



CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL DISTRICT OF NEW BRITAIN

New Britain Board of Education
Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Meeting

June 27, 2022 – 7:00 PM | New Britain Educational Administration Center

Call to Order and Opening

Mr. Anthony Cane, Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

Board Members Present

Mr. Anthony Cane*, Mr. Matthew Marino*, Ms. Annie Parker*, Ms. Gayle Sanders-Connolly*, Ms. Tina Santana*

**Committee member*

CSDNB Staff Present

Ms. Leona Clerkin#, Mr. Michael Foran, Dr. Anthony Gasper, Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez, Mr. Kevin Kane#, Ms. Maryellen Manning, Mr. Jeff Prokop, Ms. Kristin Salerni, Ms. Sondra Sanford#, Mr. Mark Spalding

#Attended remotely

New Business

Review and Approve Minutes from Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Meeting on May 31, 2022

There were no recommended changes to the minutes from the Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Meeting on May 31, 2022.

Mr. Cane motioned to approve the minutes from the Finance, Facilities, and Transportation Committee Meeting on May 31, 2022 as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

IT Update

Presented by Mr. Jeff Prokop

Chief Information Officer Jeff Prokop pr update regarding the status of the Projector Replacement Project. Installation at Holmes will be finished tomorrow, June 28, 2022. The project will then be 60% completed. Moving forward, Gaffney will be next followed by other schools with summer programming. Installation at Slade will proceed pending completion of remediation and abatement work being done. Barring any unforeseen delays, the project should be completed in all schools by the end of the summer.

Mr. Prokop also provided committee members with an update regarding the IT Project with City Hall to extend public Wi-Fi through ESSER I Grant allocation. He is currently obtaining quotes for equipment and plans to bring the purchases forward for Board approval as soon as they are ready.

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Facilities Update

Presented by Ms. Rebecca Gonzalez

Director of Facilities Rebecca Gonzalez provided committee members with updates regarding the following projects in the district:

- **NBHS ADA Project**
 - Project commenced this morning at 7:00 AM.
 - There were some revisions made to hazmat removal.
 - Updated contract with new Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP) will be presented at the Special Board Meeting in July.
- **Security Camera Installation**
 - 90% of cameras at Slade are up and running. Outside cameras will be up and running next week.
 - The vendor has been invited to Pulaski to survey the school to make sure everything is captured. Work is scheduled to begin as soon as possible.
- **Access Control Project**
 - All of the wiring has been pulled and 50% of the hardware is in.
 - Installation is expected to begin next week.
- **Mold Remediation, Abatement and Restoration (Slade)**
 - All the work is scheduled to begin this week.
 - Ms. Gonzalez met with an insurance adjuster last week and will meet with an environmental representative this week. She hopes to have an update on the insurance claim for the next meeting if not sooner.
- **Chamberlain School Construction**
 - Project is over 50% completed.
- **Smalley/Gaffney Close-outs**
 - Anticipating a pay-out of \$29 million for Smalley project hopefully in August.
 - Audit for \$2.9 million pay-out for Gaffney project to begin next.
- **Slade and Pulaski Roof Projects**
 - Six million dollars was originally allotted for these projects by the state last year. The projects are now projected to cost upwards of \$8 million with the recent increase in pricing. Ms. Gonzalez is exploring the option of focusing on one project for this year.
- **Condenser Installation at Northend**
 - Issue occurred with the installation last year. It was recommended that a structural engineer be consulted to see if roof could support the installation.
 - The project is now moving forward and should be completed this summer.
- **Maintenance Agreements**
 - The decision was made to use one elevator contractor instead of the three contractors we have been using throughout the district resulting in easier tracking and cost savings.

Partnerships: Accept Donation from The Petit Family Foundation for XTREME Summer Program (\$7,500.00)

Submitted by Ms. Mayra Rodriguez | Funding Source: The Petit Family Foundation, Inc.

A grant was submitted to The Petit Foundation to help support the 3-week XTREME summer program. Funds will be used to support the Community Based Organizations providing enrichment activities for summer participants throughout the full day. Through collaborations with Community Organizations, students are provided with educational, yet fun, hands-on learning

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activities that help support student learning.

The total is \$7,500.00 and the funding source is The Petit Family Foundation, Inc.

Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Special Board Meeting in July. Motion carried unanimously.

