



# Cary Community Consolidated School District 26

## Board of Education

Administration Center  
2115 Crystal Lake Road, Cary, IL 60013

### Board of Education Meeting Minutes for Monday, September 21, 2009

The Board of Education of Cary Community Consolidated School District, McHenry and Lake Counties, Cary, Illinois, held a regularly scheduled meeting on, Monday, September 21, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at Cary Junior High School, 2109 Crystal Lake Road, Cary, Illinois, 60013.

## Minutes

### Part I

### Public Hearing on 2009-2010 Budget

#### 1. Organization

##### 1.1 Call to order

The Public Hearing was called to order by Mr. Ruelle at 7:05 p.m.

##### 1.2 Roll Call

Board Members Physically Present: Stephen Bush, Dave Ruelle, Chris Jenner, Chris Spoerl, Vicki Pesch, Jason Larry, Julie Jette

Board Members Absent: None

#### 2. Public Hearing for the 2009-2010 Budget

##### 2.1 Presentation of Budget

Mr. Coleman explained that the Board voted to put the budget on display at the District office and at the Library for 30 days.

Mrs. Ferrier explained that the budget that has been on display has not changed. The bottom line is a 1.8 million dollar deficit for FY10.

Mr. Larry asked what our plans were to cover the cash. Mrs. Ferrier answered that what we have done in the past is taken out Tax Anticipation Warrants (TAW). These are short-term loans. Every year we start borrowing earlier and for larger amounts. Mrs. Ferrier examines the cash flow chart and then determines when the Tax Anticipation Warrant might be needed. She has a meeting with the Bank on October 1<sup>st</sup>, to start this discussion. Right now we have a 5 million dollar warrant that is due at the end of October, 2009. This is from last year. She is looking at probably taking out a new TAW in November. The Bank has not set our limit at this point but we are confident that we will have a limit large enough to cover our needs.

Mr. Spoerl would like to know if there has been any kind of adjustment to interest rates based on the risk of the District. Mrs. Ferrier answered that she will be discussing that with them. She is meeting with someone from Harris Bank. She will be comparing Harris with Fifth/Third to make sure that we are getting competitive rates.

Mrs. Ferrier added that in reviewing the Budget she contacted the State to find out what would happen if the District needed to file an extension. She found out that no extension can be filed per the State statute. She then contacted our attorney who said that if we were not to pass the budget by September 30<sup>th</sup>, we would be in violation of State Statute. This could open us up to a tax rate objection and a possible fine.

## 2.2 **Comments from Public**

There was no comment from the Public.

## 2.3 **Adjournment**

**Mr. Ruelle asked for a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing for the 2009/2010 budget.**

**The motion was made by Mrs. Jette and seconded by Mr. Larry.**

**Voting Aye: Mr. Bush, Mr. Ruelle, Mr. Jenner, Mr. Spoerl, Mrs. Pesch, Mr. Larry, Mrs. Jette**

**Voting No:**

**Absent: None**

# Part II

## 1. Organization

### 1.1 **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Ruelle at 7:14 p.m.

### 1.2 **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

### 1.3 **Roll Call**

Board Members Physically Present: Chris Jenner, Chris Spoerl, Jason Larry, Dave Ruelle, Stephen Bush, Julie Jette, Vicki Pesch

Board Members Absent: None

## 2. Community Input

**Mr. Randy Lawrence, 370 Oakmont Drive, Cary, IL** – Mr. Lawrence read a prepared statement to the Board concerning his views of the history of the financial state of the District. He posed some questions to the current board and administration and warned the audience that change is coming, and with it conditions that many of us may find uncomfortable. He challenged the Board and the administration to live within their means – to demonstrate fiduciary responsibility, with the same effort and dedication they make to curricular and instructional responsibility.

### 3. Open Forum

#### 3.1 **Board**

##### FOIA Requests –

Mr. Brian McSherry requested all bid records, bid announcements, bid advertisements, work orders, invoices, receipts of payment, random drug testing policy and certified copies of payroll for Comfort Services for HVAC repair work done for District 26 from 8-1-2007 to the present. His FOIA request, our response asking for additional time and his signed receipt stating that he had viewed the records that he had requested are included in the board's packet.

Jami Murray requested the snow removal and ice control bid documents for 2008-2009 along with the snow removal invoices for the winter of 2008-2009 season. The FOIA request and signed receipt stating that these documents had been made available for viewing on September 1, 2009 are included in the packet. Both FOIA requests have been properly responded to.

Mr. Jenner reported that his 2009 tour of the facilities is going to start next week. He has done this every year for the past four years. One of the Board's jobs is to inspect our facilities and he has really gotten a lot out of seeing all of our buildings in operation. He is generally doing these on Tuesday mornings if anyone would like to join him. Just shoot him an e-mail and he will provide the details.

Mr. Spoerl noted with sadness the passing of Julie Lehman the past week. He did not know her personally or work with her but all of the Board members serve to express their passion for education, desire to make the community a better place and their willingness to put themselves out there to do so. Those are the ties that bind the board. Last week we lost a person who was willing to put herself out there to make the community a better place.

