



**TOWN OF ROCKY HILL
BOE FACILITIES COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES/MOTIONS**

In order to comply with Connecticut General Statutes regarding minutes of meetings, the following will be used to record information during all public meetings that take place. An original must be submitted to the Town Clerk of Rocky Hill within 48 hours of the meeting being adjourned. Motions should be complete, showing the maker and second of the motion as well as how each member voted. Unanimous votes may be listed as unanimous.

NAME OF PUBLIC BOARD OR COMMISSION	Board of Education Facilities Committee
DATE MEETING AGENDA POSTED	November 10, 2008
LOCATION	Training/Conference Room
DATE OF MEETING	November 12, 2008
TIME MEETING STARTED	5:30 p.m.
PERSON PREPARING MEETING MINUTES	Jo-Anne Booth, Recording Secretary
VERBATIM NOTES TAKEN	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
AUDIO, VIDEO OR LIVE TRANSMISSION OF MEETING	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

MEMBERS PRESENT AT MEETING

1. Charles Wisnioski, Chairman	2. Nadine Bell
3. Maria Mennella (Entered at 5:35 p.m.) (Left at 6:50 p.m.)	4. Also present: Superintendent Dr. Jeffrey Villar
5. Assistant Superintendent Marian Hourigan	6. William MacDonald (Chairman of Bd. of Ed.)
7. Frank Morse (Bd. of Ed.)	8. Catherine Vargas (Bd. of Ed.)
9. Councilor Larrye deBear (Left at 6:33 p.m.)	10. Councilor Phil Sylvestro
11. Ed Chiucarello	12. Debbie Friday

NUMBER REQUIRED FOR QUORUM 2 QUORUM PRESENT Yes No

TEXT MOTIONS AND RESULTS VOTES

1st MOTION Passed Failed Tabled

(No motions were made during this meeting.)

LINK TO WORKING NOTES (will be attached if available)

ACTION

CORRECTION(S) (will be attached if available)

TIME MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:59 p.m.

TIME DELIVERED TO TOWN CLERK: _____.

Town of Rocky Hill
Board of Education
Facilities Committee Meeting Working Notes
November 12, 2008

A Facilities Committee meeting of the Rocky Hill Board of Education was held on Wednesday, November 12, 2008 in the training /conference room. Chairman Charles Wisnioski called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Present were: Nadine Bell and Maria Mennella (Arrived at 5:35 p.m.; Left at 6:50 p.m.). Also present were William MacDonald (Chairman of Bd. of Ed.), Frank Morse (Bd. of Ed.), Catherine Vargas (Bd. of Ed.), Superintendent Dr. Jeffrey Villar, Assistant Superintendent Marian Hourigan, Councilor Larrye deBear (Left at 6:33 p.m.), Councilor Phil Sylvestro, Ed Chiucarello (Member of Public) and Debbie Friday (Member of Public).

1. Status of School Building Project: Instructional Programs, Facilities and Health and Safety Issues.

Chairman Wisnioski thanked Councilor Larrye deBear and Councilor Phil Sylvestro for being present at this evening's meeting. Chairman Wisnioski said his understanding is that on Monday the Town Council will send back to the Board of Education the outcome of the referendum which did not pass. Different alternatives will be discussed and one of the Board of Education's requests will be that in order for them to do their review of a number of issues, it will be a great advantage to have the services of Mike Sorano (Friar Associates) and Ken Biega (O & G Industries, Inc.) as they go through this process of trying to reevaluate everything that they have. He thought this would primarily be the K-5 option because of the reasons of the age of the other schools, etc. The intent will be for the Board of Education to come before the Town Council for another referendum before the end of June 2009. He expected that the Town Council would have to identify funds for another referendum. Councilor deBear said they would have to come back before May 2009.

Chairman Wisnioski said the reasons are not known as to why more than half of the voters in this town turned down the referendum. One of the things that can be looked at though is program which is really not the purpose of this Committee. The referendum anticipated an all day kindergarten and one Pre-K in each of the three buildings. Something that needs to be addressed is the idea of staying in this direction. Superintendent Dr. Villar will be asked to see if there are other program issues in the K-5 curriculum or other ways of teaching. Perhaps the idea of three schools can be reconsidered or maybe it will be two schools. Chairman Wisnioski thinks this is something that the full Board of Education needs to address. Based on the decisions of all day kindergarten, Pre-K and the number of buildings will be the operating expenses. The operating costs under different scenarios will want to be known by the Town Council, the Business Association and the public for any new referendum. This is fairly time consuming and decisions have to be made first before this aspect is worked out. The Board of Education has also said to the public that it believes the school buildings are

safe. There are some issues that they know are not perfect (i.e. fire doors). He believes that Superintendent Dr. Villar is in touch with the Fire Marshal with regards to this. Chairman Wisnioski said that Superintendent Dr. Villar has spoken with Mr. David Wedge (State Department of Education). For example, there might be a dream that the Town Council might consider as an interim or alternate step, a lump sum over a time period where more improvements will be done than are presently being done. Mr. Wedge might be able to tell them that they still might be eligible to receive partial reimbursements even though they are not bonding these improvements.