Partnerships: Approve Bid Award to Ingenuity, Inc. NE First for Work within the 2022 Summer Learning Experiences (SLE) Program (\$33,600.00)

Submitted by Ms. Mayra Rodriguez | Funding Sources: American Savings Foundation, ARP Expansion Grant, Fund for Greater Hartford, United Way, Petit Family Foundation and Community Foundation – Fiscal Year 2022-2023; Professional and Technical Services

The Consolidated School District (CSDNB) will run a three-week Summer Learning Experiences (SLE) Program from Monday July 18- Friday August 5, 2022. SLE is comprised of Jumpstart (Kindergarten), SEE (grades K-3), CREATE (grades 4-5) and XTREME (grades 6-8). The SLE program is a research-based collaborative approach to summer school proven to be effective in interrupting the cycle of summer learning loss, and what has now been labeled as COVID Learning Loss. SLE offers comprehensive summer educational opportunities and has three primary goals:

1. Provide each student with the emotional and academic supports needed to remain engaged in the school community beyond the regular school year,
2. Expand students' relationships with peers, teachers, and community partners, and
3. Motivate students to attend, value, and take pride in a fun and student-centered environment for growth.

This is a non-traditional program in which CSDNB partners with community-based organizations (CBO) to help support students at all ages and in all settings, making it a unique opportunity for integration and community building. 1,200 of New Britain's lowest scoring students, and students identified based on Tier 2 chronic absenteeism, will be served during the summer of 2022.

Through an RFP Process, CBO's submit proposals to work within the SLE program and are awarded based on their submissions and costs. This year CSDNB has selected 15 CBO's to work with the 2022 SLE Program.

Ingenuity, NE Inc. DBA as NE First has been awarded \$33,600.00 to work in the SEE program at RELC, Lincoln, and Smalley.

The total is \$33,600.00 and the funding source is American Savings Foundation, ARP Expansion Grant, Fund for Greater Hartford, United Way, Petit Family Foundation and Community Foundation - Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Professional and Technical Services.

Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Special Board Meeting in July. Motion carried unanimously.

Partnerships: Accept Donation from Travelers Sponsorship Program for Work Based Learning Initiatives at NBHS (\$95,000.00)

Submitted by Ms. Sondra Sanford | Funding Source: Travelers Sponsorship Program

Travelers Corporate Grant/Sponsorship Program supports initiatives that are aligned with Consolidated School District of New Britain NAF Academies. New Britain was awarded funds specifically to support for the Work Based Learning Initiatives at New Britain High School.

Academic & Career Success: Travelers supports your goal of improved academic and career success for underrepresented youth. Through increasing the number of students who are qualified for and complete post-secondary education, we will help our communities to be successful in meeting their own demands for a skilled workforce, sustained economies, and quality of

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life.

The total is \$95,000 and the funding source is Travelers Sponsorship Program.

Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Special Board Meeting in July. Motion carried unanimously.

Academics: Approve Contract between Consolidated School District of New Britain and Mr. Donald F. Perras for Training and Coaching of Art and Music Personnel (\$6,475.00)

Submitted by Ms. Leona Clerkin | Funding Source: Local 101096322074

"National teacher surveys cite deficiencies in university preparation as a primary vulnerability managing their initial employment assignments, particularly in communities with chronic student challenges. Significant premature resignations and national teacher shortages validate this trend, resulting in depressed student achievement and persistent behavioral complications. All disciplines are affected by a need for on - site personalized training and coaching to master the complex responsibilities learning their craft.

Besides financial and time commitments, department resignations between 2014 – 2021 have disrupted the variety and quality of services provided our students, an unacceptable pattern that requires immediate attention." New teachers need our support, guidance and feedback on regular intervals. This coaching model would give attention to the teachers in the Fine Arts Department in order to support and improve student learning, teaching strategies, and the social emotional well-being of young teachers coming into the profession.

The total is \$6,475.00 and the funding source is Local 101096322074.

Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Special Board Meeting in July. Motion carried unanimously.

Operations: Approve Purchase Order and Bid Waiver for Chromebooks for Primary Grades (\$165,150.00)

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: ESSER I Funds – Instructional Equipment – New 206696910002-57346

This quote is for the purchase of 450 touch screen chromebooks, used for the primary grades in the school district. In the past CDWG has won the bids for chromebooks and we have an established system with the company that we want to continue with the same process.

The total is \$165,150.00 and the funding source is ESSER I - INSTR EQUIP - NEW 206696910002-57346.

Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Special Board Meeting in July. Motion carried unanimously.

Operations: Approve ERate Application Award for Emergency Connectivity (\$34,344.00)

Submitted by Mr. Jeff Prokop | Funding Source: ERate

This Application Award is in relation to the Federal ERate program for student connectivity. This particular program secures services for 159 Kajeet hotspots for the school district, which have been utilized to provide internet services for students unable to participate in the Comcast Internet Essentials program.

The program will be of no cost to the school district.

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The total is \$0.00 (Awarded \$34,344) and the funding source is ERate pays bill directly for this program

Mr. Cane motioned to add this item to the Board's Consent Agenda for the Special Board Meeting in July. Motion carried unanimously.

Committee members recommended that Financial Reports be presented in June moving forward.

Closing and Adjournment

Ms. Sanders-Connolly motioned to adjourn at 7:41 PM, seconded by Ms. Parker. Motion carried unanimously.