On a happier note, he talked about the Washington D.C. and Springfield trips. The Washington D.C. planning meetings are starting this week. They are hoping for a good turnout despite the economy. That trip will be the Martin Luther King weekend in January.

The Springfield trip will be in February over the president's day weekend. This will mark the fifth year that the foundation has been working on these trips. As the Foundation Liaison to the Board he feels that it is important to bring it up. Also another foundation activity is the 5K shuffle which will be held on October 3rd, at 8:00 a.m. He encouraged everyone who had not had a chance to sign up for it to do so.

Mr. Bush echoed Mr. Spoerl's comments in regard to Mrs. Lehman. She put herself out there and was involved. He met her almost seven years ago when he first came on the Board and she was actively involved then and stayed actively involved as long as she could. She deserves our respect and appreciation and a place in our memory for what she accomplished and what she did.

Mrs. Jette complimented the curriculum night at Prairie Hill. She stated that it was very nicely run. Teachers did a very professional job of talking to the parents and had nice presentations. It was very informative.

Mr. Ruelle echoed Mr. Bush's and Mr. Spoerl's comments as well as the feelings of everyone else on the Board, we will all miss Mrs. Lehman very much. You struggle to find the right words in a situation like this because it was far too early for her to be passing from us. He encouraged anyone who has contact with the family or can help in any way to remember that she gave willingly to the community and we should return back to them wherever we can.

### 4. Treasurer's Report

#### 4.1 **Report from Finance & Operations**

Mrs. Ferrier presented the Treasurer's Report in a power point presentation. She pointed out that the District had 10 million dollars in revenue and 2 million dollars in operating expenses. She pointed out that the prior year's figures had only 2 million in revenue. That is because we are taking half of our tax levy and recognizing it at that time which is the accrual basis accounting system. This is the system that we are presently operating under. This is in line with what we should be doing with our revenue. She also pointed out that we have \$658,000 paid out in salaries. We all know that we have paid out more than that amount between July and August. This again, is from the accrual basis of accounting. When you are looking at the figures that are presented on a monthly basis you are looking at true FY10 figures. There is no mixing of last year's figures with this year's.

Mrs. Ferrier explained the major receipts from this month. She explained that “major” was anything over \$25,000.

Mr. Ruelle asked when the July/August salaries would be recognized. Mrs. Ferrier answered that they were recognized in last year’s budget. She explained that you take the teacher’s salaries, the four pay-periods that they would get in July and August, and you recognize those in the prior year. She then explained how that is done.

Mrs. Ferrier listed the major expenditures for this month. She explained again that “major” was anything over \$25,000. She went through the major expenditures and explained which ones were normal monthly expenditures and which ones were special cases.

Mrs. Ferrier summarized that at the end of August 31, 2009, the District had an overall net surplus for all Funds totaling \$9,213,107. Total revenues were at 36% of budget and total expenditures were at 7% of budget, with salaries and benefits tracking at 3% and 6% of budget respectively. In the September report the accruals will be recognized and the Board should see the salaries be more in line with 25%.

She then gave a summary of the cash flow. The District began the year with \$6.5 million and, as of the end of August 31, 2009, a cash balance of \$3.4 million remained. This represents a decrease in cash reserves of 3.1 million. Some of that is due to late payments from the State. She is expecting those to come in soon.

Mr. Larry asked if Mrs. Ferrier felt if we were on, at, or behind budget so far in the first couple months? Mrs. Ferrier answered that it is hard to judge that because we are comparing last year’s figures, which were not on an accrual basis, to this year. Levy is a major portion of our revenue and we are not going to know how much of the levy is not going to be received. You don’t always receive all the revenue from the levy. You receive roughly 97-99% of it. She won’t have a good idea if levy is going to come in on target until December or January when those final levies come in for 2008. As far as salaries and expenditures, she will have a better handle on where we are at when she completes the September Treasurer’s Report. She will do the quarterly accruals then and have a better idea of where we are tracking.

Mr. Bush stated that we still have a budget for this year and we should be able to determine how we are tracking against that budget. Mrs. Ferrier agreed and explained that the presentation she gives always explains the percentage.

Mr. Spoerl stated that the real question is that we don’t know what percent of budget we should be at this time of year knowing that salaries are paid at different rates or that supplies are ordered more at the beginning of the year than the end, etc..

Mrs. Ferrier answered that this is one of the reasons that she tries to put up prior year figures for the Committee to compare those against. It was pointed out that because of the accrual system there are significant differences between this year’s figures and last year’s. Mrs. Ferrier answered that she could not speak to why the previous business manager operated on a strictly cash basis. He let the auditors do the accruals and make the adjustments. She can tell the Committee that when she came she had to back out some of the FY08 figures and enter the FY09 figures. That means that you will have some differences if you are comparing last year to this year but they will be explainable.

