

BOE Regular Meeting

Monday, March 7, 2011 7:00 PM

PPMS Library, 1 Route 164, Preston, CT 06365

I. Call to Order	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
II. Pledge of Allegiance	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
III. Approval of Minutes	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
IV. Public Comment	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
V. Board of Education Committee and Other Reports	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
VI. Superintendent Reports and Recommendations	Speaker (s) : Dr. Welch: Super.
VI.A. BOE Expenditure/Projection Report	Speaker (s) : Dr. Welch: Super.
VI.B. Cafeteria Report	Speaker (s) : Dr. Welch: Super.
VII. New Business	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
VII.A. Votes Required	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
VII.B. Discussion	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
VIII. Old Business	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
VIII.A. Votes Required	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
VIII.B. Discussion	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
IX. Information	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
X. Date and Time of Next Meeting	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair
XI. Adjournment	Speaker (s) : Dan Harris: Chair

Board of Education Regular Meeting

February 07, 2011 07:00PM

PVMS Library

1. Call to Order

Dan Harris called the meeting to order at 7:02pm. Members present: Deborah Burke-Grabarek, Pauline Andruskiewicz, Charles Raymond, James Jancewicz, John Moulson arrived at 7:13pm. Sandra Gauthier was absent. Also present: Dr. Welch; Superintendent, Gloria Homiski; Recording Secretary, Gary Miller; Interim Business Manager, Ivy Davis; Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Special Education, Ray Bernier; Principal PPMS, Dr. Walsh; Principal PVMS, Mike House; Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, Bill Legler, Amy Chmelecki and Senator Andrew Maynard.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Approval of Minutes

Moved, to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2011. Andruskiewicz/Burke-Grabarek. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

4. Public Comment

Bill Legler: Expressed his concern over the financials presented last month. He believes that all information including grants and tuitions must be readily available in order to make proper financial decisions.

5. Board of Education Committee and Other Reports

Transportation Sub Committee: no report

School Consolidation Sub Committee: James Jancewicz reported a \$100,000 to \$200,000 savings per year if the schools consolidate. All information will be presented to the BOE at their March meeting.

Audit Committee: no meeting, no report

6. Superintendent Reports and Recommendations

On February 3rd a band/choral performance was held at PPMS. Board members expressed their appreciation of the staff and students' hard work.

Senator Andrew Maynard addressed the board. The Governor will make a presentation next week, but in the meantime, Senator Maynard expressed his belief that ECS (\$436,130) will be level funded. He and Representative Tom Reynolds are both on the State Education Board. Senator Maynard stated that he and Tom would come back to the board in March to review the Governor's presentation.

Dan Harris asked if the legislature is making any change to the minimum funding requirement. Senator Maynard stated that the MBR is currently being discussed. There might be a possible restructuring of the formula. He will have a better idea in a month or so.

6.1. BOE Expenditure/Projection Report

The cafeteria report was previously mailed to the board. The account is in good standing.

The BOE budget status report reflects the transfers that were approved last month. In March, more surplus money may need to be transferred. John Moulson expressed his concern with over expended line items. He believes that some of the current encumbrances should actually be projections. Dr. Welch suggested that he, John and Gary meet to review the possibilities of coming to an agreeable solution.

6.2. Cafeteria Report

7. New Business

7.1. Votes Required

Moved, to authorize the Superintendent to act on Purchase order 110816 as required by Policy 3160. Burke-Grabarek/Andruskiewicz. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

7.2. Discussion

The board reviewed the changes to the 2010-2011 school calendar. Feb 18th, previously a shortened day, will now be a full day. Feb 22nd, previously a no school day, will now be a full day. These changes were made due to the high number of snow day closings so far this winter.

8. Old Business

8.1. Votes Required

Moved, to take the agenda out of order to discuss 8.1 Old Business, FY12 Budget. Raymond/Burke-Grabarek. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

Dr. Welch prepared a power point presentation for the board. The FY12 Itemized Estimate represents a level funded (\$10,456,162), level services budget.

Moved, to adjourn the meeting. Moulson, no second.

Moved to extend the meeting by a half an hour. Harris/Jancewicz. Burke-Grabarek, Raymond, Andruskiewicz also in favor. Moulson Opposed. Motion Carries.

Moved, to approve the proposed FY12 Itemized Estimate as presented and to authorize the Superintendent to deliver it to the BOF. (original recommended motion modified) Andruskiewicz/Harris. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

Moved, to take the agenda out of order to review the MOU for Director of Finance and School Business Operations. Harris/Raymond. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

Moved, to approve policies 3453, 6152, 6154, 6156, 6159, 6159.1, 6161, 6161.1, 6161.2, 6161.3, 6161.7 and 1151 as presented. Jancewicz/Burke-Grabarek. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

8.2. Discussion

9. Information

10. Executive Session

Moved, to convene in executive session at 9:12pm to discuss an attorney-client privileged communication relative to the position of Director of Finance and School Business Operations. Harris/Andruskiewicz. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

Moved, to authorize the superintendent and Mr. Moulson to confer with legal counsel on behalf of the BOE regarding the Memorandum of Agreement relative to

the employment of the Director of Finance and School Business Operations. Present a draft to BOS and BOF representatives and provide final draft version to each board (BOS, BOF, BOE). Burke-Grabarek/Jancewicz. Unanimous. Motion Carries.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting

To Be Determined.

12. Adjournment

Moved, to adjourn the meeting at 10:00pm. Jancewicz/Raymond. Unanimous. Motion Carries.



General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 6431

January Session, 2011

LCO No. **3734**

03734_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:

(ED)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE MINIMUM BUDGET REQUIREMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 10-262i of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2011*):

(a) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1990, and for each fiscal year thereafter, each town shall be paid a grant equal to the amount the town is entitled to receive under the provisions of section 10-262h, as calculated using the data of record as of the December first prior to the fiscal year such grant is to be paid, adjusted for the difference between the final entitlement for the prior fiscal year and the preliminary entitlement for such fiscal year as calculated using the data of record as of the December first prior to the fiscal year when such grant was paid.

(b) The amount due each town pursuant to the provisions of subsection (a) of this section shall be paid by the Comptroller, upon certification of the Commissioner of Education, to the treasurer of each town entitled to such aid in installments during the fiscal year as follows: Twenty-five per cent of the grant in October, twenty-five per cent of the grant in January and the balance of the grant in April. The balance of the grant due towns under the provisions of this subsection shall be paid in March rather than April to any town which has not adopted the uniform fiscal year and which would not otherwise receive such final payment within the fiscal year of such town.

(c) All aid distributed to a town pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be expended for educational purposes only and shall be expended upon the authorization of the local or regional board of education. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, and each fiscal year thereafter, if a town receives an increase in funds pursuant to this section over the amount it received for the prior fiscal year such increase shall not be used to supplant local funding for educational purposes. The budgeted appropriation for education in any town receiving an increase in funds pursuant to this section shall be not less than the amount appropriated for education for the prior year plus such increase in funds.

[(d) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, the budgeted appropriation for education shall be no less than the budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, minus any reductions made pursuant to section 19 of public act 09-1 of the June 19 special session, except that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, those districts whose number of resident students for the school year commencing July 1, 2009, is lower than such district's number of resident students for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education by the difference in number of resident students for such school years multiplied by three thousand.]

[(e) (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (c) of this section, for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2008, and June 30, 2009, the budgeted appropriation for education in any town receiving an increase in funds pursuant to this section shall be not less than the amount appropriated for education for the prior year plus the percentage of such increase in funds as determined under subsection [(f)] (g) of this section.

(e) For the fiscal years ending June 30, 2010, and June 30, 2011, the budgeted appropriation for education shall be no less than the budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, minus any reductions made pursuant to section 19 of public act 09-1 of the June 19 special session, except that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, those districts whose number of resident students for the school year commencing July 1, 2009, is lower than such district's number of resident students for the school year commencing July 1, 2008, may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education by the difference in number of resident students for such school years multiplied by three thousand.

(f) (1) Except as provided for in subdivision (2) of this subsection, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012, and each fiscal year thereafter, the budgeted appropriation for education shall be no less than the budgeted appropriation for education for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009.

