

**Park Ridge-Niles School District 64
Community Finance Committee**

February 7, 2012

7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

**District 64 Educational Service Center
164 S. Prospect Ave., Park Ridge**

AGENDA

1. Welcome – Genie Taddeo & Ares Dalianis, Community Coordinators
2. Education finance presentation and Q&A – Tom Johnson, President, Taxpayers' Federation of Illinois
3. Review of available resources
 - District 64 website (www.d64.org -- CFC page, financial pages, Fact Book)
 - Illinois State Board of Education (www.ISBE.net)
 - Financial reports (www.ISBE.net/sfms/html/financial_archive.htm)
 - Illinois Association of School Boards (www.iasb.com)
 - Cook County Clerk – Real Estate & Tax Services (www.cookcountyclerk.com/tsd)
 - “*Essentials of School Finance*” by James B. Fritts, 5th edition, Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB)
4. Discussion of expectations and timelines
5. Work time for study groups:
 - Taxpayer Education #1 – east end
 - 10-Year Financial Projections #2 – east end/middle
 - Financial Transparency #3 – middle/west end
 - Student Fees #4 – west end
 - District Borrowing Opportunities #5 – break room
6. Important Dates
 - Board of Education February 13 COW 7:00 p.m. ESC – Financial Projections (video available about 48 hours afterward; reports online)
 - **Next full CFC meeting – Tuesday, March 13 7:00 p.m. ESC – Study groups share progress reports**

Community Coordinators Contact Information:

Ares Dalianis, agd@franczek.com, 312-786-6163

Genie Taddeo, etaddeo@comcast.net, 847-812-7400

Suggested Norms

- ▶ Keep an open mind
- ▶ Link concerns with solutions
- ▶ Watch your "air time" (2 before me)
- ▶ Stick to agenda
- ▶ Non-judgmental
- ▶ Attentive listening, no sidebars
- ▶ Data-driven
- ▶ Seek wisdom

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Community Finance Committee Study Group 1 – Taxpayer Education

- **How does District 64 raise revenue?**
 - **Enhancing District revenue**
- **Roles of County officials and State**
- **Impact of Tax Cap**
- **Effect of property tax refunds**
- **How does the District spend money?**
- **Role of District website**
- **Education Finance Fact Book**

Suggested Norms

- ▶ Keep an open mind
- ▶ Link concerns with solutions
- ▶ Watch your “air time” (2 before me)
- ▶ Stick to agenda
- ▶ Non-judgmental
- ▶ Attentive listening, no sidebars
- ▶ Data-driven
- ▶ Seek wisdom

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Community Finance Committee Study Group 2 – 10-Year Financial Projections

- **Compare District Strat Plan model and CFC projections.** Have they proven accurate vs. actual performance? Are assumptions similar? Can they be tweaked or simplified for better public understanding? Update scenarios: “likely,” “better” and “worse” than assumed.
- **Identify significant negative/positive impacts (revenues and expenditures) over next 10 years.**
- **Review fund balance policy and its impact.**
- **Develop materials for taxpayer education (website and Fact Book).**

Suggested Norms

- ▶ Keep an open mind
- ▶ Link concerns with solutions
- ▶ Watch your “air time” (2 before me)
- ▶ Stick to agenda
- ▶ Non-judgmental
- ▶ Attentive listening, no sidebars
- ▶ Data-driven
- ▶ Seek wisdom

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Community Finance Committee Study Group 3 – Financial Transparency

- **Budget and Levy hearings**
- **Published and posted information**
- **Reporting to the community**
- **10-year histories of revenue and expenditures**
- **Projections for future spending**
- **Recurring expenses vs. capital improvements**

Suggested Norms

- ▶ Keep an open mind
- ▶ Link concerns with solutions
- ▶ Watch your “air time” (2 before me)
- ▶ Stick to agenda
- ▶ Non-judgmental
- ▶ Attentive listening, no sidebars
- ▶ Data-driven
- ▶ Seek wisdom

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Community Finance Committee Study Group 4 – Student Fees

- **Review of current fees:** How are the fees structured? What does Illinois school law permit? Why did the District structure them this way? Are fees achieving that goal? What are the consumable/ costs covered? Do fees offset these costs? Are any being omitted?
- **What do peer schools charge, what do they cover?**
- **What is the community’s understanding, expectations and responsibility for fees?**
- **How do we communicate to families, taxpayers?**

Suggested Norms

- ▶ Keep an open mind
- ▶ Link concerns with solutions
- ▶ Watch your "air time" (2 before me)
- ▶ Stick to agenda
- ▶ Non-judgmental
- ▶ Attentive listening, no sidebars
- ▶ Data-driven
- ▶ Seek wisdom

Park Ridge-Niles School District 64 Community Finance Committee Study Group 5 – Borrowing Opportunities

- **Facility Master Plan/Maintenance Plan**
- **Identify borrowing options**
- **Favorable interest rate climate**
- **Budget implications**
- **Spending borrowed funds**
- **Pros and cons of borrowing**