

Rocky River Board/Community Meeting
April 3, 2012
7:00pm – 9:00pm

Discussion Topics: Support and Administrative Services / Athletics and Activities

OVERVIEW

Dr. Michael Shoaf announced that at the 4.18.12 Committee-of-the-Whole meeting that Lowell Davis' report would be reviewed. At that meeting, a list of cost saving cuts will be announced and when the cuts would happen. Millage would also be discussed for the next operating levy that will be placed on the ballot.

Microphone was opened to the public: Support and Administrative Services

Theresa Fox: Suggested that a suggestion box be placed in each building to listen to teachers/staff on their cost saving ideas for their district. Would like only one administrator at each banquet – no spouses – no freebie outfits. Suggested that each Board Member adopt a building and act as their liaison.

Tom Lewins: Questioned the “double dippers”. Logical to get rid of the administrative “fluff”.

N. O'Hala: Transportation: Requests that we look into crossing guards.

Steve Knuth: Benchmarks, ongoing costs? Cost per student each year? Union employee pensions/Collectively bargain-follow requirements-bound by the law

Cory Koran: Good schools are essential for economic development.
Several new businesses all chose Rocky River due to the school district:
Whole Foods, Ernst Machine, Edwards Communities, Lizardville Restaurant
150 residents have applied for building permits to enhance their homes.
RR Schools are consistently in the top ten districts for Cleveland Magazine Suburb article.
The city is dependent on our schools.
Public Schools influence residency property values.

Mark Barrow: Transportation waste: Combining bus routes and sending one bus to sporting events would help.

Kim Lenahan: Asked for clarification on points.

Chuck Bartsche: Bottom line for Mr. Bartsche is to look at all contracts; he would like restrictions and limitations to be added to contracts.

Janine Walsh: Feels valued; wants to be respected; values job; cares about the students.

John Rowland: Has lived in Rocky River for 65 years. Moved here because of the schools.
Teachers should expect to make a decent wage.

Addie Olander: Reiterated other speakers' points.

OVERVIEW

RRHS has 22 varsity sports; 39 clubs/activities

RRMS has 10 sports/cheerleading; 16 clubs/activities

Microphone was opened to the public: Athletics and Activities

James Spallino: Is committed to activities such as art and band.
Disputed comments made by Mr. Bartsche.

Ryan Hudec: Expressed his commitment to his job and his students.

Paul Gallagher: 15 year resident; engaged with several RR community groups; commented that our tax rate is higher than other neighboring districts.

Dr. Shoaf refuted this statement and gave the correct information.

Lisa Buetcher: Would like us to effectively address perception.
More collaboration with homeowners/parents/small focus groups.

Mike Pease: Booster President
All money given back to school district; Boosters needs help. Next meeting is 4.24.12 at 7:00pm at Burntwood Tavern.

Philip Stark: In Mr. Stark's profession, there is a Board of Directors that sets the direction and then allows the management to perform. That is how he sees the working of the Board of Education and our Administration. Mr. Stark encourages the district to perform better campaigning for the next levy.

CONCLUSION

RRCSD finances are in better shape than originally thought. This was an unusual March where delinquent taxes came in fast. The Health Consortium is realizing a substantial savings. Retirements are down reducing costs.

RRCSD has retained an independent consultant to help project the RRCSD future financially. With budget trimming for the next fiscal year, we could put a reduced millage on the ballot.

RRHS Campus Project

Mr. Milano announced a few details on the Arts & Science Courtyard Landscaping Project. Visions are being established; working on finances from independent sources; possible naming rights.