Mr. Spoerl asked if there was another measure that could possibly be used so that the Board can determine quickly and easily whether or not we are on budget. Sometimes the Board is asked to approve funding on a request and the first question is “Where do we stand budget wise?” It would be helpful for them to know this.

Mrs. Ferrier explained that the 20 page Treasurer’s Report grows to 24 pages on a quarterly basis. This is because she takes every single item that is not hitting 25%, or a range thereof, and goes through and identifies where she thinks the District is and why she thinks that is occurring. Those types of things are not done on a month to month basis; they will be done on a quarter to quarter one.

Mr. Ruelle asked what Mrs. Ferrier suggests community members should do who are trying to track how the District is doing financially on a month to month basis – this year vs. last year. He feels that there are a fair number of people who are trying to track what is happening. He doesn’t think that what Mrs. Ferrier is describing right now is not convertible.

Mrs. Ferrier explained that this is why in her presentations she tries to go through and explain why we have 9.6 million in the local revenue vs. the 1.4 from last year.

Mr. Coleman questioned why we are doing the accruals now instead of at a later date? Is it so that at the end of the year we don't realize that we are over or under budget. Is it more of a realistic approach to looking at the budget from month to month?

Mrs. Ferrier answered that it is. When you are looking at the year in total you are looking at where we truly stand. When the Board is comparing the expenditures vs. the revenues when you operate on a cash basis, it is not an apples to apples comparison all the time. For instance, what is going to happen at the end of the quarter is that we will report to SEDOM our expenditures for that quarter and request reimbursement. Those expenditures have been extended but the revenue has not been received yet from SEDOM. What will happen is that we will book a receivable for the revenue so that when we look at the revenue side we will see the revenue that we should receive that is comparable to the expenditures that we have already spent. That is what we are trying to do here. We are trying to keep things apples to apples.

There was confusion about comparing the new accrual system budget with last year's cash basis one. The feeling was that we are now comparing apples and oranges. There was much discussion about this.

Mrs. Ferrier asked for one more month and she feels that the Board will see the information that they want.

Mr. Bush asked for time to review this further. He does not understand and that makes him uncomfortable. He will explore it further. He does not believe that this was the explanation that the Board was given previously (not by Mrs. Ferrier). He is going to go back and dig a little further and see if he can understand. If he can't explain it to himself, how can he explain it to the public? Mrs. Ferrier offered to have him come in and meet with her and they can discuss it.

Mr. Spoerl asked if they could discuss this a little further at the Finance Committee Meeting so that everyone will understand.

#### **4.2 Update on Progress of Audit**

The auditors have received almost all of the information that is required to issue a draft. Mrs. Ferrier is expecting a draft that will be presented no later than October 12<sup>th</sup>. We are waiting for one additional piece of information and the audit will be complete. The Draft is pretty much the same as the final copy. The final copy is what is done after anything that the Board objects to or brings up to the auditors in the Draft is clarified.

Mr. Coleman explained that part of the audit process is that the Board meets with the auditors. He suggested that once we receive word that the audit is complete we will set up a Special Board Meeting to meet with the auditors as a full Board.

Mr. Ruelle pointed out that in the past it has been the Finance Committee that would meet with the auditors. Anyone else that is interested is free to attend. Mr. Coleman will talk to Mr. Jenner about the date for the meeting to review the audit.

### **5. Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Coleman echoed Mrs. Jette's comments thanking the Administration and the Teachers for providing Parent Orientations the last couple weeks. Those are now complete. He was able to attend the one at the Jr. High and appreciates the effort that goes in to clarify the expectations and the Learning Expectations for students.

We completed our first half-day School Improvement Day this past week. It was very successful. This is a day for teachers to gather and collaborate as teams to work on school improvement activities, evaluate Learning Expectations and set up some targets for the Learning Expectations. The Professional Development Committee is the one that recommended this type of a program and will continue to evaluate this process and hopefully improve it for this next year. Mr. Coleman told the Board that there was a new law that was passed regarding the posting of salaries and compensation for Administration. Public Act 96-0434, took effect on August 13, 2009 and requires every school district in Illinois to create a current itemized salary compensation report for every employee holding an administrative certificate and working in that

capacity. The law further requires each district to post the Administrators Salary Compensation Report on its website and present it to the board each year. We have created the report, it has been reviewed by our attorneys and it is in your board packet in the information section. No action is required by the board.

There is also another Public Act - Public Act 96-0266, which takes effect January 1, 2010. It will require school boards to report salary and compensation of teachers to the State Board.

The Cary 5K Shuffle Family Run or walk to Benefit District 26 Schools has been scheduled for Saturday, October 3, at Cary Junior High School. It will start at 8:00 a.m. The race is being organized by the Cary 26 Education Foundation. Families can sign up for the race at [www.signmeup.com/66328](http://www.signmeup.com/66328).

Mr. Coleman finished his report by giving a couple of calendar notes for October:

Friday, October 9 – Teacher Institute Day – Non-attendance day for students, and  
Monday, October 12 – Columbus Day – State Mandated Holiday- No School.

