

Town of Columbia
FISCAL POLICY BOARD
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2010

8:30 A.M.

Horace W. Porter School Conference Room

Members Present: Paula Belekewicz-Board of Education Member, Bev Ciurylo-Fiscal Manager, Francine Coss-Superintendent, Jonathan Luiz-Town Administrator, Earnest Sharpe-FIPAC Chairman

Members/Others Absent: William Mulcahy-Board of Education Member, Carmen Vance-First Selectman

Staff Present: Karen Johnson-Superintendent's Secretary

I. Call to Order

B. Ciurylo called the October 13, 2010 Fiscal Policy Board meeting to order at 8:35 a.m.

II. Approve Regular Minutes of September 15, 2010

E. Sharpe **MOVED** and P. Belekewicz **SECONDED** to approve the September 15, 2010 regular meeting minutes with the following correction: IV. Old Business A. ARRA Funding, correct grant amount **\$363,801**.

MOTION CARRIES: 5-0

III. Correspondence

IV. Old Business

A. Lebanon Settlement and Financial Impact – Mrs. Coss explained the district has agreed:

- to pay \$88,886 to Lebanon for phantom students claimed by Lebanon. This cost will be put in the 2010/2011 budget with a quick settlement footnote;
- the 2010/11 freshman count of 15 will be satisfied by the total amount of incoming students attending Lyman;
- no count will be put upon the 2011/2012 contract year, and;
- there is no stipulation of a renewed contract between Lebanon and Columbia.

B. Certified Teachers Contract – The Superintendent summarized the details of the certified teacher contract that has been ratified by both the Columbia Teachers Union and the Columbia Board of Education, based on attorney review. Fiscal Board members discussed the contract salary ranges and steps. The contract will be posted at the Columbia Town Clerk's office where the public will have the opportunity to review the contents of the document for 30 days.

V. New Business

A. BOE presentation – Mrs. Coss thanked Mr. Sharpe, Ms. Vance and Mr. Luiz for their support to have a Board of Education representative present accurate district information to the Board of Selectmen and FIPAC. Mr. Sharpe has talked with the FIPAC member who is requesting presentation information and that person has no intention of preparing a presentation with information that has not been reviewed by the Superintendent. Mr. Sharpe encourages independent research and keeping the Boards informed.

B. School District Grants – Mrs. Coss and Mrs. Ciurylo are looking at unspent IDEA and ARRA grant money that must be spent before June 30, 2011. Waiting and using the Education Jobs Grant money during year two is being considered. Grant specifics and clarification will be made to the 2011/2012 BOE budget document.

VI. Fiscal Department

Mr. Luiz is working on software RFP's. The current software company, Business Management Systems, Inc. has been informed. Training on BMSI updates has taken place. It is intended staff will do more with the existing software while administration investigates other programs and the cost associated with a new product. Board members also discussed web-based/server-based software and electronic time cards. Mrs. Ciurylo reported the department is gearing up for the CIRMA, ED001, Hot Lunch and Town/Board of Education audits.

VII. Audience

VIII. Other – Mr. Sharpe requests a concrete discussion with the Board of Selectmen regarding borrowing, bonding, and open space. After the audit, **Mr. Luiz** will speak to the bonding attorney to get the bond and town rating. **Mr. Luiz** notified the Board that he will be filling the interim Payroll Specialist position. **Mrs. Belekewicz** informed the Board this will be her last Fiscal Policy meeting as a Board of Education representative. A member from the Budget Subcommittee will join the Fiscal Policy Board. Board members thanked Mrs. Belekewicz for her membership.

IX. Adjournment

P. Belekewicz **MOVED** and E. Sharpe **SECONDED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 a.m.

MOTION CARRIES: 5-0

Next meeting: November 10, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Johnson, Superintendent's Secretary