If the referendum is being gone back to, the Board of Education would like to discuss certain issues with the Town Council. For example, the flyer that went out to the public with regards to the referendum didn't anticipate certain commercial activities which are more certain now (i.e. Burris). There is a lot of complexity and if the Board of Education could sort through all of the issues that have to do with programs, physical needs and level of reimbursement, this is complicated by external things such as bond term, when the taxpayer would most likely begin to have to pay for the outcome of the referendum if approved and how much. They are anticipating the Town Council giving back to them the question, setting a Joint Facilities Committee meeting and they will move forward from there. The expectation of having Mr. Biega would be great so he can relook at everything. The referendum dollar amount included a number of items that may have changed (i.e. oil is down significantly). The referendum number had a conservative approach to future costs, etc. This could be something positive. There had been a discussion before about LEEDS Certification being a lot of money in order to be certified and there had been a question about whether all of this was needed to have the LEEDS work done. Certification requires a staff person to be present to make sure everything is done.

Chairman Wisnioski asked Superintendent Dr. Villar and Assistant Superintendent Hourigan if they wanted to comment on program. Superintendent Dr. Villar said when he looked at the results from the referendum, he tried to think about what the key aspects are of program that would be impacted by the failure of the referendum. He put a disclaimer out. He mentioned the items that he thought impact the overall cost. Full day kindergarten has a significant recurring cost attached to it. He referred to the three school elementary concept with five hundred students in each school. Everyone is faced with the economic reality. There is a proposed discussion as to whether or not these things remain high priorities for the district. Both of these have significant recurring costs attached to them. He didn't hear a lot of public criticism. A theme he heard himself was the recurring costs. He thinks this is an issue to look at. He reiterated Chairman Wisnioski's request of whether the Town Council could at all possibly let the Board of Education continue to collaborate and work very closely with the professionals like the Architectural firm. Their expertise is needed.

Superintendent Dr. Villar said the secondary part, the K-12 Plan, had not been part of the referendum. A way has to be found to communicate what this long range plan is for the district. If a second stab is going to be taken at a referendum, he would like to have the impact of construction on education overall considered. He had been in a district where

significant construction was done both on buildings that were occupied and on buildings next door to buildings that were occupied. Over time there had been an increased lack of tolerance being in a building that was under construction. This can significantly impact timelines. He said it is hard to run a school while a new roof is being put on it.

Superintendent Dr. Villar said the high school graduation requirements are another complex problem. These will be a significant economic impact statewide. These are not official and they have to go through the Legislature. He mentioned that he has a Hartford area Superintendents' meeting tomorrow.

Mrs. Bell asked if has been indicated as to when the high school graduation requirements will be effective if they are approved. Superintendent Dr. Villar said no and he said that he hasn't been told yet.

Chairman Wisnioski asked if the district has these high school graduation requirements. Superintendent Dr. Villar said they have what they are. Chairman Wisnioski asked if these have been distributed to the Board of Education. Superintendent Dr. Villar said these have not been distributed to the Board of Education yet and he said that he has a summary page. Mr. Ed Chiucarello asked if these have changed much from the previous ones. Superintendent Dr. Villar said yes and he said there are key components that are different. He explained what these are. This district already has data with regards to the number of students who are taking four years of math, etc. Chairman Wisnioski said if the Legislature approves this in late spring then this won't apply until some time in the future. Mr. MacDonald said the original proposal would have this apply to children who are currently in the sixth grade. Chairman Wisnioski didn't think that this is going to be an immediate issue.

Superintendent Dr. Villar thinks that the Board of Education needs to revisit full day kindergarten and the three school concept in the immediate future. Some scenarios have to be thrown out to the Architect.

Chairman Wisnioski thought the Town Council as a whole wanted to keep Moser School open. He didn't know if there was an indication from the State Department of Education of moving towards all day kindergarten and Pre-K. Superintendent Dr. Villar said no and he said this is an option in priority districts. The Commissioner has the authority and can require a district to use priority school funding but it hasn't happened.