## 6. Curriculum Report

### 6.1 Summer School

Mrs. Dudek announced that Learning Expectations are now posted on the website. We are several content areas ahead of where we thought we would be at this time. We are still working in some of the areas – Social Studies and also adding some technology. We will continue to look at those and revise those as teachers work with them this year. We have a lot of work ahead of us but we have made a great start. She applauded the teachers who have worked to get it up and running.

Mr. Coleman brought up our first half-day School Improvement Day. The use of data has tremendously increased in our District and she applauds the teachers for that. The teachers are very involved in getting on those websites, using that data and trying to apply it to instruction, intervention and enrichment. It is not easy. It takes a lot of time.

We received our Media Cart Grant from the Foundation. It is very exciting. Last year at the Caribbean event we were working toward wireless technology. We have revamped that direction and are trying to put at least one laptop projector/media cart into each of our six schools. The grant was approved and those carts and laptops will be ordered and set up for each of the schools. They will add a nice addition to the instructional format. She thanked the Foundation and stated what a great resource it is for our District.

Mrs. Dudek pointed out the Summer School report that was in the Board packet. It was prepared by Mrs. Reiche, our Curriculum Coordinator. This is basically an overview of the Bilingual and Special Education programs this summer as well as information on staff, enrollment and then feedback from teachers and parents.

Mrs. Jette asked if this was the same survey that they used last year. Mrs. Dudek answered that it was. The feedback was very good both times. There was only one negative about the new four-day format. Most of the comments were very favorable by both teachers and parents in case they wanted to take vacations and things like that.

We did have more positive comments concerning the support from Mrs. Reiche and also the curriculum for the ELL program. The curriculum this year was much more consistent and aligned with the current curriculum that we are using and also with our Learning Expectations.

## 7. Committee Reports

### 7.1 Finance Committee Report

Mr. Jenner reported on the Finance Committee meeting held September 14, 2009. The meeting started with recognition of Mrs. Lehman. Mr. Ruelle addressed the committee and the administration regarding the FY2010/2011 budgets. Minutes from the August meeting were approved. There was a review of the bills and a discussion of the 2011 budget. Mr. Coleman

established a timeline for working through all the things we need to do to achieve a balanced budget for 2011. The discussion this month was about the Expense Reduction Plan, we talked about non-mandated programs and also the potential for revenue enhancement (i.e. a referendum). Mr. Spoerl presented a Balanced Budget Resolution for FY2011 that we will be discussing and voting on tonight.

Mr. Coleman gave us some information about consolidation options and also reduced attorney fees for 2011. Mrs. Ferrier presented us with a way to save a few thousand dollars in banking services. We looked at technology fees vs. expenses and reviewed the Treasurer's Report. Mr. Coleman is slated to bring us some significant recommendations to reduce our 2011 expenses at the October Finance meeting. This meeting will be Tuesday, October 13.

## **7.2 Policy Committee Report**

Mr. Jenner reported on the Policy Committee meeting held August 24, 2009. The minutes from the July meeting were approved. We had tabled some policies that had been put in the July Board packet for approval. There were some issues with them that were straightened out. They will be presented to the Board as a section 8 tonight. Mr. Coleman wrapped up his Administrative Alignment of revised policies and we are keeping up on that from now on. We reviewed a number of policies from section 4 which is the Business Operations section. There were basically some minor changes that were recommended by the law firm. Several of them are being presented to the Board tonight for approval as a section 8. None of the policies that are being presented tonight are significantly changed. They have just been changed to be brought in line with the law.

## **7.3 Sites and Facilities Committee Report**

Mr. Bush will report on the Sites and Facilities Committee meeting held August 24, 2009. The minutes from the previous month were approved. It was Mr. Larry's initial meeting with the Committee. We had an update from Mr. Fields on where we are on the Life/Safety projects and the extensions that the Committee is requesting on those. There was a discussion on the state of technology and where we are on that. There was also a discussion on land appraisals. Some things have changed from what was discussed in the meeting. Mr. Bush would like to see that discussion continued in the next Sites meeting. Mr. Fields is pursuing a number of alternatives looking at ways to save costs in a number of areas, utilities being one. He is also taking a look at mechanical services. Mr. Coleman talked about air conditioning and heating and he has implemented the changes discussed. Evaluation of lawn care services was also discussed to see how we could possibly save money. Finally, we talked about the proposals that are going to be put out to take a look at the possibility of out sourcing custodial services. The next meeting will be a week from tonight at 7:00 p.m.

## **8. Consent Agenda**

Included are those items that are routine in nature. Should any Board member wish to remove an item from the Consent Agenda the item will be discussed at the end of Section 9.

### **8.1 Minutes from Previous Meetings**

Meeting minutes requiring board approval include the **Closed Session Minutes** from the August 17, August 20 and August 24, 2009 Board Meetings and the **Open Session Minutes** from the August 17, 2009 Regular Board of Education meeting and the Special Board of Education meetings on August 10, August 11, August 20 and August 24, 2009.