(2) Subject to review and approval by the Commissioner of Education:

(A) Those districts whose number of resident students for the current school year is lower than such district's number of resident students for the previous school year may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education by the difference in number of resident students for such school years multiplied by three thousand;

(B) Those districts that make agreements for the provision of medical or health benefits pursuant to section 7-464b may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to the savings experienced as a result of such agreement;

(C) Those districts that make cooperative arrangements to provide school accommodations services, programs or activities, special education services or health care services pursuant to section 10-158a, or use regional educational service centers or joint purchasing agreements among boards of education for the purpose of purchasing instructional or other supplies, testing materials, special education services, health care services or food or food services pursuant to section 10-660 may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to the savings experienced as a result of such cooperative arrangements, regionalization of services and joint purchasing agreements; and

(D) Those districts that make use of any other budgetary efficiencies approved by the commissioner may reduce such district's budgeted appropriation for education in an amount equal to the savings experienced as a result of such other budgetary efficiency.

~~[(f)]~~ (g) (1) Except as provided for in subdivisions (2), (3) and (4) of this subsection, the percentage of the increase in aid pursuant to this section applicable under subsection (e) shall be the average of the results of (A) (i) a town's current program expenditures per resident student pursuant to subdivision (36) of section 10-262f, subtracted from the highest current program expenditures per resident student in this state, (ii) divided by the difference between the highest current program expenditures per resident student in this state and the lowest current program expenditures per resident student in this state, (iii) multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage points, (B) (i) a town's wealth pursuant to subdivision (26) of section 10-262f, subtracted from the wealth of the town with the highest wealth of all towns in this state, (ii) divided by the difference between the wealth of the town with the highest wealth of all towns in this state and the wealth of the town with the lowest wealth of all towns in this state, (iii) multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage points, and (C) (i) a town's grant mastery percentage pursuant to subdivision (12) of section 10-262f, subtracted from one, subtracted from one minus the grant mastery percentage of the town with the highest grant mastery percentage in this state, (ii) divided by the difference between one minus the grant mastery percentage of the town with the highest grant mastery percentage in this state and one minus the grant mastery percentage of the town with the lowest grant mastery percentage in this state, (iii) multiplied by thirty per cent, (iv) plus fifty percentage points.

(2) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, any town whose school district is in its third year or more of being identified as in need of improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, and has failed to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading at the whole district level, the percentage determined pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection for such town shall be increased by an additional twenty percentage points.

(3) For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010, any town whose school district is in its third year or more of being identified as in need of improvement pursuant to section 10-223e, and has failed to make adequate yearly progress in mathematics or reading at the whole district level, the percentage of the increase in aid pursuant to this section applicable under subsection (e) of this section shall be the percentage of the increase determined under subdivision (1) of this section for such town, plus twenty percentage points, or eighty per cent, whichever is greater.

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, and each fiscal year thereafter, any town that (A) is a member of a regional school district that serves only grades seven to twelve, inclusive, or grades nine to twelve, inclusive, (B) appropriates at least the minimum percentage of increase in aid pursuant to the provisions of this section, and (C) has a reduced assessment from the previous fiscal year for students enrolled in such regional school district, excluding debt service for such students, shall be considered to be in compliance with the provisions of this section.

(5) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes, charter, special act or home rule ordinance, on or before September 15, 2007, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008, a town may request the Commissioner of Education to defer a portion of the town's increase in aid over the prior fiscal year pursuant to this section to be expended in the subsequent fiscal year. If the commissioner approves such request, the deferred amount shall be credited to the increase in aid for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, rather than the fiscal year ending June 30, 2008. Such funds shall be expended in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2009, in accordance with the provisions of this section. In no case shall a town be allowed to defer increases in aid required to be spent for education as a result of failure to make adequate yearly progress in accordance with the provisions of subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection.

~~[(g)]~~ (h) Upon a determination by the State Board of Education that a town or kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district failed in any fiscal year to meet the requirements pursuant to subsection (c), (d) or (e) of this section, the town or kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district shall forfeit an amount equal to two times the amount of the shortfall. The amount so forfeited shall be withheld by the Department of Education from the grant payable to the town in the second fiscal year immediately following such failure by deducting such amount from the town's equalization aid grant payment pursuant to this section, except that in the case of a kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district, the amount so

forfeited shall be withheld by the Department of Education from the grants payable pursuant to this section to the towns which are members of such regional school district. The amounts deducted from such grants to each member town shall be proportional to the number of resident students in each member town.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, the State Board of Education may waive such forfeiture upon agreement with the town or kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district that the town or kindergarten to grade twelve, inclusive, regional school district shall increase its budgeted appropriation for education during the fiscal year in which the forfeiture would occur by an amount not less than the amount of said forfeiture or for other good cause shown. Any additional funds budgeted pursuant to such an agreement shall not be included in a district's budgeted appropriation for education for the purpose of establishing any future minimum budget requirement.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2011</i>	10-262i

Statement of Purpose:

To allow towns to reduce their minimum budget requirement for education by encouraging school districts to regionalize services, achieve efficiencies and lower costs.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]



Preston Public Schools

Memo

To: Jack Welch, Superintendent
From: Gary Miller, Interim Business Manager
Date: February 6, 2010
Re: FY2011 Budget Status Report
Encl: (1) Budget Status – February 2011

The attached Budget Status Report reflects the expenses to date for fiscal year 2010-2011 through February 28, 2011 including budget transfers authorized by the Board of Education.

1. Personnel (Object 111 and 112) and Benefits (Object 200) reflect all payroll expenses. The Regular Education Teachers account shows the gross salaries including those covered by the ARRA Stabilization Grant offset of \$436,130. The offset is the same amount as last fiscal year. Due to the departure of the Reading Teacher in mid-November, I am anticipating a savings in the Regular Education Teacher accounts of approximately \$26,704. This savings will cover the projected cost of the Interim Business Manager.
2. The Substitutes (Object 113) account was adjusted by the \$25,000 budget transfer authorized on December 13, 2010. The revised budget will be sufficient to support the current rate of absences.
3. Health Insurance (Object 212) experience has been good this year. Several contingent insurance premiums budgeted for this school year have not been taken, hence the projected balance.
4. Unemployment Compensation (Object 260) is projected to have a surplus of approximately \$25,000 at the current rate of expenditures. Although we continue to pay extended benefits on several former employees, the projected expenditure should adequately cover our future liabilities.
5. Special Education Services (Object 320) shows a large balance due to the shift of vocational training costs from this account to the Special Education Tuition – LEA Placed (Object 563) account. This type of service to students is an excess cost eligible tuition. The FY2012 budget already reflects this change in budget categorization. I plan to recommend a budget transfer once the excess cost reimbursement rate is announced for this fiscal year.
6. Professional Purchased Services (Object 330) is currently in deficit largely due to the cost of implementing the Phoenix Financial System. The training and implementation costs were not included in the final agreement with Sungard Public Sector signed by both the Town and Board of Education after the FY2011 budget was approved. ADP payroll services were also retained until December 2010, which was one quarter longer than originally budgeted. A future budget transfer will be recommended to cover these unanticipated costs.

7. Transportation Vehicle Repairs (Object 421) reflects a projected surplus largely due to turning three old school buses over to the Town for sale. A proposal to replace the video camera systems on the school buses is being prepared for Board approval at a future meeting.
8. Property/Liability Insurance (Object 520) shows the first quarter payment and encumbrance for quarters 3 and 4 to CIRMA for insurance that was formerly paid by the Town and assigned to the BOE after the budget appropriation was approved by the Town of Preston. The Board approved a budget transfer of \$56,096 on January 10, 2011 to cover the unbudgeted expenditure.
9. Dues/Fees (Object 810) account reflects a temporary deficit due to the expense for Project Oceanography (\$7,476) which will be charged to a grant when the funds are received.
10. The Board has authorized the following budget transfers:
 - a. December 13, 2010 - transfers totaled \$65,000
 - b. January 10, 2011 – transfers totaled \$111,096

Preston Board of Education
FY2011 Budget Status Report
 July 2010 to February 2011

