

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT 64**

Minutes of the Community Finance Committee
held at 7:00 p.m. January 8, 2013
Hendee Educational Service Center
164 S. Prospect, Park Ridge, IL 60068

Community Coordinator Genie Taddeo called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. Also present were four CFC members, Superintendent Phil Bender, Business Manager Becky Allard, and Assistant Business Manager Brian Imhoff.

The meeting began with a discussion of Study Group 4's progress on the student fee benchmarking project:

▪ **Student Fees (Study Group 4)**

Study Group 4 shared a draft of the PowerPoint project that will be presented to the Board at the January 28 meeting. The group members explained that their goal of this project was to make the Board and parents aware that District 64 student fees are on the high end versus comparable districts. They also hope the district will continue its spend management practices and look for additional areas where cost savings and efficiencies can be recognized.

The group's recommendations were discussed in further detail. If the proposed fee reductions are approved by the Board, the loss in revenue would be approximately \$466,000 per year. Since the Board already eliminated the lunch supervision fees for elementary students beginning in the 2012-2013 school year, there was a concern about where the district will make up the additional student fee revenue without cutting existing programs. The group also debated the proper time and methodology for increasing fees in the future if the recommendations are approved. Prior to the January 28 Board meeting, the group will modify the presentation to show a few scenarios related to the recommendation to reduce fees over a 2-4 year timeframe and the corresponding financial impact to the district each year.

When considering the comprehensive fee analysis performed by the 2009 CFC that established the current fee structure, the current group wondered if District 64 fees should be the same as comparable districts. Several committee members shared their recollection of the background on the conclusions from the 2009 CFC fee study and the previous committee's justification for the student fees recommended at that time. One of the main selling points to obtain community support for the previous referendum was that District 64 parents were contributing their fair share to improve the district's declining financial situation by paying higher student fees than comparable districts.

Study Group 4 also suggested that the district perform a full cost analysis of student fees every 4 years. The group identified that perhaps the next project for a CFC student fees group would be to complete a cost analysis for specific cost centers or programs by building within the district. This sort of analysis first would likely require a restructuring of the district's general ledger along with additional training for budget users and department heads.

Next Steps

Study Group 4 will finalize its presentation documents by January 22 in preparation for the January 28 Board meeting. Genie and Ares will solicit ideas from committee members for possible future CFC projects to bring to the Board for consideration.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.
Minutes submitted by Brian Imhoff