### **8.2 Monthly Bills and Payroll**

Total **Bills and Payroll** for **Board Approval** on September 21, 2009 are in the amount of **\$1,907,250.16.**

### 8.3 Employment

The following employments are contingent upon satisfactory review of the Employee Criminal History Information Report.

<b>Existing Positions</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Hire Date</b>
Ellen Ambrosia	Lunch/Playground Supervisor	Briargate School	August, 2009
Shayne Birkmeier	2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher	Deer Path Elementary	August 24, 2009
Candace Blank	School Bus Driver	Transportation	Sept. 1, 2009
Jennifer Boudart	Supervisor	Deer Path School	August 25, 2009
Debra Claypool	Playground/Lunch Supervisor	Prairie Hill School	Sept. 11, 2009
Laura DeBold	Special Education Paraprofessional	Briargate	August 25, 2009
Kelly Dobbins	Playground/Lunch Supervisor	Prairie Hill School	August 20, 2009
Debra Ferrara	Playground/Lunch Supervisor	Prairie Hill School	August 20, 2009
Maureen Kick	Special Education Paraprofessional	Prairie Hill School	August 25, 2009
Rachel Lenell	P.M. Kindergarten Teacher	Deer Path School	August 24, 2009
Antoinette Schaefer	One-on-One Instructional Aide	Maplewood School	August 31, 2009
Sarah Shea	Speech/Language Paraprofessional	Prairie Hill School	Sept. 1, 2009
Cali Sorensen	Playground/Lunch Supervisor	Prairie Hill School	August 20, 2009
Blanca Sosa	Special Education Aide	Deer Path School	August 26, 2009

<b>New Position/Expansion</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Hire Date</b>
Tina Snell	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Teacher	Briargate	August, 2009

<b>New Position</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Hire Date</b>
Dana Feezel	Kindergarten Classroom Aide	Maplewood	August 24, 2009

<b>Expansion/Transfer Position</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Hire Date</b>
Nancy Siles	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Classroom Teacher	Deer Path School	August 25, 2009

<b>Transfer Position</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Hire Date</b>
Helen Elaine Pierce	Special Education Paraprofessional	Deer Path School	August 24, 2009

<b>Extension of Current Contract</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Building</b>	<b>Extension Date</b>
Steve Fields	Coordinator of Operations	Ad. Center	June 30, 2010

#### 8.4 Resignations

Resignations			
Name	Position	Building	Effective Date
Carolyn Heffner	Lunchroom/recess Supervisor	Deer Path	August 18, 2009
Sylvia Giessinger	At Risk Paraprofessional/Special Ed 1-1 Paraprofessional	Briargate	August 17, 2009

#### 8.5 Retirements

Retirements		
Name	Position	Retirement Year
Juan Aguirre	Head Custodian/Deer Path School	June 30, 2010
Nadine O'Malley	Administrative Assistant to the Director of Finance and Operations	June 30, 2010
Linda Sherwood	Executive Administrative Assistant to the Director of Special Services	June 30, 2010
Barbara Glowacki	Certified School Nurse/Prairie Hill	2013/2014 School Year

#### 8.6 Revisions to Glossary 1:05, Policies 2:250e, Policy 4:140, 4:30, 4:50, 4:70, 4:100, 4:110, 4:120 and 4:160

There were some minor verbiage changes to these policies as recommended by our attorney's.

#### 8.7 Approval of the Application for Recognition of Schools

The Applications for Recognition of Schools is a routine approval by the Board that is made each year in September. Each school has filled out applications and all applications will be submitted to the Regional Office of Education by September 30, 2009.

**Recommended Motion: Mr. Ruelle asked for a motion to approve the following: 8.1, 8.2, 8.3, 8.4, 8.5, 8.6, and 8.7.**

**Motion made by Vicki Pesch and seconded by Julie Jette**

Mr. Jenner pointed out that some of the minutes in section 8.1 did not have adjournment times. He will e-mail Mr. Coleman those times and would like them added to the minutes. The minutes will be approved pending those changes.

**Voting Aye: Mr. Jenner, Mr. Spoerl, Mrs. Pesch, Mr. Larry, Mrs. Jette, Mr. Bush, Mr. Ruelle**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion Carried**

### 9. Agenda Items Requiring Discussion and Board Approval

#### 9.1 Recommendation to Adopt the FY2010 Budget

Mr. Coleman explained that we have placed the budget on display for 30 days. We are at the point now where the Board votes to adopt the budget. There have not been any changes with the budget that is on display since the last time it was looked at. The recommendation is to adopt the

budget at this time.

Mr. Jenner stated that he was in the same place that he was four years ago. Mr. Spoerl explained that he was elected on the premise of a balanced budget. He came on board recognizing that there was really nothing that could be done to prevent this situation this year but this is the last unbalanced budget that he votes for.