Chairman Wisnioski thought what the prior Board of Education has done with the Schoenhardt Study is continuing to be done now. Mr. Chiucarello said he spoke to someone who thought that all day kindergarten shouldn't be a reality in Rocky Hill and yet it should be a reality in Harford and urban cities where it is needed for sure. He asked if there is a way that the citizens in Rocky Hill can be surveyed with regards to all day kindergarten. Superintendent Dr. Villar said there is a debate in the educational community about full day kindergarten and how it applies to suburban communities compared to urban ones. As the rigor of curriculum increases, the expectations will

increase. Mrs. Mennella said she volunteered in her son's kindergarten class last week and the students were expected to write a full sentence in two hours.

Superintendent Dr. Villar asked if there is a way that the Architect can come up with a plan that allows kindergarten to be modular based in a sense. He has personally experienced going into an all day kindergarten and the children were happy to be writing a sentence. This is an evolving skill. For the all day kindergarten, this is a debate or a discussion that the Board of Education will have to take on as a whole.

Mr. Morse said a survey would probably get mixed results all over the board. Mr. MacDonald said when Cromwell offered full day kindergarten as an option, 95% said yes. He argued that Cromwell is no different than Rocky Hill.

Mr. Chiucarello said at least there is the data there like this town has the referendum data. Right now there is no data from Rocky Hill with regards to whether or not the people in this town are interested in all day kindergarten. If a survey is done, at least the town will have data. Mr. Morse thought this would be an easy survey to send to the parents of the present kindergarteners. Superintendent Dr. Villar said it would be an easy survey to develop but difficult to implement.

Chairman Wisnioski referred to the cost of providing the buildings and the recurring costs. The present system does not have an all day kindergarten. He said that he didn't remember the numbers with regards to this. Superintendent Dr. Villar said it would cost \$438,000 to have a full day kindergarten. Mr. MacDonald mentioned operating costs. He said they are going to have to go through the scenarios of having full day kindergarten or not having it and what the costs would be.

Chairman Wisnioski said there is the benefit end. This is qualitative and not quantifiable. He said maybe there should at least be a night in the next ninety days where there are all of the experts and there can be a discussion. The target should be people who are coming into town because they have an opinion on things. Competitively with other towns, it will be interesting to see what towns in this town's DIRG offer all day kindergarten as well as Pre-K and see how that impacts the performance on standardized tests. He said they had wanted to have a discussion like this but they didn't have the time leading up to the referendum. It is their duty to bring these issues and he suggested that the Board of Education members be polled.

Mr. MacDonald said this is a huge driver of cost. Parents should be invited also and this could be a workshop. Chairman Wisnioski said all day kindergarten is not wanted to be a substitute for all day daycare.

Mrs. Mennella said her parents are her daycare providers and she still wants her children to go to all day kindergarten. Superintendent Dr. Villar said Cromwell is on the "bleeding edge". Mrs. Mennella said Newington has full day kindergarten. Superintendent Dr. Villar said results have to be looked at three to four years down the

road. Mr. MacDonald asked Superintendent Dr. Villar if he will coordinate the workshop. Superintendent Dr. Villar said he will.

Mr. Morse thought that all of the Board of Education members are proponents of all day kindergarten. He would hate it if six or seven years down the road, the state said it is going to mandate all day kindergarten. He asked if the schools would then have to be added onto again.

Chairman Wisnioski said they have a need to do more homework with regards to this. If the nine Board of Education members want to have full day kindergarten then they will pass their proposal back to the Town Council. He said if the public rejects it, it rejects it.

Superintendent Dr. Villar referred to facilities. He spoke about reimbursement versus bonding. If something is not bonded, it can still be reimbursed. He got information off of the website with regards to ineligible costs. He passed this information out to everybody.

Chairman Wisnioski said if a referendum is not approved then all day kindergarten will not be added and there won't be three Pre-Ks. Superintendent Dr. Villar said there has to be preschool and he explained some more. Chairman Wisnioski said the question would then become if there are some physical things that they must do. It would have to be asked what these are, how much they would cost and would the district be reimbursed for these. If there was a referendum, the question would be if these are excluded because there would be money. He said this is very complex. Superintendent Dr. Villar said it is immensely complicated.

