a set up more like that of high school, which will also better serve tablet users than the current slanted desks with attached chairs. The middle school desks will then be sent to Poplar Grove Elementary. Mrs. Plath said there was also an extra projector at the high school that could be used in the ESL classroom at Manchester. Dr. Baule said the oven requested for Capron may be able to come out of this year's budget.

Dr. Baule explained that currently credit recovery program is through the ROE, and the licensing is also paid by them. He noted that over the past couple of years, the effectiveness had dropped, and going forward we may look at developing our own program.

Dr. Baule mentioned some of the Foss science kits were purchased out of this year's budget. Mrs. Lindsay Abbeduto has worked with Mrs. Kristi Crawford to put a curriculum map together, which accommodates the Next Generation Science Standards.

Keyboarding software was requested, but Dr. Baule said there was freeware available, so he has asked Mr. Jerry Rudolph to investigate this option and work toward obtaining the right software.

Dr. Baule shared there were no major changes to Technology Services. The Google cost is basically the cost for archiving emails to be compliant with FOIA. Mrs. Torrison asked about the miscellaneous category. Dr. Baule said that category includes server warranties, etc., and contains the same types of items as past years.

Dr. Baule said Mr. Rudolph has categorized our laptops as good, useable and not useable. He shared that Mr. Rudolph's findings show there are 318 laptops in poor condition, dating back to 2007. The thought is to buy Windows sub notebooks, and replace 150 of the 318. He suggested desktops remain on a four year rotation.

Dr. Baule stated that 175 tablets will allow us to expand to grades 5-8. He explained that if the program was expanded to grades 5-8, the district could utilize the 60 tablets currently at NBUE as well as potentially using the other 178 tablets throughout the district, in which we would need to purchase about 190 tablets. Since teachers prefer to use the Droids in a 1:1 environment, this scenario would move all of the district's Droid devices to NBMS/UE. There would not be Droid devices at the elementary schools or the high school. The district could replace 75 tablets in K-4 and 9-12 with sub-notebooks, and an additional 75 laptops at NBHS and K-4. Dr. Baule said this would enable us to not replace any of the 93 tablets in COWS at NBMS/UE, plus eliminate the 30 laptops at NBUE, since all students would have a 1:1 device. Mrs. Plath asked how many students were in grades 5-8, and if those student would be permitted to take their tablets home. Dr. Baule replied that there were approximately 520 students it would be up to the teachers to decide if students could take the devices home at each grade level.

He said tablets at the 7-8 level only, would require 110 tablets but would require the need to replace closer to 200 laptops instead of the 150 we were considering, as we would still need the three carts of classroom computers at NBUE. Just expanding to graded 6-8 actually costs more due to the need to retain classroom sets of computers and/or tablets for 5th graders. Mr. Reininger asked how many tablets were purchased last year. Dr. Baule responded that 150 tablets were purchased for the pilot, 30 were for the high school, 30 from the Monsanto grant, a total of 45 for the elementary schools and a cart for UE, for a total cost of around \$90K. Mr. Reininger asked what the technology fee would be for tablet users. Dr. Baule said the Board could decide that at the next meeting, but we currently charge \$75.00 for the 1:1 users. Mr. Rudolph and Dr. Baule are also investigating insurance options for the tablets. Mrs. Plath asked if it was possible to print from a tablet. Dr. Baule said yes and noted that color printers were actually removed from this proposed budget list as 95% of assignments are on the tablet. Mr. Reininger asked to see a budget if we didn't go with tablets for grades 5-8. Dr. Baule will prepare and send to the committee. Mr. Reininger felt that most of the Board would like to see those numbers. Mrs. Lindsay Abbeduto will ask the 5-6 grade teachers if they would like tablets or not. She will then survey the parents. Mrs. Plath asked if we go 5-8, we will need more staff. Dr. Baule said we have room for one more tech person in the budget.

