

Voted: 8-0 that the sum of \$57,942,699 will be raised and appropriated for the support of schools, for the payment of salaries for school district officials and agents, and for the payment of statutory obligations by the district, thereby increasing the total budget for the 2004-2005 fiscal year from \$57,506,320 to \$57,942,699.

Motion was made by Susan Proulx, seconded by Mark Saltsman, and unanimously

Voted: 8-0 that the amount of revenues that come from sources other than the local property tax be increased by \$783,338, to a total of \$31,951,908 for the fiscal year \$2004-2005.

Motion was made by Susan Proulx, seconded by Betty Hoadley, and unanimously

Voted: 8-0 to create an expendable trust fund under the provisions of 198:20-c, to be known as the school buildings renovation and maintenance fund for the purpose of renovation, repair and maintenance of school buildings. Furthermore, to name the School Board as agents to expend and to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) towards this purpose. It is noted that the total school budget for Fiscal Year 2004-2005 will be \$58,042,699.

Capital Facilities Committee chair David Snyder reviewed the October 6 and October 25 committee meeting minutes. The committee looked at a new draft document that included the revisions to the beliefs, mission and standards suggested at the last facilities meeting and reviewed documents relating to facility issues – a draft report on school enrollments, a report on the Heights Community Center, an outline of the advantages and disadvantages of large vs. small schools, and an outline of the advantages and disadvantages of K-2, 3-5 vs. K-5 schools. The committee then engaged in an exercise to prioritize the characteristics they felt most important as they review each of the district's elementary schools. Mr. Snyder noted that this was an exercise only. Various characteristics were discussed. The committee would like information from principals about the percent of students who actually walk to school as opposed to students who are bussed or driven, how the community uses the school buildings, and what their vision is for their schools – currently restricted by space, design, location, etc. The committee also intends to invite Director of Community Education Jeff Siegel to a future meeting to discuss how the community uses the schools.

Mr. Snyder reported that when the committee met again on October 25, a checklist of facility characteristics was reviewed to help evaluate each school. Board member Paul Coddington supplied a list of Dos and Don'ts for School Construction from the State Office of School Building Aid. The methodology for collecting data in school reports as outlined by the architects in the elementary facilities study was described by Director of Facilities and Auxiliary Services Bob Monson. Principals Kathleen Sciarappa and Roger Brooks attended the committee meeting to review the findings of the report about Conant School and Beaver Meadow School, respectively.

Mr. Snyder emphasized that no decisions about school facilities, such as the closing of any school, have been made.

The committee is scheduled to meet again on November 8 to proceed with a review of Broken Ground, Dame and Eastman schools.