Superintendent Dr. Villar referred to the first paragraph of the handout that he gave with regards to the ineligible costs. The only exception would be if there is work specifically required for correction of some code violations. There are some code violations in the schools. Chairman Wisnioski asked Superintendent Dr. Villar when he is talking about code violations, if he is saying that codes may have changed after a building was built. Superintendent Dr. Villar said yes and he said that all of the school buildings were up-to-code when they were opened but codes have changed significantly over time. There is a need for different systems (i.e. sprinklers) that have been added over time. The Fire Marshal listed things that he felt needed to be addressed. He explained that they have to be cautious about going down the road and fixing systems (i.e. fire alarm system). If a code is being addressed then this is reimbursable. If ceilings are being put in then they may not be reimbursable. Anything that is reimbursed in one project, won't be reimbursed in the next project. Chairman Wisnioski said this is a facilities issue.

Superintendent Dr. Villar showed everyone the guidelines that he had printed out this afternoon from the state's website with regards to this. It is important for the Architect, etc. to give pointers on this. If grants are applied for independently and it is renovate as new then the district can get reimbursement for what it didn't get in a smaller package.

Ms. Friday confirmed that the school buildings don't have code violations. She asked if new codes are upgraded to if those things are eligible for reimbursement. Superintendent Dr. Villar said a code update is one of the types that is eligible for reimbursement. Councilor Sylvestro asked if this would be a full or partial reimbursement. Superintendent Dr. Villar said there are a lot of caveats. He gave an example. Councilor Sylvestro said this is not a simple yes or no. Chairman Wisnioski said if more money is allocated to do this kind of work then there is potentially more fundability.

Superintendent Dr. Villar distributed a summary of Fire Marshal inspections for the Rocky Hill schools. Superintendent Dr. Villar said Town Manager Barbara Gilbert had sent it to him in the summer. Chairman Wisnioski said a lot of work with regards to correcting violations was done.

Superintendent Dr. Villar said the statement had been made that the school buildings are safe but there are some code violations. He has not been able to meet with Mr. Rich Cooke (Facilities Director) this week because he has been out of work. There are very few items that weren't done but a lot of work was done. He highlighted a few of these items.

Mr. Chiucarello said there are a lot of door items. Superintendent Dr. Villar said there are a lot of fire doors and these are very expensive. Chairman Wisnioski said surprisingly that there didn't seem to be a lot of items. Superintendent Dr. Villar said a lot of work was knocked off.

Mr. MacDonald asked Superintendent Dr. Villar if he could get them an updated list as of today with regards to all of this. Chairman Wisnioski said this would be a good discussion for the Joint Facilities Committee. They may have to go towards more things that are cosmetic like chairs. Superintendent Dr. Villar said as part of the budget process, he has asked the principals to identify furniture. They can get bonded for certain expenditures. Councilor Sylvestro said this is FFE. Superintendent Dr. Villar said this is for furniture, fixtures and equipment.

Superintendent Dr. Villar said he is open for discussion with regards to the next direction to go in. Mr. MacDonald said they started with two high priorities. These were the all day kindergarten and the issue of three schools versus two schools. Superintendent Dr. Villar said there are recurring costs. He heard from the public what the town wants. This shouldn't be his plan. The town should get the "bang for the buck". He said the Moser School site is a nice site and it is a big site. He has a concern with renovate as new with regards to managing the swing space. There are a lot of regulations. As they look at a solution, he would recommend that the priority be how most construction can be done in non-occupied space. There is an economic advantage to building as new.

Chairman Wisnioski asked what is going on with LEEDS certified and saving money. Superintendent Dr. Villar said it is extremely complicated and he explained some more. Chairman Wisnioski said his understanding was that somebody pays for the cost of having someone always there who can always certify. Superintendent Dr. Villar said

there needs to be someone who knows what all of the things are. Chairman Wisnioski asked if this is the Construction Manager. Mr. Morse said yes and he said LEEDS is spending way too much time on this.

Chairman Wisnioski mentioned about building to standard and he asked what Mr. Biega knows about the material costs from the construction budget now. From the town side, Chairman Wisnioski asked if the town has one more fiscal year to pay for the portables. Councilor Sylvestro said three to five years are left for the portables. In two years, Griswold Middle School will be off of its bond.

Chairman Wisnioski believes that Mr. Cooke is going to get back to the Joint Facilities Committee with regards to the benchmark for the level of efficiency so that the public can be told that Stevens School is "X" percent efficient, etc. There is an economic benefit and these are all complicated details. The public can then be gone back to, to say that these are the things that were done to make everything cheaper, smaller and better etc. He said everyone needs to work harder on all ends.

