

**OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST HIGH SCHOOL**  
**201 N. Scoville**  
**Oak Park, IL 60302**

**Finance Committee Meeting Minutes**  
**August 13, 2013**

A Finance Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, August 13, 2013. Mr. Cofsky called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. in the Board Room. Committee members present were Thomas F. Cofsky, Dr. Ralph H. Lee, Dr. Jackie Moore, Sharon Patchak-Layman, and John Phelan. Also present were Dr. Steven T. Isoye, Superintendent; Tod Altenburg, Chief Financial Officer Michael Carioscio, Chief Information Officer; Dr. Tina Halliman, Assistant Superintendent of Student Services; Amy Hill, Director of Assessment and Research; Philip M. Prale, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction; Nathaniel L. Rouse, Principal; Karin Sullivan, Director of Community Relations and Communications; and Gail Kalmerton, Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board.

Visitors included Sheila Hardin, Faculty Senate Executive Committee Chair; Ronald Johnson, OPRFHS Purchasing Coordinator; Nancy Leavy of the League of Women Voters.

**Contracts/Renewal**

The following three contracts were submitted to the Committee members for review.

- School Resource Officer Contract
- All-Ways Medical Transportation Contract
- Residency Compliance Officers Contract

Discussion ensued. Only the All-Ways Medical Transportation Contract was time sensitive.

School Resource Officer Contract

The school's attorney reviewed the contract for school resource officer (SRO) services for a 3-year period between the District and the Village of Oak Park. Cara Pavlicek and Mr. Altenburg had discussions about it. Events to be covered by the school resource officer will be added to Appendix B. A similar agreement had been in place since 1999. The high school and the police department have agreed upon the jurisdiction of services and the high school will pay for those under its jurisdiction. Ms. Patchak-Layman was concerned that this contract did not reflect changes that have occurred in the law since the original was implemented in 1999, i.e., when should the school interview as opposed to when should the police interview. Some differences were not being identified as being in the policy manual or what is being written about with some of the juvenile justice organizations that are working to make SRO positions in the school. A question arose as to why the same taxpayers were now paying for these services; why the cost shifts? Mr. Rouse noted that at one time the Village of Oak Park asked Districts 97 & 200 for assistance. District 97 was asked to pay for crossing guards; District 97 trained safety and support staff to do that. The compensation reflected in this contract is similar to a police officer's median salary with benefits including over time and notes which services should be paid. Mr. Cofsky wanted more information regarding the finances and did not support this contract.

Another member questioned the liability issue. Was the District more at risk if it employed the resource officer versus reimbursing the Village for these services? Counsel will be asked about the liability of inviting someone or employing jointly. Ms. Patchak-Layman noted that District 97 continues with the old contract and conversations with the Village have continued. District 97 is not interested in having a discussion on a SRO. All schools have questions about mixing police, education and funding. Schools should be responsible for education and police should be responsible for police work. Are the police here as police officers or for education? Mr. Rouse reported

that SRO's are trained as liaisons. While SROs were plainclothes when the school asks them to speak with students in the classrooms, ninety percent of the time they were uniforms.

A decision was made to only hire a SRO from the Village of Oak Park for five days versus the previous arrangement of four days and one day from the Village of River Forest as it was a hardship for the SRO to be here only one day. The Village of River Forest is aware of this decision.

Any additional questions should be sent to Dr. Isoye for more information. Until a new contract is signed, the old contract will continue. The District will continue to work with the Village of Oak Park on this.

#### All-ways Medical Transportation Contract

It was the consensus of the Finance Committee members to recommend that the contract with All-Ways Medical Transportation for the 2013-14 school year be approved at the Special Board meeting following this meeting at a daily rate of \$198. The District has been pleased with the service of this company.

#### RCO

The administration brought forward the contracts for residency confirmation officer positions. Mr. Ron Dibbern would have a .6 position and Mr. Kennedy would have a .4 position. Both men are very experienced in what they do. The contracts reflected a \$2.46 hourly increase which would be retroactive to July 1, 2013.

It was the consensus of the committee not to move this forward as there was still unanswered questions.

- 1) What are the actual costs of residency?
- 2) How has the new system of checking residency for all students maintained or reduced costs, as had been projected?
- 3) What role does RW Walsh have in the future?
- 4) What role do the residency confirmation officers play?
- 5) What is the benefit to having three contractors?
- 6) In the Dibbern contract, Section 3A says that the District will pay the amount specified by Appendix A says that the District will pay the full amount. What is the real intent?

The Committee members were reminded that a goal in checking residency of all students was to also to deter students from trying to enroll at the District. At this time, 45 special education students had not verified residency and discovering those non-resident students is a definite cost savings.

The Committee members felt there was an inconsistency of language in terms of specific payment commitments.

#### **Presentation of Resolution to Place FY 2014 Tentative Budget on Display**

The Committee members reviewed the resolution to place the FY 2014 Tentative Budget on Display and Mr. Altenburg reviewed the highlights of the Management Discussion and Analysis of the Tentative Budget. The Board of Education will review the Tentative Budget at its regular August Board of Education meeting and the Budget will go on display on August 23 for 30 days. The Board of Education will approve the Budget at the September 26 Board of Education meeting.

#### **Presentation of Monthly Treasurer's Report**

It was the consensus of the Finance Committee members to recommend to the Board of Education that it approve the Monthly Treasurer's Report at its regular August 22, 2013 Board of Education meeting under the Consent portion of the agenda.

**Presentation of Check Disbursements dated August 13, 2013**

It was the consensus of the Finance Committee members to recommend to the Board of Education that it approve the Check Disbursements dated August 13, 2013, at the Special Board of Education meeting immediately following this meeting. The first payment to the Collaboration for Early Childhood Care and Education was included.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Cofsky adjourned the Finance Committee meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Jackie Moore  
Secretary