	Account	Current Budget	Expenses	PO Encumb	Projected	Balance
111 · Certified Personnel						
	Superintendent	115,257	79,793	-	35,464	-
	Director of Cir., Inst & Sped	84,460	56,455	-	28,005	-
	Principals	197,713	135,701	-	62,012	-
	Business Manager	88,000	71,347	-	31,680	(15,027)
	Regular Education Teachers	2,314,053	1,317,966	-	969,383	26,704
	ARRA Stabilization Grant Offset	(436,130)	(300,000)	-	(136,130)	-
	Special Education Teachers	581,598	350,259	-	231,339	-
	Health Services	95,276	65,841	-	29,435	-
	Total Certified Personnel	3,040,227	1,777,362	-	1,251,188	11,677
112 · Classified Personnel						
	Instructional Assistants	310,699	161,107	-	149,592	-
	Central Office Staff	97,327	65,631	-	31,696	-
	Technical Coordinator	48,067	32,774	-	15,293	-
	School Secretaries	49,457	40,643	-	8,814	-
	Bldg & Grounds/Custodial	209,525	150,912	-	58,613	-
	Transportation Staff	417,949	225,109	-	192,840	-
	113 · Substitutes	108,000	63,869	-	44,131	-
	114 · Homebound Tutors	12,000	1,044	-	1,500	9,456
	122 · Stipends	21,700	8,959	-	12,741	-
	Total Classified Personnel	1,274,724	750,048	-	515,220	9,456
	212 · Health Insurance	900,000	682,970	-	167,606	49,424
	215 · Life Insurance	9,500	4,328	1,497	3,675	-
	220 · Social Security	161,085	95,303	-	65,782	-
	250 · Tuition Reimbursement	7,000	7,158	-	4,500	(4,658)
	260 · Unemployment Comp	44,000	8,257	-	10,000	25,743
	270 · Workers Comp	58,744	39,687	13,229	-	5,828
	275 · Employee Physicals	-	1,155	838	-	(1,993)
	291 · Annuity Payments	108,000	85,491	9,203	8,000	5,306
	295/297 · Employee Voluntary Insurances	-	268	-	(268)	-
	Total Benefits	1,288,329	924,617	24,767	259,295	79,650
	320 · Special Education Services	292,146	78,297	43,209	45,000	125,640
	322 · Staff Development	10,000	13,538	16,357	(20,000)	105
	330 · Professional Purchased Services	30,970	65,084	-	-	(34,114)
	340 · Legal Services	40,000	22,742	15,814	-	1,444
	410 · Utility Services	-	668	-	-	(668)
	420 · Refuse Removal	12,000	6,059	-	5,500	441
	421 · Transportation Vehicle Repairs	50,000	17,069	-	12,900	20,031
	430 · Repairs & Maintenance	115,473	96,717	21,327	-	(2,571)
	431 · Maintenance Equipment Repairs	5,000	2,607	1,530	-	863
	432 · Technology Equipment Repairs	43,982	30,238	9,353	4,391	-
	442 · Copier Leases	45,000	22,091	23,576	-	(667)
	450 · Building Improvements	28,000	18,442	9,533	-	25
	Total Purchased Services	672,571	373,552	140,699	47,791	110,529

Preston Board of Education
FY2011 Budget Status Report
 July 2010 to February 2011

	Account	Current Budget	Expenses	PO Encumb	Projected	Balance
510	Special Educ Transportation	115,000	73,062	-	40,000	1,938
520	Property/Liability Insurance	56,096	43,629	12,467	-	-
530	Communications	35,880	20,035	-	15,000	845
531	Postage	6,000	1,763	82	1,000	3,155
570	Food Service Stoploss	50,000	35,490	-	-	14,510
580	Travel	10,000	3,353	370	2,500	3,777
	Total Other Purchased Services	272,976	177,332	12,919	58,500	24,225
560	Tuition - Designated HS	1,569,575	1,540,259	18,610	-	10,706
561	Tuition - Vo-Ag, Other	134,016	102,531	25,769	-	5,716
562	Tuition - Magnet Schools	21,148	22,073	-	-	(925)
563	Tuition - Spec Ed - LEA Placed	1,131,526	1,120,270	292,714	(286,337)	4,879
564	Tuition - Spec Ed - DCF Placed	20,000	6,207	-	-	13,793
565	Tuition - Reg Ed - DCF Placed	-	17,070	-	-	(17,070)
	Total Student Tuition	2,876,265	2,808,410	337,093	(286,337)	17,099
611/612	Instructional/Media Supplies	47,500	40,473	12,850	-	(5,823)
613	Custodial/Maintenance Supplies	36,800	33,845	-	2,900	55
620/621	Heat Energy/Propane	87,647	36,346	-	50,000	1,301
622	Electricity	137,012	80,701	-	55,000	1,311
626	Gasoline/Diesel	107,870	28,283	-	62,000	17,587
641/642	Textbooks/Workbooks/Library	22,500	29,091	3,162	-	(9,753)
650	Technology Supplies	10,280	4,158	974	5,000	148
690	Non-Instructional Supplies	10,000	15,551	3,962	-	(9,513)
	Total Supplies/Commodities	459,609	268,448	20,948	174,900	(4,687)
730	Instructional Equipment	5,000	81	-	4,900	19
733	Non-Instructional Equipment	20,000	13,842	2,025	4,000	133
734	Technology Equipment	82,831	70,423	4,685	7,700	23
735	Technology Software/Licenses	15,000	16,755	6,481	(10,380)	2,144
	Total Equipment	122,831	101,101	13,191	6,220	2,319
810	Dues/Fees	12,500	21,004	-	(8,500)	(4)
	Total Expense	10,020,032	7,201,874	549,617	2,018,277	250,264

Law of the Workplace

PREPARED BY SIEGEL, O'CONNOR, O'DONNELL & BECK, P.C.

CLIENT ALERT

SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA IN CONNECTICUT SCHOOLS

Known as "K2" and "Spice", synthetic marijuana is the substance responsible for a recent surge in emergency room visits among teenagers and people in their early 20s. This treacherous new drug is now appearing in Connecticut schools.

K2 was recently described in a Hartford Courant article as "much more dangerous" than natural marijuana, capable of producing negative reactions closer to those caused by cocaine and other powerful stimulates. Yet, unlike cocaine or natural marijuana, K2 and spice are still legal and may be purchased both online and in various convenience marts and gas stations around the state. While the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) has announced it will be placing synthetic marijuana under a 12-month ban, this temporary measure is yet to be implemented.

Health risks aside, synthetic marijuana is posing a unique challenge to school administrators across the state: Many schools' disciplinary policies cover only illegal drugs, controlled substances, and alcohol, making disciplining of students caught with this dangerous substance difficult, if not impossible.

Therefore, it is recommended that Connecticut schools consider amending their disciplinary language to address the new issue of synthetic marijuana. Furthermore, faculty members should familiarize themselves with the symptoms of K2 and Spice usage, which can be distinctive from symptoms of traditional marijuana.

For assistance in drafting a comprehensive disciplinary policy that includes language addressing synthetic marijuana usage, please contact the attorneys at Siegel O'Connor O'Donnell and Beck, P.C.

This material is intended to provide you with information regarding a noteworthy legal development. It should not be regarded as a substitute for legal advice concerning specific situations in your operation. If you have any questions or would like additional information on this topic, please contact our Firm at (860) 727-8900 or www.siegelconnor.com.

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Preston Board of Education

Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

5131.6(a)

Students

Drugs and Alcohol/Tobacco

Drug and Alcohol Free Schools

Pursuant to the goal of the Board of Education to maintain a drug and alcohol free school district, school employees shall take positive action through education, counseling, parental involvement, and medical and police referral in handling incidents in the schools involving possession, sale, and/or use of behavior affecting substances. These substances shall include but not be limited to alcohol and controlled substances as defined in the Penal Code of the State of Connecticut. (cf. 6164.11 Drugs/Alcohol and Tobacco)

Personal privacy rights of students shall be protected as provided by law. School properties may be inspected by school authorities to maintain health and safety. Searches to locate drugs, narcotics, liquor, weapons, poisons, and missing properties are matters relating to health and safety and may be regarded as reasonable grounds for searches by school personnel. (cf. 5145.12 Search and Seizure)

Use, possession, sale or distribution of drugs, including **synthetic marijuana**, drug paraphernalia and/or alcoholic beverages is prohibited at any time on school premises or at any school-sponsored activity. If a student is under the influence of a drug or alcohol, or engaged in the illegal activity of possessing or selling drugs and/or alcohol, his/her parent(s) will be contacted, he/she will be suspended from school (in accordance with policy 5114), referred to the appropriate treatment agency, and possibly considered for expulsion. In cases of the illegal activity of possessing or selling drugs or alcohol, students will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Annually, students will be notified through the student handbook, or through other means, of disciplinary sanctions for violation of this policy.