Mr. Morse asked what the cost for Stevens School would be if it was renovate as new Mr. MacDonald said the total cost would be \$18,000,000 and the state share would be \$7,000,000. Mr. Morse said there is no room at Stevens School to expand. Chairman Wisnioski said someone has to sit down with a spreadsheet. Mr. Morse said they have the numbers. Superintendent Dr. Villar said the footprint of the land on the Moser School site would support a larger building and he said when the Moser School costs are looked at that the contingencies are lower. Mr. Morse said there are a lot of contingencies. Superintendent Dr. Villar said the other advantage at the Moser School site is that the children would be able to be kept in the existing Moser School while the new school building is being built there. Mr. Morse said that the redistricting issue would go away. Superintendent Dr. Villar said it would almost be as if Rocky Hill would have two districts. Councilor Sylvestro asked them if they are talking about closing Stevens School. Mr. Morse said it would make sense to do that.

Mrs. Bell said she went to a NEASC accreditation meeting last week and she sat in on it. She knew that the clinical day program and the clinical high school were full but she didn't realize the backlog there is for both of these programs for students to get into. This led her to wonder if they could use this to expand not just within Rocky Hill but to other communities and certainly for the clinical day program. She said this could be a potential revenue generating program. If they did what was just being talked about with regards to going to two schools, she asked if Stevens School could potentially be renovated for use as a larger clinical day program and alternative high school to bring revenue into this town. Superintendent Dr. Villar said they began to explore this in his previous district. He then referred to a program that East Hartford, CT has and he said they bring in \$1,200,000 per year. Chairman Wisnioski asked if this is a net gain and Superintendent Dr. Villar said yes. Mrs. Bell said there are a lot of questions but they could potentially have Stevens School to look at as a possibility.

Mrs. Bell referred to statistics and she said this district is having more and more Special Ed students and more who have autism. She didn't know what this would do with regards to reimbursement. Superintendent Dr. Villar thinks the district can get reimbursed.

Chairman Wisnioski asked how many classrooms there are at Moser School and he asked if there is unused space upstairs. Mrs. Bell believed that there is. Chairman Wisnioski asked why the alternative high school program can't be put there. He confirmed that Town Manager Gilbert signed a lease for a building on Brook Street that the alternative high school program is currently using. Superintendent Dr. Villar said there is a lease until the end of the year. Chairman Wisnioski explained to Councilor deBear and Councilor Sylvestro about this program and what was happening with the building it is being run in. Superintendent Dr. Villar said they need to have a discussion with ideas and they need to explore some options. There needs to be a request to have technical assistance.

Mr. Morse said that Friar Associates still owes things to them. He asked what the contract was with them and if it was just to get things ready for the first referendum. Superintendent Dr. Villar said Town Manager Gilbert would have to be asked about this. Chairman Wisnioski thought this was something that Councilor deBear and Councilor Sylvestro could get back to this Committee on.

Mrs. Bell mentioned that ten years ago when the NEASC study was done, the high school was cited for things such as an inadequate HVAC system, etc. A representative from the NEASC organization indicated that there are new standards now. If something is cited then the district will be given one or two years to correct it and they don't care if a referendum is voted up or down or if the town provided the funding. If these things aren't corrected then the accreditation could be lost. Councilor Sylvestro said NEASC recommendations can't be ignored. Superintendent Dr. Villar said they already have one K-12 Plan and evidence of following through on this will go far with the NEASC Commission.

Chairman Wisnioski referred to facilities issues that have been identified ten years ago and he gave an example of them not having been taken care of and NEASC saying that these have to be done within a year. He asked if the district can go to the State Department of Education to fit these things in as an alteration but not renovate as new. Superintendent Dr. Villar said they do approve emergency projects. The NEASC Commission will issue a report that will have recommendations. The NEASC Commission has been reasonable in assigning timelines.

Chairman Wisnioski asked if there were any other physical issues from the last NEASC Report. Mrs. Bell said ventilation was an issue as well as crowding, teachers being on carts, and making rooms available for electives, etc. She said that she has the entire report. Chairman Wisnioski said he has the entire report too but he hasn't had time to read it.

Superintendent Dr. Villar thought they met the purpose this evening for establishing some issues that they have to look at. He said that he is waiting for the Fire Marshal to call him back and he will also get Mr. Cooke's report.

