

**Syracuse City School District
Board of Education
Budget & Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, October 23, 2007, Board Room**

The meeting was called to order at 3:35 p.m. Present: Commissioners Cynthia Kirby, and Nancy McCarty. Excused Absence: Commissioner Calvin Corriders.

The Committee recommended that the following Board action items come before the Board of Education on November 14, 2007:

- **Foreign Travel to Spain, Nottingham Students** – Authorization for a group of students and chaperones from Nottingham High School to travel to Spain from April 10 to April 20, 2008. There will be no travel costs to the District.
- **Donation, Class of 1967 for Nottingham Arts Academy** – Authorization to accept a donation from the alumni of the Nottingham High School Class of 1967 in the amount of \$2,541.00 for use by the Nottingham Arts Academy.
- **Inter-municipal Agreement with the Syracuse Police Department, K-8** - Authorization to enter into an inter-municipal agreement with the Syracuse Police Department to add four Syracuse Police Officers assigned to Blodgett, Frazer, Huntington and Roberts schools at a cost of \$300,000. The funding exists within the District's 2007-2008 General Fund Budget.
- **2006-2007 External Audit, Out of Scope Services** - Authorization to allow Testone, Marshall and Discenza, LLP (TMD) to perform out-of scope work, detailed in the resolution, in an amount not to exceed \$30,378. Mr. Rufo, SCSD Chief Financial Officer, advised it is necessary to out source the work due to the late start of the audit and the shortage of employees with the specific skills needed to complete the work.

Discussion Items:

Monthly Financial Statements: Mr. Rufo, SCSD Chief Financial Officer, presented the September 2007 monthly financial statements. Mr. Rufo advised that the Common Council recently approved only part of SCSD's request to modify the 2007-2008 General Fund Budget. He will present options on how to fill the revenue shortage at the next Budget & Finance meeting.

2006-2007 External Audit Progress: Gail Kinsella and Matthew Uryniak, CPAs with TMD, advised materials to start the audit were given to TMD on October 18, 2007 and fieldwork has begun. TMD indicated that although they have received more information than in previous years, they have not had a chance to review and hence comment on the accuracy.

Update on Accounts Payable, Monthly Transactions/Aging Report: Mr. Rufo advised the majority of the outstanding Verizon bills were submitted and paid with the last two weeks and the District is working to complete the task. The District is still working with Verizon and Corporation Council to resolve contract pricing discrepancies that the District is disputing. No Accounts Payable Aging report was submitted.

Update on Acuity-Interval formative Assessment Systems: Janet Gillmeister, SCSD Director for Elementary Education, reviewed the status of the program with the Committee.

Update on Parent Involvement in Budgeting Plan: Michele Abdul Sabur, SCSD Parent Liaison, updated the Committee on the planned parent involvement. The Committee agreed that parents and the Community should be notified well in advance of any meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Kimberly Day/SCSD Internal Claims Auditor