- A. Principals will include statements, appropriate to student maturity, in school handbooks to the effect that:
 1. the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession or use of controlled substances, other illegal drugs, **synthetic marijuana** or alcohol is prohibited in the workplace and at school sponsored activities;
 2. that compliance with the standards of conduct stated in the handbook is mandatory;
 3. that a violation of its provisions will subject students to disciplinary action up to and including expulsion and referral for prosecution.
- B. Students who violate this policy will be subject to disciplinary action which may include, but is not limited to, suspension or expulsion, and/or enrollment in and successful completion of an appropriate substance abuse rehabilitation program. Members of the administrative staff shall report any suspected violation of the standards of conduct directly to the Principal or designee who will immediately investigate the allegation and meet with the alleged violator. Any disciplinary actions imposed will insure that similar violations will be treated consistently.

Preston Board of Education

Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

5131.6(b)

Students

Drugs and Alcohol/Tobacco (continued)

Drug and Alcohol Free Schools (continued)

1. Privileged communication between a professional employee and a student concerning drug abuse shall remain confidential between student and professional.
 2. If a professional employee suspects student drug abuse, the employee shall refer the matter to the administration for evaluation. If there is evidence the student needs treatment, a program suited to the individual's needs will be recommended.
 3. If a professional employee obtains suspected physical evidence of drugs, including **synthetic marijuana**, from a student in or on school property or at a school-sponsored event, the employee shall submit such evidence to the school Principal or designee. If the drug is suspected of being illicit, the Principal will turn the substance over to law enforcement personnel. Student and employee confidentiality shall be maintained at this point in the process.
 4. Following arrest and while awaiting trial for possession of, or possession of with intent to sell drugs in or on school property or at a school-sponsored event, the student may be allowed to attend school in the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools.
- C. The Superintendent of Schools shall direct a drug free awareness program for students on:
1. dangers of drug abuse;
 2. Board of Education's policy of maintaining drug free schools;
 3. availability of drug counseling and rehabilitation programs;
 4. penalties for drug abuse violations in schools.

Smoke-Free Environment

Students

There shall be no smoking or any other unauthorized use of tobacco by students in any school building or school vehicle at any time, or on any school grounds during the school day, or at any time when the student is subject to the supervision of designated school personnel, such as when the student is at any school function, extracurricular event, field trip, or school related activity such as a work-study program. An ongoing program of student support and counseling will be offered to provide support for students who wish to break the smoking habit.

Staff and Public

There shall be no smoking in buildings under the control of the Board of Education. An ongoing program of staff support and counseling will be offered to provide support for staff who wish to break the smoking habit.

(cf. 1330 Use of School Facilities)

(cf. 1331 Smoke Free Environment)

(cf. 4118.231/4218.231 Smoking, Drinking, & Use of Drugs on School Property)

Preston Board of Education
Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

5131.6(c)

Students

Drugs and Alcohol/Tobacco (continued)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
1-21b. Smoking prohibited in public buildings. Signs required. Penalties.
10-19 Teaching about alcohol, nicotine or tobacco, drugs and acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Training of personnel.
10-154a Professional communications between teacher or nurse and student. Surrender or physical evidence obtained from students.
31-40q Smoking in the workplace: Definitions; employers to establish non-smoking areas; exemptions.
53-198 Smoking in motor buses, railroad cars and school buses.
Federal Regulation 34 C.F.R. Part 85 Drug Free Schools & Communities Act.

Policy adopted: 5/12/08

Preston Board of Education

Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

6164.11

Instruction

Drugs, Tobacco, Alcohol

Because use of these harmful agents has a deleterious effect on the health and welfare of the users and far-reaching detrimental consequences to users, families, and society, efforts shall be made by staff to reduce student use of harmful drugs, **including synthetic marijuana**, tobacco and alcohol.

The professional staff shall be provided information and skills to acquaint them with problems of drug, tobacco, and alcohol use and in recognition of the symptoms of such use. At least annually, and as other appropriate opportunities arise, teachers in each grade shall emphasize the effect of alcohol, nicotine, tobacco and drugs, **including synthetic marijuana**, on health, character, citizenship, and personality development — in both health education programs and in other contexts.

The Superintendent shall make use of in-service training sessions for both certified and non-certified staff to achieve the goals of this policy; full cooperation with community agencies shall be given wherever such cooperation is advantageous to students.

(cf. 5131.6 - Drugs, Tobacco, Alcohol)

Legal Reference: **Connecticut General Statutes**
10-16b Prescribed courses of study.
10-19 Effect of alcohol, nicotine or tobacco and drugs to be taught.
10-19a Superintendent to designate substance abuse prevention team.
10-19b Advisory councils on drug abuse prevention.
10-220 Duties of boards of education.
10-221(d) Boards of education to prescribe rules.

Policy adopted:

PRESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

325 SHETUCKET TURNPIKE

PRESTON, CT 06365

Phone: 860-889-6098 ~ Fax: 860-889-8685

DATE	PURCHASE ORDER NUMBER
3/1/2011	110823
AMOUNT	ACCOUNT CODE
\$3,878.00	1-101-0080-735-2230-0000

PURCHASE ORDER COPY

COPY

XDF Computer Systems Integration and Se
P.O Box 33
New Britain, CT 06050-0033

Purchase Terms and Conditions

1. Include Material safety data sheets, if applicable
2. Purchase Order # must appear on all packages
3. Packing slips are essential for proper payment
4. District must approve all price increases
5. All PO's and backorders will be cancelled within 90 days

SHIP PREPAID TO:

Technology Coordinator
Preston Public Schools
325 Shetucket Turnpike
Preston, CT 06365

Vendor Phone Vendor Fax Vendor Code B1097

Delivery Required	F.O.B.	Requested by: Emile	# Attachments 0
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ITEM	ORDER	RECV	DESCRIPTION	Unit Price	TOTAL PRICE
1	100.00		Websense licenses (additional) through June 2013 per quote #304460	\$38.78	\$3,878.00
TOTAL					\$3,878.00

CERTIFICATION OF RECEIPT

I CERTIFY THE GOODS AND/OR SERVICES
DETAILED ABOVE ARE ACCEPTABLE FOR
PAYMENT.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

DATE

RECEIVING REPORT

Preston Board of Education

Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

4118.6
4218.6

Personnel - Certified-Non-Certified

Rights, Responsibilities and Duties

Policy on Social Networking

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of social media for its employees, and acknowledges that its employees have the right under the First Amendment, in certain circumstances, to speak out on matters of public concern. However, the Board will regulate the use of social media by employees, including employees' personal use of social media, when such use:

- 1) interferes with the work of the school district;
- 2) is used to harass coworkers or other members of the school community;
- 3) creates a hostile work environment;
- 4) breaches confidentiality obligations of school district employees,
- 5) disrupts the work of the school district;
- 6) harms the goodwill and reputation of the school district in the community; or
- 7) violates the law, board policies and/or other school rules and regulations.

The Board of Education, through its Superintendent, will adopt and maintain administrative regulations to implement this policy.

Legal References:

U.S. Constitution, Amend. I

Conn. Constitution, Article I, Sections 3, 4, 14

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-48d

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51q

Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 53a-182; 53a-183; 53a-250

Electronic Communication Privacy Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2510 through 2520

Policy adopted:

Preston Board of Education

Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

6162.3(a)

Instruction

Research: Testing

Testing Program

A plan of system-wide testing in addition to mandated statewide assessments, **MAY BE** developed and implemented as one indication of the success and quality of the district's total educational program. In the case of individual students, standardized achievement tests, in combination with other criteria, can provide an indication of student achievement. When appropriate, students may also be tested for mental ability, aptitude and interest.

