

Questions from the May 27, 2010 Community Meeting:

Q: Where would the extra-curricular fee go?

A: \$88,000 to run our sports program at this point, this could help offset the cost of the extra-curricular programs. The hope would be to - not loose - these programs.

Q: What about families that have multiple kids involved in the programs - How would these be handled?

A: To be decided, if implemented

Q: What would the fee be to go to Softball games, we already have a small crowd, I would hate to see that dwindle?

A: Estimates based on \$3.00, this is not set in stone.

Q: Do our buses have manufacturer warrantees? - Suggestion to use the warrantee - New bus: No heat on the bus, it leaked this didn't get fixed.

A: This bus was taken to St. Louis to fix emergency exits and fix floors damaged from the leaks. Those were both under warrantee and were fixed. Central States Bus is our supplier. Things sometimes take longer under warrantee due to getting the bus to the facility and working it thru the manufacturer's hoops. All items were able to be repaired under warrantee and are definitely done under warrantee when available.

Q: Two buses running on the same path, both off the beaten path, to pick up a couple of kids - look at bus routes?

A: We look at the bus routes on an annual basis for capacity and distance. If we could have more specifics on these types of cases we could review these individually.

Q: Are we willing to sacrifice the safety of our kids by making these non-state and county maintained routes not run?

A: Students would be walking down private lanes a short distance. Parents would be responsible for that distance. As a district we care about our student's safety but the parents also have a roll in their children getting to school. Most districts do not travel private drives and lanes to transport students.

Q: I wasn't aware of the ability to buy family passes to activities.

A: We will work on getting that more publicized. These have been available for many years.

Q: There will only be only one class of Spanish, is there another foreign language? How will we handle this in the next few years?

A: Yes, there will only be one class of Spanish in 2010-11 due to an instructor leaving and class load for the other individual qualified. This coming year the offered class will be Spanish II because we have a large number of students enrolled in that class. In 2011-12 it will be Spanish I and hopefully the following year we can go back to more offerings and a routine schedule. Yes, we do have another language - French is being offered at this time.

Q: Field Trips - What is plans of driver only?

A: One option would be to stop field trips. Another option could be to have coaches or extracurricular leaders obtain CDL's to save money. The extra-curricular leader would not be paid for driving trip. (There was much discussion about this option and the multiple pros and cons that surrounded this idea).

Q: What about students who couldn't afford fees, how would these be handled?

A: To be decided, if implemented.

Q: Some of the clubs already charge dues; this would be a double fee for those students in these activities.

A: Yes, this is a concern and happens in schools where they charge fees. But this could be what is necessary to continue offering the activity at all.

Q: How does this affect the A+ program?

A: This is controlled by the state – Governor took A+ from DESE and changed to Higher Ed. Governors' reasoning is to allow Higher Ed to budget those dollars.

Q: Who pays for the field trips? Who pays the admission to the site?

A: PTA has helped pay some of these expenses in the past. The students who are participating pay some but in all occurrences the district pays for the bus and teacher subs for the day. In 2010-11 we will be using a figure for transportation cost that also includes fuel and bus usage per mile along with the driver cost.

Q: How much are we thinking about charging summer sports?

A: Actual cost of the activity – electricity plus equipment replacement cost. It would not be a money making proposition for the district but just paying for the actual cost. The lights are on their own meter – we could figure that very easily.

Q: What if a group wanted to fund or support a particular program?

A: That would be great!

Q: How is it not a MSHSAA violation to provide money for the program?

A: It would be going to the district to continue the program – and as long as the players don't keep property after the season it would not be in violation.

Q: What about the kids that can't afford this, can the donor give money for scholarships for these kids?

A: Yes, you can say you are giving money to a specific program – We do this now.

Q: Extra-curricular programs are important because some of our kids are never exposed to anything outside of Polk County unless it is a school related trip.

A: We need to assure that the trips have educational relevance. I agree this is very important to student development and experiences

Q: Washington D.C. trip – this is 100% on private donations

A: Indirect costs of field trips are also an issue – OTC example – 4 staff – Students not involved in field trips educational time in the classroom as well as substitute costs.

Q: Title 9 issues by donations even if it is by private donations.

A: The district needs to keep attentive to this situation. Any accepted large donation could obligate the district.

Q: The \$25.00 for extra-curricular is paid at the first of the year – Would they have to pay facility usage fees.

A: School sponsored activities would not pay any facility usage fees. The fees would only be for non-school sponsored activities.

Q: Would the booster club be charged for the usage of the gym to raise money for the students?

A: Yes, if implemented any activity that is not school sponsored would be charged.

Q: Explained that the summer sports program is basically a break even at best.

A: We are the YMCA in a community this size and that is all right but in hard budget times we must protect the classrooms.

Q: What would the total cost be for summer sports? What is the cost of the electricity for summer sports?

A: The ball fields are on their own meter – It would take reading the meters after Spring Baseball/Softball and then reading again at the end of summer sports. We would also need to figure cost of bulbs etc. if this was implemented.

Q: Where do all these cuts or revenues go?

A: The districts operating fund which keeps everything going.

Q: Handicap issue at the gym – Are we at Risk?

A: We are grandfathered in at this time, but we are liable if someone is injured due to carrying spectators up into the stands or alike.

Q: If the School Bond had passed or Prop C had passed, would this have even been an issue?