Chairman Wisnioski said one of the items that had been spoken about was the State Department of Education's graduation requirements. He said there had been a prior discussion about physical education and how they were going to increase the requirement. He asked if they did. He said that perhaps Assistant Superintendent Hourigan can get back to them with regards to what is required and what Rocky Hill offers. Chairman Wisnioski said program is reimbursable. Superintendent Dr. Villar said there is still a caveat with regards to this but there is more solid ground if a building is being changed because of program needs.

Chairman Wisnioski referred to Superintendent Dr. Villar reviewing things with Principal Mario Almeida that eventually will be brought back to the Curriculum Committee and he asked if there is anything that requires facility changes. Superintendent Dr. Villar said they are exploring the impact of space that the building needs for tech ed. Questions need to be answered before education specifications can be written on the building.

Mr. Morse said with regards to the referendum that he heard from a lot of people. This referendum split the parents who normally would have voted yes for education because nothing was in it for their children. He went over the districts and the percentages for who voted for this and who voted against it. District 1 and District 3 thought exactly the same way. District 2 was basically 50%-50%.

Chairman Wisnioski asked if Bond Counsel or the Board of Education Attorney can be asked if there can be open houses at the schools so that people can walk through them. Superintendent Dr. Villar said he thinks they can do this but he will check. Chairman Wisnioski said they can then identify to the people what they are attempting to do in the schools (i.e. fire doors, windows, etc.). Mr. Morse asked if a videotape is made of every school while the students are in it, if every single parent of every single student has to give permission to have this done. Superintendent Dr. Villar said this would only be for students who are personally identifiable.

Chairman Wisnioski asked Councilor Sylvestro what he thought about this. Councilor Sylvestro said it is up to the Board of Education to do what they think they should do. He gave his reasons for the referendum failing.

Mrs. Bell referred to an article that she saw today. Councilor Sylvestro said he saw this article and he cut it out to give to the Mayor. He thinks the funding formula for reconstruction, etc. is all going to be in play.

Chairman Wisnioski said there is a window to do this after Inauguration Day and the public can be invited to Stevens School for example so that they can be shown what is being talked about. He said maybe the worst case is what the bonds are on the auditorium at the high school and at the middle school. Councilor Sylvestro said there is

\$400,000 + on Griswold Middle School bonds. Chairman Wisnioski questioned if the high school is done with the bonds. Councilor Sylvestro said the auditorium won't come off for awhile. Chairman Wisnioski referred to the perspective of replacing this debt service with the debt service related to the school project. He said if it comes down to dollars that it is one thing and maybe there will be multiple questions.

Councilor Sylvestro told everyone that he thought all of them have identified critical questions with regards to all day kindergarten and Pre-K. The operating expenses drive the construction costs.

Chairman Wisnioski said Superintendent Dr. Villar and Assistant Superintendent Hourigan have taken on a lot of initiatives. There is a huge complexity of all of this and the Town Council will be needed to identify funds. Councilor Sylvestro said the town is on a partial budget freeze.

Mr. Morse said they need to know what they are still owed from Friar Associates and from O & G Industries, Inc. with regards to the original contract. Councilor Sylvestro guessed that everything has been spent.

Chairman Wisnioski asked if they were able to go to the state for any money for the boiler. Superintendent Dr. Villar explained about this.

Chairman Wisnioski asked if there were any other issues. Mr. Chiucarello referred to the lump sum. Chairman Wisnioski told Councilor Sylvestro that the Board of Education is about to prepare its budget. A discussion had been raised by someone with regards to the Town Council maybe increasing the lump sums over the next few years. Councilor Sylvestro said there was certainly a wish to do this but in light of what they are hearing from the state in the last several days, he didn't know what to tell them. Chairman Wisnioski said they had some discussion about the second portion of ECS money coming in February and he was hoping that this money wouldn't be touched. Superintendent Dr. Villar said in his previous district they explored the legality of what happens once funds are allocated and once they are, they can't be taken back. He explained that ECS money isn't all used for schools. Chairman Wisnioski asked if the Board of Education budget excludes the ECS money. Superintendent Dr. Villar said yes and he explained some more. There was a brief discussion about this.

Chairman Wisnioski referred to the magnet school tuition. Superintendent Dr. Villar explained how the law is written now with regards to this. A brief discussion followed with regards to this.

Mrs. Bell spoke about seeing something with regards to the Department of Education not mandating in-school suspension. Superintendent Dr. Villar said this has been put off twice and he explained that there are fourteen pages of administrative guidelines for this.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

**Facilities Committee
Meeting of November 12, 2008**

Respectfully submitted,

Jo-Anne Booth
Recording Secretary

Accepted by: _____ Date: _____