Mr. Larry added that he feels that the Board all has its heart and head in the right spot to be fiscally responsible. If they managed their personal finances this way they would be on the street. He feels that they are backed into a corner as a Board. There is no real choice but to approve the FY10 budget tonight but he agrees with Chris that we have to do what it takes as a Board, Administration and community to come together and figure this thing out. If it takes nightly public meetings to figure it out, he is committed to doing that.

Mr. Bush reiterated that this represents the maximum that this administration is authorized to spend in this fiscal year without further approval from the Board. He said that we have said this before and it has been exceeded. It can't be this year! He feels that anything extra that is brought before this Board that increases the total of the budget is going to have an offsetting item for it to be in the budget.

Mrs. Jette echoed the thought of the other Board members.

Mr. Ruelle repeated what he said before. The Board is looking at approving the deficit budget and as far as he is concerned they need to start cutting expenses now because the longer we wait, the more we have to cut. It is a difficult position to be in.

**Mr. Ruelle asked for a motion to approve the FY2010 Budget as presented.**

**It was moved by Mrs. Jette and seconded by Mr. Spoerl.**

Mr. Jenner noted that some of what he just heard stated he has heard last year and the year before. He means no offense but the people that have been here have said the same things for at least the last two years.

**Voting Aye: Mr. Spoerl, Mrs. Pesch, Mr. Larry, Mrs. Jette, Mr. Bush**

**Voting No: Mr. Ruelle, Mr. Jenner**

**Absent: None**

**Motion Carried**

## **9.2 Banking Services**

Review of the Investment/banking services has yielded that a switch from Fifth Third to Harris Bank could provide a cost savings of \$6,000 to \$12,000 annually.

Mr. Coleman explained that we are trying to look at everything we can to try to save money for this coming year. He asked T. to review the banking services and we were able to choose a different service that would provide some savings for this next year. The Finance Committee was in agreement to bring this to the Board tonight and vote on changing the service from Fifth Third Bank to Harris Bank in Cary.

Mrs. Ferrier explained that we are not locked in to Harris Bank. All tonight's action will do is to allow the District to open a bank account at Harris Bank. There is no time limit on how long we have to keep it there. Harris Bank has offered us Illinois Public Treasurers' Investment Pool (IPTIP) rates as well as no fees.

**Mr. Ruelle asked for a motion to approve Harris Bank as the District's Bank and depository.**

**Mr. Spoerl moved and Mr. Bush seconded the motion.**

**Voting Aye: Mrs. Pesch, Mr. Larry, Mrs. Jette, Mr. Bush, Mr. Ruelle, Mr. Jenner**

**Mr. Spoerl**

**Voting No:**

**Absent: None**

**Motion Carried**

### **9.3 Balanced Budget Resolution for FY2011**

Mr. Jenner explained that Mr. Spoerl presented this Balanced Budget resolution to the Finance Committee and the Committee was in consensus to recommend that the Board approve this resolution.

Mr. Spoerl explained that he felt it was important to have a resolution out there. He realizes that we have communicated this verbally to the administration and community members that have attended the meetings. He thought it would be beneficial to have on record with community and administration a clear, written communication which states exactly what the Board's intentions are. It will have all Board members on record and serve to refocus us.

It was pointed out that there is a Balanced Budget Policy that already exists but as a Board we have gotten away from it. This is a step in the right direction and sends a good message to the community by stating that we will be operating in a fiscally responsible manner.

Mr. Ruelle asked if the Resolution had any binding effect? He is behind this 100% but his concern is that there are no consequences associated with it not occurring. There are no teeth to it. It is a Resolution and it repeats what has been stated any number of times before.

Mrs. Pesch restated that this is no different than what is already in policy. This will just hold each Board member individually accountable by agreeing to the principal.

Mr. Ruelle agreed and Mr. Jenner read Policy 4:10 about a balance budget. Mr. Ruelle pointed out that there is a cover sheet to the budget that each Board member is required to sign after the budget is approved.

Mr. Jenner pointed out that what would be signed tonight with the budget was for the 2010 budget and it indicates how each Board member voted. If they voted "yes" then they would sign one column and if they voted "no" then they would sign the other one. Mr. Spoerl's resolution is for the 2011 Budget and this is the time that we can actively effect that budget. We can't do much for the 2010 Budget at this time.

Mr. Larry pointed out that there are a lot of new Board members now and he likes the idea of personally signing up to fix the problem.

Mr. Ruelle read the proposed Resolution.

