

Financial Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2009
7 AM – Junior High Conference Room

Present: Chuck Cebuhar, Kathy Krepel, Sue Peterson, Mary Truitt, Dr. Mary Fasbender, Joel Murphy, Cindy Wikierak.

5 Year Financial Projections – After receiving an update on the PMA Financial Model at their January meeting, the Board asked the FAC to seek additional input on the CPI projection in light of the 0.10% rate for December. It was agreed upon to use the Congressional Office of the Budget forecast for the next five years of 1.7%, 1.8%, 2.0%, 2.2% and 2.20%. This is down from our initial projection of 2.75%. The 0.10% CPI reduces our revenue by \$178,000 for next year's budget.

Staffing Projections for 2009-2010 – With the projected decline in enrollment at both buildings and the reduction in sections K-8, the district is reviewing several staffing options. To maintain the Board's desired financial health of at least 4 months cash reserve, possible options include repurposing staff members and also a reduction in both certified and non-certified staff.

The Administrative Team initially presented the Board at their January meeting with 4 options to support the Response to Intervention (RtI) mandate. After reviewing these options the Board asked the Administrative Team to create a fifth option that would serve more students and stay within budgeted allocations. Dr. Mary outlined the 5 options for the FAC committee and also explained how students were placed in one of three tiers based upon MAP testing results. The fifth option, E, included the addition of 4.5 certified staff and will be presented to the Board at the February meeting.

The approval of Greg Urbaniak as the new Curriculum Coordinator for next year will be on the February Board Meeting Agenda. His responsibilities will include curriculum & instruction, staff development, assessment/data management and RtI.

Student Fees for 2009 – Joel distributed a Student Registration and Activity Fee Chart comparing fees over the last several years to neighboring districts. The goal is to collect fees at registration time, moving away from teacher collection during the year. As noted on the chart, there will be three registration fee changes for 2009-10 as follows: The K-5 registration fee will be increased from \$92.25 to \$94.75, which will eliminate a \$5 classroom supply collection. A \$20 graduation fee will be added at registration time instead of collecting the same amount later in the year. And there was a reduction in the cheerleading activity fee to \$46 from \$66.75 since the cheerleaders do not go to away meets. Kathy Krepel suggested also adding the band fee to the registration form in the

future. The committee agreed with the fee schedule as presented and endorsed the above changes.

Transportation Update – The district received two proposals for leasing/purchasing school buses for the 2009-10 school year. One proposal was for \$178,475 to lease one year old buses and the 2nd proposal was for \$234,889 for new buses. Our current cost is \$203,000 for 16 buses. It was agreed the most cost effective option would be to stay with Midwest Transit Company, lease one year old buses for one year, and purchase one less bus and reduce one route for next year.

Update of State Payments for FY09 and Taxpayer Partnership Plan – Joel distributed a summary of state funding we received and projections for the FY09 Budget indicating a reduction in revenues. Due to the State of Illinois being behind on their payments in the transportation and categorical reimbursements, the funds to support the Taxpayer Partnership Plan will be taken out of the Education Fund. Creating the escrow fund each year we approve the TPP is a step required by the County Clerk to ensure the funds for the plan are backed. Should the State be able to make their financial commitments in the Transportation Fund before the end of this fiscal year, the Education Fund will be reimbursed. The FAC agreed to continue with the abatement and to move funds from the Education Fund.

FY09 Budget Amendment – Joel discussed the elimination of the Activity Accounts as per our auditors' request. Funds will be combined and simplified with no impact on staff.

Changes in the Business Office – In an effort to improve the business office operations, the following new policies and procedures will be instituted in the coming weeks. Activity Fund duties will be transferred to building secretaries. Deadlines for payroll information and other requests for payments have been implemented. A new on-line requisition system will be instituted for all staff to access.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 AM

Next Meeting: March 12, 2009 – Elementary School Conference Room