

**WEST WINDSOR-PLAINSBORO REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES**



<u>BOE Committee:</u> Anthony Fleres (Chair) Hemant Marathe Yibao Xu	<u>Administration:</u> Victoria Kniewel Larry Shanok Lawrence LoCastro	<u>Guest/Public:</u> Richard Kaye, BOE Garima Maheshwari at 6:53 PM
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**November 20, 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM at Central Office in the conference room. Topics covered included:

Review Agenda Items: The committee supports the finance agenda and offered observations on other agenda items.

2013-14 Budget: A discussion ensued over topics that might be covered when discussing this budget. Topics of interest included: class size, co-curricular, support for instructional initiatives and capital spending. The rollover of personnel from the current year to the proposed budget year was reviewed; this year has no contractual increase to build into next year, in their place a 2% amount would be built into the budget. Notwithstanding this 2% action, the overriding target at this early point into the budget development is to try to achieve a budget with a zero total tax levy increase.

Interview: Garima Maheshwari joined the meeting at 6:53 PM and introduced herself to the board members. A discussion followed concerning the board of education opening that resulted from the resignation of Ellen Walsh. A lively and wide-ranging interchange took place. Ms. Maheshwari departed at 7:14 PM.

D.A. Nolt Mediation: This involves the work the contractor was to complete at High School South and Wicoff by August 26, 2011 but extended into January/February 2012. Recently the contractor opted to send the matter into nonbinding mediation as allowed in the contract. There are a number of perspectives ranging from they are due nothing since the contract called for completion by August 26, 2011 to their position that the \$157k they incurred after the August 26<sup>th</sup> date was not their responsibility. The various perspectives were discussed and the committee supported settling the matter as long as the contractor showed some common sense in its final position. Failure to come to a settlement will likely lead to litigation and additional costs of \$20k to \$45k.

Other Business: The cycle of activity associated with Hurricane Sandy was reviewed. To date the district has spent about \$103k to do near-term repairs – most associated with the blown off roof section at High School North. Some other damage can wait until next summer but may top the spending to date: repairing an additional unglued roof portion at HSN, labor intensive replacement of fireproofing materials at the repaired roof, as well as repairing the central office roof (which lost shingles) and repairing three damaged district vehicles. Initial outlays will likely come from the Maintenance Reserve but the district is working with our insurance adjuster and FEMA to recoup where feasible.

The government's requiring of W-2 reporting of health cost for 2012 is causing consternation among many organizations across the country. The rules are not well understood. Most organizations expected their health providers to provide the final information but to date they have not committed to doing so. Local school districts have met on the topic and manual efforts may be needed to meet the W-2 requirement. It may involve a lot of manual effort at an already busy time of the year.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05P.M.

**NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 11, 2012, 6:30 PM @ Community MS**

Topic for Next Meeting  
Review Agenda Items  
Budget

Future Topics:  
Impact of Recent Legislation  
Policies