Conneaut School District Finance/Budget Committee

January 26, 2015

The meeting of the Finance/Budget Committee was called to order at 3:00 pm on Monday, January 26, 2015 as advertised in the Large Conference room in the Central Office. Present for the meeting were Directors Dorothy Luckock, David Schaef and Jody Sperry; Business Manager Kara Onorato, and Superintendent Jarrin Sperry.

- Kara gave an update on the Office Depot supply program. They went out to all buildings and the majority of teaching staff was very receptive. It was noted that those who prefer to order their entire year worth of classroom supplies at one time is still an option. There are various reports available for review as well as safeguards in place. At this time the plan is to put the budget monies in the General Supplies category then transfer into actual accounts after orders are processed.

- We saw our first administrative report from Kelly Services regarding sub fill rate. It was noted that the total amount of absences for a day whether it be for illness, those scheduled out for training or conferences and also those in the building on other duties – such as when Special Education IEP meetings are held. We were reminded that Kelly has a “no touch” policy – therefore they do not cover nurses, Learning Support aides, etc. They remain in the district’s AESOP program. It was mentioned that the fees for AESOP are based on number of employees covered so that the district’s program costs will reduce significantly.

- A first look at staffing levels for budget planning was done. Currently the district has received notification of 5 retirements. Jarrin is consulting with John Hines regarding the impact of the Keystone testing and mandated remediation on the mathematics staff levels (as had reduction of a HS math teacher due to retirement last year). At this time it does not appear that we will be able to reduce staffing levels.

- All of the buildings have now turned in their initial budget information to Kara. She and Jarrin will be meeting with principals and other administration to review requests and questions. With the necessary PSERS increase for this next year, budgeting will present challenges again. The Finance/Budget committee will meet with all building principals as well as administration in the areas of Technology, Special Ed and Buildings/Grounds. Meetings will be held during February and March to permit an update to the entire board at the April meeting.

The next meetings are scheduled for the following dates at 2:00 pm in the Large Conference room. At each meeting we will be reviewing budget information from a building principal as well as one of the other above mentioned areas: Monday, Feb. 23; Monday, March 16 and Monday March 30.

Mrs. Jody Sperry, Board President

Mrs. Dorothy Luckock, Committee Chairperson

Ms. Kara Onorato, Board Secretary