**Mr. Ruelle asked for a motion that that the Board approve the Resolution Requiring Cary District 26 to have a Balanced Budget for the 2010-2011 School year.**

**The motion was made by Jason Larry and seconded by Vicki Pesch.**

**Voting Aye: Mr. Larry, Mrs. Jette, Mr. Bush, Mr. Ruelle, Mr. Jenner, Mr. Spoerl, Mrs. Pesch,**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion Carried**

### **9.4 ARRA Technology Purchase**

Mrs. Thomas explained that we have money that is specified for Special Education that has not been supplanted by the State. We have almost \$800,000 that we are allowed to spend on one-time purchases for the betterment of several different categories – professional development, technology and assisted technology and a few other areas. We can use this money over the course of three years. Last year was the first year, but since we were not aware of the money until April, it would have been almost impossible to spend it in that short time period. We are planning to spend about \$500,000 this year with the remainder for next year. We are looking at the purchase of technology laptop carts. The purchase of the carts is really for the intervention programs. We are going to buy two carts for the elementary schools. Each school will get an 8 – laptop cart and a 30-laptop cart. The Jr. High and Prairie Hill will get the 8 laptop cart and then two 30-laptop carts. This is because they are larger than the elementary buildings.

These carts are being purchased for the Intervention Program but when they are not being used in these programs, they can become mobile labs. They have to spend the money in Special

Education but they try to find ways to support everyone with the purchase.

The hang up right now is policy 4:60 that requires any technology purchase over \$10,000 to go up for bid. They are caught up a little bit with the rules around the Stimulus Money. They are not allowed to obligate any funds. If we are to go out to bid before the money is released that will be construed as obligating funds so we can no longer use the Stimulus money to purchase it. We would need to sit and wait until they release the money before we can make the purchase.

Mrs. Thomas stated that they have gotten quotes already from one company that they have used primarily. Another concern is standardization of the equipment. If we don't have the same equipment across the board, it makes it harder for the teachers to have training in all the different types of equipment and makes it harder for the technology staff to keep up on the repairs that are needed and the updates that we do. They have designed the purchase of this technology to have minimal impact to the other technology that is in the District.

What they are requesting at this time, is instead of using the bid process, which is what we do primarily to make sure that we are getting the best deal, is to go out for quotes. A bid process takes quite a bit longer. We cannot even go out to bid until the State releases our money. We can go to anyone at any time and ask for a quote. It does not obligate our funds in any way. We can actually get quotes from several vendors and work with them to negotiate the best deal.

Mr. Jenner asked if the entire \$500,000 is being dedicated to these laptop carts. Mrs. Thomas answered that it was not. The laptop carts will cost about \$260,000. This also includes the wireless capability.

Mr. Ruelle questioned the State statute of bidding on anything over the \$25,000 limit. Mrs. Thomas answered that because it was a Federal Grant Program the federal grant rules apply to it – not State statute.

Mr. Ruelle wanted to make sure that there also were not any purchase orders until the money is in the Bank...not promised but in the Bank. Mrs. Thomas assured Mr. Ruelle that would be the case.

Mrs. Thomas explained that in the ARRA guidelines for tracking how we have spent the money there are some requirements. We would not accept a quote from a company that could not meet the standard that the Federal Government has set.

Mr. Jenner asked how many additional quotes she would get. Mrs. Thomas answered that she would guess at least three. They would look at as many companies that would be able to do the standardized equipment that they are looking for. If they would get five it would be great.

Mr. Coleman pointed out that the biggest advantage is that we can start doing these interventions earlier. We are already a month into the school year. If we would have to go out to bid it would take another month to a month and a half before we received the laptops. That is another two and a half months that these kids are not receiving interventions that they need. By going through the quote process we will be able to accelerate that time.

**Mr. Ruelle asked for a motion to approve that at least three quotes be required in the purchase of the laptop carts using ARRA funds if allowed by State statute and pending legal review.**

**The motion was made by Mrs. Pesch and seconded by Mrs. Jette.**

Mr. Spoerl asked about the inventory system the school district has to track the laptops to make sure that they stay within the School District. Mrs. Ferrier answered that technology has a labeling system that monitors where they are. The inventory listing is then given to our auditors each year. She is not sure how often the inventory is done.

Mr. Coleman answered that we are required to do an inventory each year.

**Voting Aye: Mrs. Jette, Mr. Bush, Mr. Ruelle, Mr. Jenner, Mr. Spoerl, Mrs. Pesch, Mr. Larry,**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion Carried**

## 10. Topics for Discussion

### 10.1 School Registration Deadline

Mr. Ruelle requested that this be put on the agenda. In the late summer we had a recommendation come before the board a week before school started to add two additional teachers because of late registrations. The District was put in a position where they didn't have all their numbers early enough to know what their staffing requirements were. He wanted to discuss tonight the possibility of establishing a registration deadline – say July 1<sup>st</sup>. Anyone who would register after July 1<sup>st</sup>, would be placed according to where there is room in the District, not necessarily what school they would normally be in. It would allow us to put students where we have classroom capacity rather than having to increase the staff head count because that particular school had a bump in class sizes because of late registration.

Mr. Spoerl asked if we would be obligated to transport that student? Mr. Ruelle stated that he did not believe that we would, but that would be subject to legal review.

Mrs. Jette asked what would happen if someone just moved into the district. Mr. Ruelle answered that this would be more procedural. The Superintendent would still be the authority on these situations.