The purposes of the district-wide testing program are to facilitate and provide information for the following:

- A. ***Student Achievement*** - To produce information about relative student achievement so that parents/guardians, students and teachers have a baseline against which to monitor academic progress. Within the limitations of group testing instruments, the information should be useful to serve as a validation device for other measures of student progress.
- B. ***Student Counseling*** - To serve as a tool in the counseling and guidance of students for further direction and for specific academic placement.
- C. ***Instructional Change*** - To provide data which will assist in the preparation of recommendations for instructional program changes to:
 1. Help teachers with instructional decisions, plans and changes regarding classroom objectives and program implementation;
 2. Help the professional staff formulate and recommend instructional policy; and
 3. Help the Board of Education adopt instructional policies.
- A. ***School and District Assessment*** - To provide additional indicators of the progress of the district toward established goals.

The testing program is an integral part of the district's needs assessment and evaluation programs. The program should be developed primarily for furnishing needed information to decision makers, including the Board, administrators, teachers, parents/guardians and students.

The needs of these various groups shall be clearly identified, and the testing program shall be limited to obtaining that information which is needed and useful.

Preston Board of Education
Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

6162.3(b)

Instruction

Research: Testing

Testing Program (continued)

In planning, every effort will be made to see that testing contributes to the learning process rather than detracts from it. Efforts shall be made to incorporate necessary culture-free and culture-fair tests to assure reasonably accurate measurements.

The district shall not discriminate in the methods, practices and materials used for testing, evaluating and counseling students on the basis of sex, race, national origin, creed, sexual orientation or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures.

Parents shall be notified prior to any individual student testing, beyond that which is part of the regular classroom routine. Parental notification shall include the reason for the testing and an explanation of the test to be used. All such tests results shall be shared with parents.

Staff will receive in-service education in the use of designated tests, confidentiality issues and interpretation of test results.

A periodic review and evaluation of the district's testing program will be conducted.

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

Preston Board of Education

Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

6162.31

Instruction

Research: Testing

Test Exclusion

The Board of Education believes that the annual assessment of student and district progress is a vital component of the instructional process. It is recognized that some students may need to be excluded from the system-wide testing program and/or the statewide mastery testing program, **(GRADES 3-8)** because of unique exceptionalities. All exclusions shall be made as a result of the Planning and Placement Team process.

Special education students shall participate in mastery testing except in the rare case when their Planning and Placement Team determines that participation would be inappropriate and recommends the use of an alternative assessment as specified by the State Board of Education.

The provisions on mastery testing shall not apply to any student enrolled for ten (10) months or less in a bilingual program, or English as a Second Language program.

(cf. 6141.31 – Bilingual-Bicultural Education)

(cf. 6146.2 – Statewide Proficiency/Mastery Examinations)

(cf. 6171 – Special Education)

Legal Reference: 10-14m Development and submission of educational evaluation and remedial assistance plan
 10-14n Statewide mastery
 10-14o Compensatory education grant. Financial statement of expenditures
 10-14p Reports by local and regional boards re: instructional improvement and student progress
 10-14q Exceptions (as amended by PA 01-205)

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

Preston Board of Education

Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

6162.4
1240

Instruction

School Volunteers

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of school volunteers. Volunteers can provide for expanded collaboration between the school and community, enhance the school's educational environment and ultimately enrich students' school experience.

School volunteers provide services which enrich existing school programs. Volunteers may be parents, senior citizens or other persons interested in assisting in the school.

The school volunteer is a non-paid person who helps in the school under the direction of the school Principal or his/her designee.

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

6163.3**Instruction****Instructional Resources for Students****Live Animals in the Classroom**

To protect both students and animals, students shall not bring any live animal, whether pet or wild, to any classroom without prior consent of the teacher and the Principal.

Teachers may bring and maintain goldfish or tropical fish in suitable bowls or tanks, but turtles, birds, snakes, or other animals which might present a health hazard shall not be allowed without the approval of the Principal - and then only for class observation and study for a limited period of time.

Science teachers may have animals such as rats, mice, and frogs in appropriate facilities in or adjacent to laboratories for the purpose of class study and experimentation, provided that care is taken to prevent accident and/or unnecessary suffering to the animals.

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

Preston Board of Education
Policies, Regulations, and Bylaws

6164

Instruction

Individual Services and Diagnostic Counseling

Professional staff shall work with individual students, or groups of students, who exhibit poor attendance, poor school adjustment, or other evidence of causes, largely external to the school, which may be interfering with the school progress.

Such professional staff shall **BE APPROPRIATELY CERTIFIED AS A GUIDANCE COUNSELOR OR SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST.**

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

—

6164.2**Instruction****Guidance Services**

The guidance program shall be an integral part of the total program of instruction to help each student make the best of educational opportunities and lead a useful and happy life.

The guidance program shall be directed toward the growth and improvement of all students, recognizing however, that some students are in greater need of individual guidance than others.

The guidance program shall attempt to provide for each student a sense of belonging, responsibility, self-respect, emotional security, achievement, and recognition, and shall attempt to develop student appreciation and understanding of the world through provision of classrooms and an overall school environment in which effective learning and good behavior take place.

The guidance program shall provide a positive correction of antisocial behavior of students and shall strive to prevent such behavior initially.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
[10-21](#) Vocational guidance.

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

6171

Instruction**Special Education**

The District shall provide special education programs for the students of the school district in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop a comprehensive plan of compliance with all of the requirements of federal and state law for the education of students with exceptional needs who reside in or attend district schools.

While addressing student needs appropriately, special education shall reflect district financial ability necessary for provision of special facilities and trained and certified personnel.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-76a](#) Definitions.

[10-76b](#) State supervision of special education programs and services.

[10-76c](#) Receipt and use of money and personal property.

[10-76d](#) Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services.

[10-76e](#) School construction grant for cooperative regional special education facilities.

[10-76f](#) Definition of terms used in formula for state aid for special education.

[10-76g](#) State aid for special education.

[10-76h](#) Special education hearing and review procedure. Mediation of disputes.

[10-76i](#) Advisory council for special education.

[10-76j](#) Five-year plan for special education.

[10-76k](#) Development of experimental educational programs.

[10-76m](#) Auditing claims for special education assistance.

State Board of Education Regulations

[10-76a-1 et seq.](#) Definitions

[10-76d-1 through 10-76d-19](#) Conditions of instruction

[10-76h-1 through 10-76h-2](#) Due process

[10-76l-1](#) Program Evaluation

[10-145a-24 through 10-145a-31](#) Special Education (re teacher certification)

34 C.F.R. 3000 Assistance to States for Education for Handicapped Children.

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act as amended by P.L. 105-17.

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

6172

Instruction**Alternative Education Programs**

The Board endeavors to provide an educational program adjusted to the needs of the individual child within the financial means of the district. Grouping enables a more efficient use of staff in meeting these needs. Program adaptations provide another means of using staff efficiently and effectively to meet the needs of many children.

When the needs of special individuals or groups cannot be met through adaptation or independent study, the Superintendent of Schools shall investigate and propose to the Board for approval alternative programs and facilities

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

6176

Instruction**Career and Vocational Education**

Constructive attitudes and concepts involving the dignity of all kinds of work shall be presented throughout all levels of existing curriculum. Educational programs continually shall expose students to the wide variety of careers in the world of work. Occupational education shall consider technical and economic conditions and changes, and, as a core component of comprehensive education, shall share with other aspects of the curriculum the development of character and attitudes as well as skills. Guidance and counseling services shall be provided to each student throughout his or her academic program.

The District shall offer a planned, ongoing, and systematic program of instruction in career education and, at least on the secondary level, in vocational education.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Board of education to prescribe rules

[10-265a](#) Definitions.

[10-265b](#) State grants for vocational education equipment.

Policy Adopted: 7/11/05

6177

Instruction**Use of Commercially Produced Video Recordings**

Videotapes will be selected and assigned to give support directly to instructional learning objectives contained within the Board approved curriculum.

Videotapes, when used, shall be selected for their direct relevance to the instructional program. General selection criteria should include quality of the overall work and its individual parts, fair and accurate representation of the facts, the reputation and significance of the writer, director, and/or performer.

Videotapes shall not be used for recreation or entertainment, or for other than planned instructional purposes.

Legal Reference: Publication [94-553](#); The Copyright Act of 1976, 17 U.S.C. 101 et seq. and 1980 amendments

Policy Adopted: 7/11/05

6180

Instruction**Evaluation of the Instructional Program**

Appropriate procedures for continuing evaluation of the district's educational programs shall be established and maintained. Special attention shall be given to:

- A. Elimination of discrimination because of race, color, creed, religious creed, age, marital status, national origin, sex or physical disability;
- B. Recognition of the individual child.

