



BLOOMFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION - FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

Finance Committee Meeting AT Tuesday, September 27, 2016

Bloomfield Board of Education 1133 Blue Hills Avenue Board Room, 1133 Blue Hills Avenue ,  
Bloomfield, CT 06002

1. Establishment of a Quorum and Call to Order
2. Consent Agenda
  - A. Approval of Minutes - Finance Committee Meeting - May 24, 2016 2  
M. Williams
3. Old Business
  - A. General Improvement to Alliance Districts' School Building Grant  
W. Guzman
  - B. Bid Award Recommendation for Solar Panel Projects  
W. Guzman
    1. Carmen Arace Roof - Solar Panel Project
    2. Central Office Field - Solar Panel Project
4. New Business
  - A. Bid Award Recommendation for Transportation Contracts  
W. Guzman
    1. Regular Bus Routes
    2. Special Education Bus Routes
  - B. Bid Award Recommendation for Technology Equipment  
W. Guzman
5. Adjournment



BLOOMFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS – FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.  
Bloomfield Board of Education  
1133 Blue Hills Avenue  
Board Room

**ATTENDANCE:** M. Williams, Chair Present  
R. Coleman-Mitchell Present  
Q. Johnson Present *arrived at 6:06 p.m.*

**ALSO PRESENT:** J. Thompson W. Guzman S. Simpson  
S. McCann B. Silver A.M. Cullinan  
W. Joslyn W. Caper D. Harris  
M. Walters H. Frydman R. Ike

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

M. Williams called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. The roll was called and a quorum was present.

### 2. CONSENT AGENDA

#### 2. A. Approval of Minutes –Finance Committee – April 26, 2016

A motion was made by R. Coleman-Mitchell and seconded by M. Williams for the Finance Committee to approve the meeting minutes from April 26, 2016 as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

### 3. OLD BUSINESS

#### 3. A. Status of Board of Education – Field Solar Panel Project

William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer and Wayne Casper, Director of Facilities provided a brief update on the field solar panel project. This is one of the two solar projects Bloomfield Public Schools is currently exploring.

The Board of Education requested advice from the district attorney regarding how to proceed with this project. The agreement for the field solar project is twenty years and the attorney suggested receiving approval from the Town Council. Mr. Guzman noted the solar panel field project using the land located adjacent the Board of Education building has been approved to move forward by the Town Council. This is a separate project from the Carmen Arace project.

The district has received one proposal for this project. It was decided the district will solicit Request for Proposals (RFP).

The anticipated cost savings for the town using a solar panel field of this size is an estimated \$7 million over 25 years.



H. Frydman shared concerns regarding the submission of a proposal by only one company and stated he would like to see other bids for a cost savings comparison.

Mr. Casper noted that Connecticut Green Bank, a quasi-state agency focused on green energy and solar panels has vetted those companies which have submitted proposals. It was suggested by the committee it may be worthwhile to solicit additional proposals.

Q. Johnson inquired how much is the average per acre generation rate. This information is unknown.

### **3. B. School Construction Grants - Update**

Mr. Guzman stated there have been five school construction grants approved by the Board of Education and submitted to the state for reimbursement. He and Mr. Casper met with the state last week to review an error in calculation. Following a discussion with the state, they have agreed to recalculate and will provide an update in 4-6 weeks.

Metacomet and Laurel Elementary School also went through a similar process. Future updates will be provided.

## **4. NEW BUSINESS**

### **4. A. Transportation – First Student - Update**

Mr. William Guzman, Chief Operations Officer explained that drivers from our contracted bus company shared concerns regarding the condition of the school buses at the last Board of Education meeting. It was reported that the buses are breaking down on a consistent basis; some are without radios and/or cameras and are out of compliance. As a result of these conditions, the buses are not running on time.

Mr. Guzman and Mr. Casper met with the Vice-President of the bus company, who stated that the buses are pre-checked daily with the Zonar (wand) system which notes critical defects and the bus is taken off-line. Further, the buses are inspected annually by the state and the company completes 90-day preventative maintenance reports.

Mr. Casper has requested the bus company provide the VIN numbers for all the buses to confirm the age of the buses, to meet 2-3 times per year with the bus company to review bus statuses and to make random checks at the bus yard.

The committee members suggested the information requested from the bus company be provided in writing and each issue be addressed individually.

## **5. ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:47 p.m., a motion was made by Q. Johnson and seconded by R. Coleman-Mitchell to adjourn.

The motion passed unanimously.



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M. Williams, Chair