Mr. Coleman explained that currently we try to do registration before kids get out of school. This year's deadline to return the registration material was May 29<sup>th</sup>. The only penalty that we have is if they don't pay their registration by August 1<sup>st</sup>, they pay a late fee of about \$25.

Mrs. Pesch pointed out that the problem really is not the returning students. It is the first grade and kindergarten students that have not previously attended school in District 26. They are the grade levels that are the most fluid.

Mr. Coleman explained that part of the reason our first grade is so fluid is that some parents put their kids out in other kindergarten services in the area. They don't necessarily notify us that they are coming and just show up. Mr. Coleman will check with the State but he believes that we would be responsible to provide transportation. He thinks that we are required by law to transport any student over 1.5 miles from the school, regardless of when they register.

Mr. Jenner pointed out the law that states that if you live in a certain area you have to attend that school. That would be an area that we would have to ask for a waiver on.

Mr. Coleman explained that if circumstances arise that they can't attend their "home" school, then they can be assigned to another building. The law is really in place to let community members know that they just can't choose a school.

Mr. Spoerl feels that it is a great idea, as long as it can be approved by legal and we can get the appropriate waivers. Mr. Spoerl felt that when the vote came up to add the two additional first grade teachers at the last Board meeting we were between a rock and a hard place. He pointed out that if that comes up next August he sincerely doubts that we can vote the same way. Something like this would give us a little more leeway to allocate our resources a little more efficiently.

There was discussion about how we get the registration information out to the preschool parents.

Mr. Coleman pointed out that this would involve changing policy. This would have to go back to the Policy Committee. Mr. Ruelle felt that we would first need to run it by the legal department to see if there is any merit.

## 10.2 IASB School Board Conference

Mr. Coleman explained that he put this in the packet for Board members to look at. The Illinois Association of School Boards puts on a three day conference with the business officials and the Illinois Association of Administrators each year in Chicago. The Board has chosen not to join membership with IASB, but he felt that it is important for the Board to know that there are opportunities out there to receive training. It is a three day conference that starts November 20, and goes through the 22<sup>nd</sup>. It is mainly open to School Board members, superintendents and administrative staff. He has been down there one time and it is a great opportunity. Most of the panels and workshops are put on by school board members or administrators that are dealing with some particular problem in their school district. It is an opportunity to meet other people in your field and look at the issues that they are having and discuss them. There is also training for all those categories of employees as well. The cost is \$340 per person for the three days of the workshop. You can also break it up and just go one day.

Mr. Coleman feels that this is an important conference. Many of the Districts are going through the same issues that we are going through. He feels that it is important that we see what other people are doing and network with other people that are in the same situation that we are in.

Mr. Ruelle asked anyone that is interested in possibly going to let Mr. Coleman know. If there are several people that are interested then we can have a Board discussion about it and go from there.

Mr. Jenner stated that he has been to two of these and has read the handbook that he has received for the last four. He commented that it says that it is one of the largest State Education Conferences. He did not really find it to be that much about education. If you go down to the exhibit hall only about 8-10% of the exhibits have something to do with Education. Other than that it was people who manufacture floors, bleachers, transportation, food service, etc. There was not much about actual learning.

Mr. Ruelle pointed out that he felt that there were some useful seminars for board members that might be helpful for the new board members that have not been through this before.

## 11. Public Input on Future Items

Teresa Slavik questioned the good intentions of the Balanced Budget Resolution. She just feels that there is no accountability attached to it. The Board has been talking about a balanced budget since 2002. She feels that this is just another piece of paper and that Board responsibility is the real key. She is trying to find out what happened in the past so we don't repeat the same mistakes. She is asking questions but feels that she is not getting answers and that is frustrating for her. She hopes that the Board will continue to be transparent and answer the community's questions. She is asking for educated and informed decision making.

Doug Danley – 649 Krenz – He attended the last finance committee meeting. Mr. Bush had questions about not understanding the numbers in the Treasurer's Report. He was confused and didn't know how some of the numbers were reached. He felt that same way and appreciated Mr. Bush's comments.

Mrs. Radke commented that she feels that we need more of an outreach to our ELL community for registration. Historically, they have had a lot of late registrations because of the lack of communication.

## 12. Closed Session for the Purpose of the collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees.

**Mr. Ruelle asked for a motion to return to closed session.**

**It was moved by Mr. Bush and seconded by Mrs. Pesch.**

**Voting Aye: Mr. Bush, Mr. Ruelle, Mr. Jenner, Mr. Spoerl, Mrs. Pesch, Mr. Larry, Mrs. Jette**

**Voting No: None**

**Absent: None**

**Motion Carried**

### **13. Return from Closed Session**

- 13.1 Action may be taken for the Purpose of the collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees and the Appointment, Employment, Compensation, Performance or Dismissal of Specific Employees.**

### **14. Adjournment**

**The Board returned from closed session at 10:20 p.m.**

**Mr. Ruelle asked for motion to adjourn the meeting.**

**Mr. Bush made the motion and Mrs. Pesch seconded it.**

**All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m.**