Holmdel Board of Education Budget & Finance Committee Notes Monday, October 15, 2007, 4:15 PM

Attending: BOE members: Garrity, Strickland and Wetmore; Administration: Duncan, Mikos and Petrizzo. Absent: Burke

1. Corporate Marketing Associates: Committee members reported a mixed public response to the concept of advertising on school grounds. The sense of the committee is that we support the general concept, and recommend further discussion at the whole Board level with additional public comment invited.

Various issues still need to be ironed out, including but not limited to – what are the implications of our Roggy interlocal agreement for our use of ad revenues from Roggy field ads or events? Who is the lead agency for Roggy ads? If allowable ads include play or concert ad journals or the like, how will the revenue be shared between parent groups and the Board?

- 2. 2006-07 Audit: Began October 8th. So far, so good. Expected to take three weeks, but may wrap up sooner.
- 3. 2008-09 Budget: The committee reviewed the preliminary budget calendar. Budget systems training will be held for our Administrators on November 2, and budget defenses between November 28 and December 5. As always, state budget information is not expected until sometime in the latter half of February.
- 4. Health Benefits "Opt-out" Opportunity: For the first time, state law permits us to offer employees a chance to opt out of our health (medical, dental, vision) coverage without having to first negotiate the terms with HTEA. Employees who wish to opt-out must prove they have other coverage. The Board needs to decide what dollar or percentage of premium incentive amount we wish to offer those considering this option (by law it cannot exceed 50% of premium).

5. Other Matters:

Sports Camp, Play, etc. Proceeds: Sports camp revenues are handled through the High School Student Activity Fund. 75% covers camp salaries and costs. 25% is credited to the appropriate team for use throughout the year, e.g., for field trips, etc. Concern was raised about the lack of transparency of how play proceeds are used. Parents wonder why they are asked to pay, e.g., for costumes, when a previous play appeared to garner significant profits. Also, committee members would like our future agendas to reflect the source of field trip funding. Mr. Petrizzo will check with the building administrators and report back to the committee.

Hand Recognition System: The October 15 payroll was calculated using the system's software. A few discrepancies were noted and corrected. There have been a few small technical problems (e.g., IH's clock in the custodial area) which were promptly

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fixed. Once the system has handled payroll without any discrepancies multiple times, we will go paperless. This should occur no later than July 1, 2008.

Food Service: As expected we saw a higher than usual first month deficit this fall, \$38K vs. \$23K last year. There is always a deficit in September due to fixed summer costs, but the menu changes required by new nutritional requirements also had an impact. We expect sales will improve over time, as they ordinarily do. Our food service contract guarantees no more than a \$25K loss for the 2007/2008 school year.

Next meeting: Monday, November 19, 2007, 4:15 PM

Respectfully submitted, Barbara J. Garrity