Dr. Baule said servers haven't been purchased since he came to the district. Some hard drives are starting to fail, and most of the equipment is outside of their warranties. Instead of replacing all 19 servers, we could replace them with three boxes, solving connectivity issues. Dr. Baule said after reviewing with Mrs. Boeke, we have enough to take some of the SAN line item and pay out of the budget this year, since we didn't use all the money that was allocated for replacing desktops, as many didn't actually need to be replaced this year. Mrs. Torrison asked if there was a less expensive way to replace the servers. Dr. Baule said that this was the least expensive option. Mr. Reininger asked what the cost was to replace a server. Dr. Baule said it was approximately \$4-6K and we have 19 servers. He said we could break this up over a couple of years by purchasing servers and then storage separately. This option may cost slightly more by purchasing in phases. He noted we also need more robust power supplies in some network chassis. Dr. Baule said the goal is to make the network move more quickly and make sure it works more effectively. He said the Tech Smart projector is for the IT department to house a spare. He also mentioned some of the technology items could be purchased in pieces, and if the Board approves the purchases, we could buy some items from the remaining budget this year.

Dr. Baule said some facilities items are included, but the facilities list will be further defined at the next Facilities Committee meeting in May. A \$300K placeholder has been included in the budget. The HVAC will cost about \$35K for the offices of the high school counselors, which are now downstairs next to the gym. Building walls in that area would allow counselors to meet with students while maintaining confidentiality. He said the high school air handler is a \$30-50K issue, as the HVAC systems needs to move across that addition. Initially there had been a concern that the high school had a roof leak, but the issue was actually due to the air handler.

Dr. Baule mentioned carpet and tile need to be replaced in the kitchen and offices at Capron. Mrs. Plath asked if there was asbestos at Capron. Dr. Baule said there was, but the figures include removal.

Mr. Reininger asked if a \$300K placeholder was enough for security. Dr. Baule explained that the elementary PA systems are not good, but we could use IP systems and that we should be receiving the sales tax soon, which could be used for security. Mrs. Plath asked how much sales tax we should expect. Mrs. Boeke said the payment comes quarterly and the state pays the ROE, then ROE pays us, and that we receive approximately \$450K per year. This year ROE would keep approximately \$22K total from Boone County for administrative expenses.

Dr. Baule shared that we have enough money this year for one bus. He noted we haven't purchased a bus since 2009, and are in need of replacing our aging fleet. He also said the district is currently working on a rotation plan. Mr. Scott Timmerman has researched makes and models of buses and narrowed down the choice to two types made by Transit and International. This decision was based on driver preference, ease of repairs and cost of maintenance. Dr. Baule said we have \$85K this year to purchase one used bus and trade two spares that we aren't currently using as they have manual doors. He mentioned we could get a full size bus with a wheel chair lift, as these buses are the types used all the time, and mentioned we could also try to purchase two buses with \$150K. There is \$117K remaining in the budget, as a pickup and plow cost

\$28K. There will be no money to replace the van, but will have some money remaining to replace cameras. Dr. Baule said we budgeted for four transportation payments, but we will likely not see all four payments from the state. He mentioned to the committee that Mrs. Melissa Geyman has been doing a great job coordinating Special Education routes traveling to Easter Seals and Rock River, which has helped in conserving transportation expenses.

Mrs. Torrison asked which fund would pay for the phone system. Dr. Baule said the Board could pay out of O&M or sales tax.

Mrs. Plath asked if we implement the budget if it would be balanced. Dr. Baule said no, that the anticipated deficit is \$900K. He said we could cut everything on the list and we still wouldn't have a balanced budget.

Dr. Baule said area schools were asked what cuts would be made if they only received 65% GSA. Some superintendents responded that they would eliminate all transportation. He said if our district were to only receive 65%, one option would be to close Capron and Manchester and make Poplar Grove a K-3 building and the Upper Elementary a 4-6 building.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting date will likely be after we receive formal notification of the CDB money and the list of restrictions

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Submitted by:

Collin Crull, Chairperson