Elements of program evaluation may include the following:

- A. Defining each objective in terms that can be measured/observed:
 - 1. Measurable student behavior; (tests, surveys, inventories, checklists, etc.)
 - 2. Observable student behavior. (that which can be assessed subjectively by (1) teachers, (2) peers or (3) the students themselves.)
- B. Planning and carrying out student experiences to achieve desired outcomes;
- C. Employing pertinent test, measurements, observations:
 - 1. During the learning experiences;
 - 2. Following the learning experiences.
- D. Comparing outcomes with objectives;
- E. Continuing, revising or expanding learning experiences which seem to result in the desired objectives.

(cf. [6121](#) Nondiscrimination: Instructional Program)

Legal Reference: **Connecticut General Statutes**

[10-14m](#) Development and submission of educational evaluation and remedial assistance plan.

[10-76d\(g\)](#) Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. 1681 et seq.

Policy adopted: 7/11/05

6181

Instruction**Evaluation of Special Education Program**

The Superintendent shall make an annual report to the Board of Education on district special education programs, with particular attention to individual programs, by program and school.

The report shall include recommendations of the Superintendent and staff, and by any advisory groups, for program improvement.

The Superintendent shall make interim reports if any programs are significantly less satisfactory than expected and the necessary adjustments made to improve them.

The Superintendent shall ensure that each student's individualized education plan is reviewed periodically and at least annually.

Legal Reference: **State Board of Education Regulations**

[10-76d-1](#) - [10-76d-19](#) Duties and powers of boards of education to provide special education programs and services.

Policy adopted: 7/11/05



PRESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
325 Shetucket Turnpike
Preston, Connecticut 06365-8631

John J. Welch, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
welchj@prestonschools.org

(860) 889-6098
FAX (860) 889-8685

December 7, 2010

To: School Consolidation Sub-Committee

From: John J. Welch, Ed.D. 

Re: Consolidation Options

To date, we have discussed the following three consolidation options:

Option 1:

House grades PK-8 and administrative offices at Preston Veterans' Memorial School (PVMS) and declare Preston Plains Middle School (PPMS) surplus.

Option 2:

House grades PK-8 at PVMS and re-locate administrative offices to PPMS where they could enjoin with town offices to create a municipal building complex.

Option 3:

House grades PK-8 at PVMS and re-locate administrative offices to PPMS where they could enjoin with LEARN to occupy approximately half the building to support a vocational education program for high school age students.

Among the three options, Option 1 would yield an estimated annual cost savings of \$150,311 (see appended detail), excluding any personnel savings attributable to consolidating the district.

Since the Town does not appear interested in the prospect of creating a Municipal Building at PPMS, no effort has been made to calculate the cost savings associated with doing so, but presumably it would be less than the estimated savings associated with Option 1 since there would be an on-going operational expense that the parties would share.

Similarly, it is not possible to calculate the cost savings attributable to entering into a lease arrangement with LEARN primarily because LEARN will not make a commitment absent a corresponding commitment from the member towns comprising LEARN. They will not seek such a commitment absent an affirmative vote of the Board of Education declaring that space is available at PPMS.

**Preston Public Schools
Summary of Preliminary Cost Savings
Closing Preston Plains Middle School**

Account	Description	Amount	Comment
1-101-430-2600-0000	Elevator Maint	1,750	ThyssenKrupp
	State Inspection Certificate	240	
	Off-contract repairs	2,500	
	Asbestos Management Plan	500	
	Boiler Maintenance	1,000	
	Hood cleaning	300	
	Phones/clocks/fire alarms	5,000	Simplex -contract \$3500
	Water	1,500	
	Septic cleaning	650	
	Fire extinguishers - insp/maint	400	
	Fertilizing - weed control	8,500	Lawn Dr
1-101-0060-442-1000-0000	Copier Leases	12,840	Remove 2 copiers \$6420 each
1-101-0040-450-2600-000	Building Improvements	10,000	Security, fencing, paving, etc
1-101-0060-520-2500-0000	Property/Liability Insurance	5,000	Est for only PVMS on policy
1-101-0060-530-1000-0000	Remove two T-1 Lines	6,480	
1-101-0040-613-2600-0000	Custodial/Maintenance Supplies	14,000	40% less sqft
1-101-0040-620-2600-0000	Heating Oil - Dime Oil	48,840	Est 22,000 gals @ \$2.22
1-101-0040-621-2600-0000	Natural Gas/Propane		
	Norwich Utilities - Hot Water	8,500	Est of 1st year service
	Amerigas - Kitchen	500	
1-101-0040-622-2600-0000	Electricity		
	CL&P	27,240	Est 150,000 Kwh @ \$0.1816
	CL&M Loan Payments	11,956	Energy Efficiency Loan
1-101-0040-420-2600-0000	Refuse Removal	3,240	
	Total Reduction	\$ 170,936	
Additions due to added modular space - est. 7500 sqft			
1-101-0040-613-2600-0000	Custodial/Maintenance Supplies	2,775	Est \$0.37 per sqft
1-101-0040-620-2600-0000	Heating Oil - Dime Oil	6,975	Est \$0.93 per sqft
1-101-0040-622-2600-0000	Electricity	10,875	Est \$1.45 per sqft
	Total Addition	\$ 20,625	
	Net Total	\$ 150,311	

Memorandum of Agreement

The Preston Board of Education (hereinafter the “Board of Education”) and the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Preston (hereinafter the “Board of Selectmen”) (collectively referred to as the “parties” or the “Boards”) hereby agree to the following:

1. The parties desire to hire a Director of Finance and School Business Operations (hereinafter the “Director of Finance”) who will work jointly for the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen.
2. The parties agree to form a committee for purposes of interviewing candidates for the Director of Finance position. The Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen and the Preston Board of Finance may each appoint up to two (2) individuals to serve on the committee.
3. The committee will recommend a finalist or finalists to the First Selectman and the Superintendent of Schools, who will interview said finalist(s). The First Selectman and the Superintendent of Schools will each make a recommendation to their respective Boards on the candidate(s). The parties understand and agree that the recommendation of the First Selectman to the Board of Selectman and the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education shall not bind their respective Boards. Moreover, in the event that both Boards do not accept a candidate, the Board rejecting the candidate shall not be bound to accept such candidate and the Board in favor of the candidate may, at its discretion, hire the candidate to work exclusively for such Board.
4. The parties agree that an individual will not be hired for such joint position until both the Board of Education and the Town of Preston have successfully installed and fully integrated the Phoenix financial software previously purchased by the parties, as determined by a representative of the Town Auditor. In determining whether the Board of Education and the Town of Preston have successfully installed and fully integrated the Phoenix financial software, the following criteria must be met by the Board of Education and the Town of Preston: (a) All employee payrolls and accounts payable/receivable are produced solely on the Phoenix financial software (all parallel processing having been completed); (b) Quickbooks and IMG are being used only as legacy systems for transaction/budget history, except for funds/processes not intended for conversion to the Phoenix financial software; and (c) Routine management, accounting, and audit reports are produced on the Phoenix financial software.
5. The parties understand and agree that as a condition of employment and as a condition of the parties agreement to jointly employ the Director of Finance, the Director of Finance will dedicate eighty percent (80%) of his

work time for work on behalf of the Board of Education and twenty percent (20%) of his work time for work on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.