A: We would have had \$120,000 available for the next two years to help cover the holes left by the States holdbacks. This would have been possible because we would have started the construction using the bond money and waited as long as we could to use the lease purchase portion of the project.

The state is making many of its cuts in the transportation reimbursement. For MCE that number is around \$120,000. It is a very real possibility that could be zero by the end of next school year.

Q: Would the rural district have a cause against the state on the geographic spread of the district?

A: I do not know.

Q: On the buses and cutbacks – would it be possible for us to get an 18-passenger van?

A: The large vans are illegal for the district to use for transporting students. Some districts still have these in use because they were purchased before the law was enacted – our insurance carrier will not insure even the grandfathered vehicles any longer.

Q: Are you seriously going to make the new coaches get their CDL's?

A: Yes, It would give more flexibility getting students to extra-curricular events. When there is a problem supplying a driver at the needed time for the event the coach could opt to drive if they feel comfortable doing so. As a district our first job is to get the students to and from school safely first before transporting to extracurricular activities.

Revenue Enhancement Idea: pursue the city of Springfield and the landfill.

Q: We can't be the only district in this trouble - Will consolidation be something down the road?

A: We are in a better position than a lot of other districts. We have already made the changes for next year needed to keep the budget in line. In FY12, if something doesn't change, anyone that needs state funding will need to make big cuts and that is what we are doing here.

Yes, consolidation has been thrown around. Many of the smaller districts are worried about this possibility.

Q: What would be the Pros and Cons of a four-day week?

A: Savings would be on bus drivers, transportation, custodians, buildings shut down a day. Con would be childcare issues in the community of our size.

Q: Year Round School?

A: Our calendar is set on the traditional school year. Year round schools usually go the same amount of days but spread it out through the year with shorter breaks.

Q: How much money are we saving by not having summer school?

A: None, we get paid for summer school on our average daily attendance and in the past summer school did not pay for itself with this calculation. This year summer school was changed to credit recovery 1-12 and the ACT prep class. With the uncertainty of state funding the board decided taking the conservative route would be the most prudent action to protect what MCE does during the regular school term.

Q: When will these decisions need to be made?

A: If the funding cliff in FY 12 comes. Discussion needs to continue in the second half of the school year as the FY 12 budget is formulated. Tonight is a good start to that process. However, with the looming cuts to the State Transportation reimbursement I think it might be prudent to look at the change in our transportation this school year.

Marion C. Early R-5 Schools

Moving Forward in Hard Economic Times

Thursday May 27, 2010

State Budget Cuts

- *Fiscal Year 2011* (next School year)
 - *4% to 6% reduction in Formula Monies*
\$121,953 to \$182,923
 - *Transportation Reduction Possibly to “0”*
- *Fiscal Year 2012*
 - *Projected to be worse*
 - *8% to 12% reduction in Formula Monies*

OUR GOAL

Unrestricted Reserve
13% For FY11

Current Level

Adjustments Made To-Date

FTE	Position		Change
1	Certified Staff	MS Counselor	\$40,581.00
1	Certified Staff	A-Stars	\$38,339.00
1	Certified Staff	Elem. Classroom	\$52,305.00
5/7	Certified Staff	Health	\$17,789.00
4/7	Certified Staff	Spanish	\$25,713.00
1	Classified	Custodian	\$27,043.00
1	Classified	Cafeteria	\$16,695.00
1	Classified	Aide	\$17,201.00
5/7	Classified	ISS Monitor	\$13,232.00
N/A	Extra Duties	N/A	\$8,411.00
N/A	Operations	District	\$96,788.00
		TOTAL:	\$354,097.00

???? Expenditure Change ?????

	Impact
Fall Baseball/Spring Softball	\$5,751.00
Bus Routes County/State maintained Only	Two Percent
Field Trips / Extracurricular Activities (driver only)	\$9,648.00
Rotate Staff working gates as part of Duty	\$1,045.00

???? Revenue ????

	Impact
Parking Permits (50/\$25.00)	\$1,250.00
Extracurricular Fee (250/\$25.00)	\$6,250.00
Gate at Softball/Baseball	\$2,000.00
Fee for Lab/Art classes above first level	\$600.00
Facility use fee for all activities not associated with MCE	?

Ticket Prices

Ticket	# purchased	Price	Total
Adult	2374	\$3.00	\$7,122.00
Student	1505	\$1.00	\$1,505.00
Family	8	\$60.00	\$480.00
Single Ind.	2	\$25.00	\$50.00
			\$9,157.00

Increase A Ticket	# purchased	Price	Total
Adult	2374	\$4.00	\$9,496.00
Student	1505	\$2.00	\$3,010.00
Family	8	\$80.00	\$640.00
Single Ind.	2	\$35.00	\$70.00
			\$13,216.00

Increase A	\$4,059.00	Increase B	\$6,533.00	Increase C	\$1,505.00
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Increase B Ticket	# Purchased	Price	Total
Adult	2374	\$5.00	\$11,870.00
Student	1505	\$2.00	\$3,010.00
Family	8	\$90.00	\$720.00
Single Ind.	2	\$45.00	\$90.00
			\$15,690.00

Increase C Ticket	# Purchased	Price	Total
Adult	2374	\$3.00	\$7,122.00
Student	1505	\$2.00	\$3,010.00
Family	8	\$60.00	\$480.00
Single Ind.	2	\$25.00	\$50.00
			\$10,662.00



YOUR IDEAS!

THANK YOU!

