

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 17  
BOARD OF EDUCATION  
SPECIAL MEETING  
JULY 27, 2006**

A special meeting of the Regional School District No. 17 Board of Education was held July 26, 2006, in the Haddam-Killingworth High School lower Media Center. Board of Education Chair Robert Baranoff called the meeting to order at 6:41 p.m.

Members present: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Robert Baranoff, Mark Almeida, John O'Leary, and Michael Trahan. Jo Ferjak arrived at 6:55 p.m.

Members absent: Diane Stock, Nancy Gorski, Richard Cabral, Daniel Cronin, and Douglas Stevenson.

Also present: Superintendent of Schools Gary S. Mala, Interim Director of Fiscal Operations James Gaskins, and Board Clerk Ann Lang.

**Review of Building Committee Recommendations for Contract Awards for Furniture, Fixtures, Equipment and Technology**

Mr. Mala stated that the Building Committee had voted to award low bid contracts for the new middle school's Library/Media Center for furniture, fixtures, and equipment as follows:

|                             |             |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Insalco Corp.               | \$ 7,640.91 |
| Office Furniture, Inc.      | 18,800.00   |
| Monitor Equipment, Co. Inc. | 21,279.30   |
| School Furnishings          | 65,884.80   |

In addition, Mr. Mala noted that the Building Committee voted unanimously to approve the technology bid contracts for the new middle school with an amendment not to exceed \$1,261,577.82 as presented to them.

Mr. Almeida explained that the bids are being approved for the Library/Media Center because the Media Center needs the largest lead time to get the furniture and shelving in. The remainder of the items will be reviewed and decided upon at a later time. He also noted that some items were not bid on.

Mr. Mala reviewed the options when items are not bid on: (1) solicit quotations; (2) award using the State contracts available; and (3) re-bidding. There was general consensus that some items would be best if they were re-bid.

Mr. Almeida noted that the above bids came in under the projected estimate. He noted that the technology bid is good for 90-120 days. The Building Committee will meet on August 16, at which time there will be additional quotes from Jeter, Cook and Jepson, and Ms. Wagner will have reviewed her equipment list. Their recommendation will be brought to the Education Committee in August.

Mr. Mala noted that the Building Committee has asked Ms. Wagner to review the equipment requests again to make sure that she gets what is needed in order to run the program, but that requests are not excessive.

Mr. Gaskins distributed a Purchasing Summary for the Library/Media Center, dated July 26, 2006, and noted that the Board will have a summary of the bids by the next meeting.

(Ms. Ferjak arrived)

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** that the Board award the bids for the furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the new middle school to the companies below as follows:

|   |             |
|---|-------------|
| Insalco Corp., item L012                                    | \$ 7,640.91 |
| Office Furniture, Inc., item L001                           | 18,800.00   |
| Monitor Equipment, Co. Inc., items L008-L011 &<br>L019-L024 | 21,279.30   |
| School Furnishings, items L002-L006 &<br>L013-L018          | 65,884.80   |

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Almeida noted that the installation of the wireless connection from Killingworth Elementary School to the new middle school is critical and must be done when there are leaves on the trees. He has received confirmation from the Killingworth Fire Department that there will be no charge assessed to install the equipment on the fire department's tower. This will allow for high speed internet access at the new school and Killingworth Elementary School and will connect the schools' network to the rest of the district. ACN was the higher bidder. Ergonomics was \$10,000 less, but they do not have the provision to maintain and monitor the equipment. Mr. Almeida also noted that the high school's technology equipment needs can be piggybacked onto the technology bid.

Mr. Almeida noted that Gateway has the best price on the wireless laptops. In reviewing the pricing, a number of questions arose and a Building Committee meeting will be held to get clarification on these questions.

Mr. Mala said the committee is questioning the award because the consultant was unable to produce the individual cost of a laptop when asked. He stated the committee needs to understand what is being recommended and why. He asked the Board to award the contract to ACN for the wireless bridge to the elementary school. The answers regarding technology will be available at the next meeting.

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** that the Board award the technology portion of the furniture, fixtures, and equipment bid for the wireless connection at

the new middle school and Killingworth Elementary School to ACN for \$44,876. Motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session to Discuss Negotiations and Legal Matters**

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** that the Board enter executive session to discuss negotiations and legal matters. Motion passed unanimously at 7:25 p.m.

Members present: Amy Jacques-Purdy, Jo Ferjak, Robert Baranoff, Mark Almeida, John O’Leary, and Michael Trahan.

Members absent: Diane Stock, Nancy Gorski, Richard Cabral, Daniel Cronin, and Douglas Stevenson.

Also present: Superintendent of Schools Gary S. Mala and Interim Director of Fiscal Operations James Gaskins.

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** the Board move out of executive session. Motion passed unanimously at 8:10 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Mr. Almeida **MOVED** and Ms. Jacques-Purdy **SECONDED** the meeting adjourn. Motion passed unanimously at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Lang, Board Clerk

Approval:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Amy Jacques-Purdy, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Approved as presented at the September 5, 2006, Board of Education meeting.**