6. The parties agree that eighty percent (80%) of the Director of Finance's salary shall be the responsibility of the Board of Education and twenty percent (20%) of the Director of Finance's salary shall be the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen. Costs related to benefits shall also be shared based upon an eighty percent (80%)/twenty percent (20%) division.
7. The parties agree that in the event either party to this Memorandum of Agreement believes that the Director of Finance is required for a greater percentage of time than the percentages set forth under paragraph 5 herein, the party requiring the Director of Finance for the greater percentage of time must request and receive written approval from the other party for such additional use. If such request is denied, the Director of Finance will continue to work within the percentages set forth under paragraph 5 herein. A copy of any correspondences between the parties relating to the application of this paragraph will be provided to the Board of Finance.
8. The parties agree that in the event the Director of Finance works beyond the percentages set forth under paragraph 5 herein and written approval has been secured as set forth under paragraph 7 herein, the parties will revisit the percentage of remuneration paid by the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen.
9. The parties agree that in the event the Director of Finance works beyond the percentages set forth under paragraph 5 herein for a party to this Memorandum of Agreement and written approval from the other party has not been secured, the party being adversely impacted may provide written notice to the other party of its termination of this Memorandum of Agreement. Accordingly, the joint use of the Director of Finance will cease upon receipt of such notice. Alternatively, if the party being adversely impacted does not wish to terminate this Memorandum of Agreement, the party being adversely impacted will be provided by the other party, upon demand, with a greater percentage of the Director of Finance's salary, as determined by the adversely impacted party. A copy of any correspondences between the parties relating to the application of this paragraph will be provided to the Board of Finance.
10. The parties agree that the joint use of the Director of Finance may be discontinued at any time, provided that the parties either: (1) agree, in writing, to discontinue this arrangement; or (2) either party provides the other with sixty (60) days written notice of its desire and intent to discontinue the joint use of the Director of Finance. Moreover, the joint

use of the Director of Finance may be discontinued based upon a violation of this Memorandum of Agreement, as set forth under paragraph 9 herein. A copy of any correspondences between the parties relating to the application of this paragraph will be provided to the Board of Finance.

11. In the event that either option is selected under paragraph 10 herein or if there has been a violation of paragraph 9 of this Memorandum of Agreement by the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Education, at its discretion, may continue to employ the Director of Finance solely as an employee of the Board of Education.
12. In the event that either option is selected under paragraph 10 herein and the Board of Education elects not to continue to employ the Director of Finance, the Board of Selectmen, at its discretion, may continue to employ the Director of Finance solely as an employee of the Town of Preston.
13. In the event that there has been a violation of paragraph 9 of this Memorandum of Agreement by the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen, at its discretion, may continue to employ the Director of Finance solely as an employee of the Town of Preston.
14. The parties agree that if either the Board of Education or the Board of Selectmen desire to terminate the Director of Finance in accordance with the terms of his/her employment agreement, the other party may continue to employ him or her.
15. The parties agree that the terms and conditions of employment for the Director of Finance shall be set forth in an Employment Agreement between the Board of Education, Town of Preston and the Director of Finance. The terms and conditions enumerated in the Employment Agreement shall be agreed to by the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen. Such terms and conditions shall include the Director of Finance's duties and responsibilities with respect to the Town of Preston Board of Finance.
16. This Memorandum of Agreement and a Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance for the Town of Preston (Attached hereto as Appendix A) contain the full and complete understanding between the parties. No other promises or agreements shall be binding or of any effect unless they are signed by the parties.

17. This Memorandum of Agreement is subject to approval by the Preston Board of Education and the Preston Board of Selectmen.

Preston Board of Education

Board of Selectmen for the
Town of Preston

Date

Date

Memorandum of Agreement

The Preston Board of Education (hereinafter the “Board of Education”), the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Preston (hereinafter the “Board of Selectmen”) and the Board of Finance for the Town of Preston (hereinafter the “Board of Finance”) (collectively referred to as the “parties”) hereby agree to the following:

1. On or about March __, 2011, the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen entered into a Memorandum of Agreement regarding the hiring of a Director of Finance who will work jointly for the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen.
2. In accordance with the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agreed to the following terms:
 - a. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agreed to form a committee for purposes of interviewing candidates for the Director of Finance position, with the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance appointing up to two (2) individuals to serve on the committee.
 - b. The committee would recommend a finalist or finalists to the First Selectman and the Superintendent of Schools, who would interview said finalist(s). The First Selectman and the Superintendent of Schools would each make a recommendation to their respective Boards on the candidate(s). The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen understood and agreed that the recommendation of the First Selectman to the Board of Selectman and the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools to the Board of Education would not bind their respective Boards. Moreover, in the event that both Boards did not accept a candidate, the Board rejecting the candidate would not be bound to accept such candidate and the Board in favor of the candidate could, at its discretion, hire the candidate to work exclusively for such Board.
 - c. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agreed that an individual would not be hired for such joint position until both the Board of Education and the Town of Preston had successfully installed and fully integrated the Phoenix financial software previously purchased by the parties, as determined by a representative of the Town Auditor. In determining whether the Board of Education and the Town of Preston had successfully installed and fully integrated the Phoenix financial software, the following criteria must have been met by the Board of Education and the Town of Preston: (a) All employee payrolls and accounts payable/receivable were to be produced solely

on the Phoenix financial software (all parallel processing having been completed); (b) Quickbooks and IMG were to be used only as legacy systems for transaction/budget history, except for funds/processes not intended for conversion to the Phoenix financial software; and (c) routine management, accounting, and audit reports were to be produced on the Phoenix financial software.

- d. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen understood and agreed that as a condition of employment and as a condition of the parties agreement to jointly employ the Director of Finance, the Director of Finance would dedicate eighty percent (80%) of his work time for work on behalf of the Board of Education and twenty percent (20%) of his work time for work on behalf of the Board of Selectmen.
- e. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agreed that eighty percent (80%) of the Director of Finance's salary would be the responsibility of the Board of Education and twenty percent (20%) of the Director of Finance's salary would be the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen. Costs related to benefits would also be shared based upon an eighty percent (80%)/twenty percent (20%) division.
- f. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agreed that in the event either party to the Memorandum of Agreement believed that the Director of Finance was being required for a greater percentage of time than the percentages set forth under paragraph 5 of the Memorandum of Agreement, the party requiring the Director of Finance for the greater percentage of time would be required to request and receive written approval from the other party for such additional use. If such request was denied, the Director of Finance would continue to work within the percentages set forth under paragraph 5 of the Memorandum of Agreement.
- g. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agreed that in the event the Director of Finance worked beyond the percentages set forth under paragraph 5 of the Memorandum of Agreement and written approval was secured as set forth under paragraph 7 of the Memorandum of Agreement, the parties would revisit the percentage of remuneration paid by the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen.
- h. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agreed that in the event the Director of Finance worked beyond the percentages set forth under paragraph 5 of the Memorandum of Agreement for a party to the Memorandum of Agreement and written approval from the other party had not been secured, the party being adversely impacted could provide written notice to the other party of its termination of the

Memorandum of Agreement. Accordingly, the joint use of the Director of Finance would cease upon receipt of such notice. Alternatively, if the party being adversely impacted did not wish to terminate the Memorandum of Agreement, the party being adversely impacted would be provided by the other party, upon demand, with a greater percentage of the Director of Finance's salary, as determined by the adversely impacted party.

- i. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agreed that the joint use of the Director of Finance could be discontinued at any time, provided that the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen either: (1) agreed, in writing, to discontinue the arrangement; or (2) either the Board of Education or the Board of Selectmen provided the other with sixty (60) days written notice of its desire and intent to discontinue the joint use of the Director of Finance. Moreover, the joint use of the Director of Finance could be discontinued based upon a violation of the Memorandum of Agreement, as set forth under paragraph 9 of the Memorandum of Agreement.
 - j. In the event that either option was selected under paragraph 10 of the Memorandum of Agreement, or if there had been a violation of paragraph 9 of the Memorandum of Agreement by the Board of Selectmen, the Board of Education, at its discretion, could continue to employ the Director of Finance solely as an employee of the Board of Education.
 - k. In the event that either option was selected under paragraph 10 of the Memorandum of Agreement and the Board of Education elected not to continue to employ the Director of Finance, the Board of Selectmen, at its discretion, could continue to employ the Director of Finance solely as an employee of the Town of Preston.
 - l. In the event that there had been a violation of paragraph 9 of the Memorandum of Agreement by the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen, at its discretion, could continue to employ the Director of Finance solely as an employee of the Town of Preston.
 - m. The parties agreed that if either the Board of Education or the Board of Selectmen desired to terminate the Director of Finance in accordance with the terms of his/her employment agreement, the other party would be able to continue to employ him or her.
3. The Board of Education and the Board of Finance further agreed that the terms and conditions of employment for the Director of Finance would be set forth in an Employment Agreement between the Board of Education, Town of Preston and the Director of Finance. The terms and conditions

enumerated in the Employment Agreement would be agreed to by the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen. Such terms and conditions would include the Director of Finance's duties and responsibilities with respect to the Town of Preston Board of Finance.

