



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

New Britain Board of Education Finance Subcommittee Meeting

January 27, 2020 – 6:15 PM | New Britain Educational Administration Center

Call to Order and Opening

Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly, Finance Subcommittee Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM.

Board Members Present

Ms. Monica Dawkins, Mr. Merrill Gay, Ms. Annie Parker, Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly

CSDNB Staff Present

Ms. Lara Bohlke, Mr. Michael Foran, Mr. Kevin Kane, Mr. Raymond Moore, Ms. Kristin Salerni

New Business

Review and approve previous minutes from Finance Subcommittee Meeting on November 25, 2019

There were no recommended changes to the Finance Subcommittee minutes from November 25, 2019.

Partnerships: Accept Grant from The Department of Economic and Community Development (\$12,000.00)

Submitted by Ms. Mayra Rodriguez | Funding Source: Department of Economic and Community Development

A Summer Arts proposal was submitted to The Department of Economic and Community Development to fund arts-based, educational services delivered by seven professional Teaching Artists and two assistants from Arts for Learning (AFL). AFL will lead creative learning engagement activities with children enrolled in the Consolidated School District of New Britain's Summer Learning Experience (SLE) program. ASL has been providing students with summer visual, theater, and music arts enrichment that are aligned to the districts classroom curriculum.

The total is \$12,000.00 and the funding source is the Department of Economic and Community Development.

The Finance Subcommittee recommended that this request be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

Academics: Approve Purchase Order and Bid Waiver for Credit Recovery Software from Edgenuity, Inc. (\$15,200.00)

Submitted by Ms. Lara Bohlke | Funding Source: Software and Coding 101092110000-53510

In our vision, CSDNB states that we "pursue excellence one student at a time." In doing so, we recognize that sometimes instruction within a traditional classroom may be difficult for a student. In cases like these, we have additional options for our high school students to 'recover' the credit that they lost in failing a course. Optimally, we hope to decrease failures across the high school and the district, but in the meantime, CSDNB has been utilizing Compass Learning for our credit recovery software since 2015. This software, due to its reliance on Flash, is "sunsetting," meaning it is no longer renewable. Our costs to renew

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each year have been about \$12,100. This has allowed access to all courses available through the software for most students at Satellite Careers Academy, small classes of students during the day and afterschool at NBHS and in the summer for summer school.

A group of teachers, admins, guidance personnel and MIS has been researching new software for the past year to find the best fit. Many learning platforms have been absorbed by larger companies. Some are not compatible with our needs. EdGenuity emerged as the clear preference given our distinct but varied needs across the district. Their software is compatible with our environment, more advanced than what we have been using and allows for easy personalization of the courses, courses stay with students when they transfer schools within the district, their licensing is flexible to fit our needs and they will supply training before the end of the year so teachers are ready for the transfer.

The total is \$15,200 and the funding source is Software and Coding 101092110000-53510.

The Finance Subcommittee recommended that this request be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

Finance: Approve Purchase Order and Bid Waiver for Classroom Furniture for Northend Elementary School (\$53,939.64)

Submitted by Ms. Helen Talalaj | Funding Source: 2019-2020 Low Performing Schools Grant

Northend Elementary School was recently awarded funds through the 2019-2020 Low Performing Schools grant program. The funds will be used to replace all the classroom furniture from Kindergarten thru Grade 5 including teacher set-ups, student desks, tables and chairs including kidney tables, bookcases and file cabinets. The Connecticut State Turnaround Office strongly encourages school districts to use state contracts when available. This furniture will be purchased through Insalco Corporation using State Contracts 15PSX0041 and 16PSX0190.

The total is \$53,939.64 and the funding source is 2019-2020 Low Performing Schools Grant.

The Finance Subcommittee recommended that this request be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

Finance: Approve Purchase Order, Bid Waiver, and Contract between Consolidated School District of New Britain and Gugliotti Associates Inc. for Replacement of Gymnasium Floor System at Northend Elementary School (est.\$63,000.00)

Submitted by Mr. Raymond Moore

The Finance Subcommittee recommended that this request be forwarded with a price quote to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting. The Board does not need to approve a Bid Waiver if bid procedures were followed pursuant to Board Policy 3324.00 – Bids, Quotations and Purchase Orders.

Finance: Approve Purchase Order, Bid Waiver, and Contract between Consolidated School District of New Britain and Environmental Systems Corporation for Installation of Coils and Aeon Condensing Unit at Northend Elementary School (est.\$181,372.00)

Submitted by Mr. Raymond Moore

The Finance Subcommittee recommended that this request be referred back to the Finance Subcommittee for further review when price quotes and supporting documentation become available.

Operations: Accept Current and Projected Expenditure & Revenue Report – Quarter Ending December 31, 2019

Submitted by Mr. Kevin Kane

This is a new report that is required pursuant to a new statute/law that went into effect as of July 1, 2019 as shown below:

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(§) 290 – Boards of Education Expense and Revenue Disclosure

Requires boards of education to quarterly post online current and projected expenses and revenues and submit this information to the municipal legislative body or board of selectmen.

The Finance Subcommittee recommended that this request be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

Operations: Accept Finance Report – December 31, 2019

Submitted by Mr. Kevin Kane

The Financial Report ending December 31, 2019 was presented.

The Finance Subcommittee recommended that this request be forwarded to the Board of Education for approval at the next regular meeting.

Operations: Discuss Facility Master Plan

Submitted by Mr. Kevin Kane

Mr. Kevin Kane, Chief Financial Officer, discussed the possibility of hiring a consultant to assist the district in creating a facility master plan.

Closing and Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 PM.

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