4. As noted in the Director of Finance's job description, the parties agree that as part of the Director of Finance's duties and responsibilities with respect to the Board of Finance, the Director of Finance will: (1) provide financial reports to the Board of Finance in a format acceptable to the Board of Finance; and (2) attend meetings of the Board of Finance, as requested by the Board of Finance.
5. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agree to provide the Board of Finance with copies of any correspondences between the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen with respect to the application of paragraphs 7, 9, and/or 10 of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen.
6. The Board of Education and the Board of Selectmen agree to take whatever steps necessary through their designated representatives (the Superintendent of Schools and the First Selectman) to ensure that paragraph 4 herein is adhered to by the Director of Finance.
7. This Memorandum of Agreement contains the full and complete understanding between the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance. No other promises or agreements between the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance shall be binding or of any effect unless they are signed by the Board of Education, the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance.
8. This Memorandum of Agreement is subject to approval by the Preston Board of Education, the Preston Board of Selectmen and the Preston Board of Finance.

Preston Board of Education

Board of Selectmen for the
Town of Preston

Date

Date

Board of Finance for the
Town of Preston

Date



PRESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Office of the Superintendent of Schools
325 Shetucket Turnpike
Preston, Connecticut 06365-8631

John J. Welch, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
welchj@prestonschools.org

(860) 889-6098
FAX (860) 889-8685

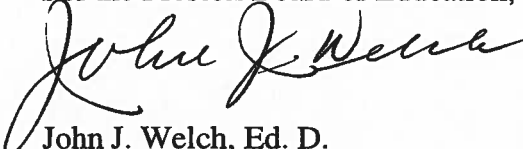
February 24, 2011

Mr. David Whitehead
Chairman
Norwich Free Academy Board of Trustees
305 Broadway
Norwich, CT 06360

Dear Mr. Whitehead,

On behalf of the Preston Board of Education, I am writing to express the board's appreciation for the Trustees' decision to level fund regular and special education tuitions in FY12. For Preston Public Schools, the Trustees' decision resulted in a net savings of \$52,644, a sum that made it more manageable for the board to sustain its current programs and services.

For the Preston Board of Education,


John J. Welch, Ed. D.

cc: Preston Board of Education



The Cynthia A. Carano Memorial Scholarship Fund

Dear Friends, *Board Members*

As some of you may know, the Cynthia A. Carano Memorial Fund was established following the passing of Cyndi Carano to create a legacy for a woman who touched many lives. Cyndi passed in February, 2009, having spent her career as a devoted educator in the Preston school system. With the support of the Carano family, a committee was formed from individuals inspired by Cyndi's dedication. The goal of this committee is to award an annual scholarship to a deserving high school graduate planning to pursue higher education.

In the two years that have passed following this tragic loss, the committee has been able to establish a memorial scholarship fund with the Community Foundation of Southeastern Connecticut. The initial funds for the creation of the scholarship came from many generous donations and through community support as well as the proceeds from a fundraising barbeque that was held in October of 2009. However, the goal of the fund is to continue Cyndi's legacy through annual scholarships to inspired students.

In June, 2010, the first scholarship was awarded to Nicole Andersen, a former student of Cyndi's, pursuing an education at the University of Rhode Island. In order to be eligible for this year's award, a student must be a graduate of the Preston school system and submit an essay explaining, "how an educator has positively impacted his/her life". Cyndi Carano was a mentor to many and has left a lasting impression to those around her. The applicants for this scholarship exemplify the spirit that Cyndi embodied.

To continue this annual award, monetary donations from those inspired by Cyndi's story are always needed. If you share an appreciation for passionate, dedicated educators and would like to help continue the education of a motivated high school graduate, please consider a donation, tax-deductible, to this fund.

The committee will also be involved in a craft bazaar fundraiser at the Poquetanuck Firehouse, Route 2-A, on April 2, 2011 from 9am-3pm. If you wish to make a donation through the mail, please mail checks payable to *Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut* c/o Alison C. Woods Director of Gift Planning, Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut, 147 State Street New London, CT 06320. On your check or money order, please be sure to make a memo notation, "**Cynthia Carano Memorial Fund**".

Sincerely,

Jane Ennis
Committee Members
The Cynthia A. Carano Memorial Scholarship Fund

*Thanks for your consideration!
Michelle Cormier*

Preston Youth Services continues to provide a range of services to meet the needs of children, teens, parents and families of our community. Much of the success of our agency is attributable to its strong collaborative approach to solving problems, enhancing services and filling gaps in school/community resources. Working closely with other agencies, organizations and the Preston Public Schools, Preston Youth Services has become an effective community coordinator, identifying needs, developing partnerships and finding creative and cost effective solutions to help our students.

This year was one of transition and restructuring for Preston Youth Services. We were extended an invitation to move our office to the Preston Plains Middle School. This opportunity has allowed me to develop close working relationships with school staff and administration which is key in implementing quality programs. By being in the same building as the students it has allowed me to start building relationships with them and they are always stopping in my office to give suggestions for upcoming activities or just to say "Hi".

Our current staff consists of a part time director (16 hours a week), a Preston Youth Service Board, volunteer teen counselors and parents. Preston Youth Services is provided a \$14,000 State Department of Education grant with a match in funds from the Town of Preston.

Preston Youth Services has maintained a level of excellence and professionalism this year throughout many transitions and should be commended for their hard work, dedication and commitment to fulfilling the Preston Youth Services mission and never losing sight of the importance of helping the children of Preston reach their full potential.

We look forward to continuing to work together with you to build a strong community.

Stephanie Greene, Director

Preston Youth Services Board

Janice Majcher, Chair

Kelly McKenna, Vice Chair

Bob Congdon

Kathy Coon

Ivy Davis

Jack Welch

Bob Onderdonk

Ray Bernier

Olof Sigmarsdottir

Student Youth Advisory

Mindy Converse

Kailin Jones

Kirby Greene

Kaelan Greene

Abby Cotner

Courtney Majcher

Rhiannon Willey

Emily Coon

Hannah Coon

Jenn Foltz

Gretchen Jones

Kathi Walsh

Trooper Furman

Trooper Paige

Angela Duhaime

Kayla McKenna

Maria Patsapoulos

Program/Service Listing

Preston Youth Services places a special focus on our middle school population, we believe offering opportunities are extremely important to engage these students who might be too young for employment or might not be involved in team sports and/or other traditional school activities.

Counseling services were enhanced this year at Preston Schools through Youth Services. Through our grant we are able to provide services to identified students and their families. We believe early identification and intervention services with our students will be prove to be very beneficial in their future.

Workshops/Speakers

Youth related performances provided at each school to promote positive youth development. We were fortunate enough to have Rachel's Challenge presented at Preston Plains Middle School this year. Please see attached letter.

Conflict Resolution

Activities are presented which teach problem solving skills to grades 6-8 within the Advisor/Advisory Program. Youth Services works directly with Olof Sigmarsson (Preston Plains Psychologist) to help establish a curriculum that is used weekly by all Preston Plains students and staff in small group sessions.

Community Collaboration

Preston Youth Services works closely with the schools, Resident State Troopers, agencies and organizations to assess community needs develop strategies and implement effective programs.

Babysitting & First Aid

Become a certified babysitter and receive a First Aid certification. A one-session babysitting course is offered by the American Red Cross and Youth Services staff. A certificate will be awarded to all participants who complete the course. Instructional materials, course booklets, and dinner included.

Evening Activities

Activities are offered throughout the year specifically for 6th, 7th and 8th graders. Activities include dances, open gym activities, trips and holiday theme nights. Activities will be added as interests are expressed.

Job Bank

A job referral service is available to Preston youth ages 13 -18. The main objective of the Job Bank is to instill a sense of responsibility and positive work ethic in youth. Members are responsible for contacting residents who request various jobs to be done such as painting, cleaning, party helper, yard work, snow shoveling, and animal care. Members complete a 30 to 40 minute interview prior to acceptance into the program. Ratings on job performance are kept on each member and often used as a reference for future employment.

Youth Services Advisory Club

Do you have ideas for something different to do? If you are, and you do, then you should attend the Youth Services Advisory Club. Come to meetings, brainstorm ideas, create advertisements, attend events and activities and enjoy refreshments. Meetings are held after school at Preston Plains Middle School.

Tutoring Program

If you are having trouble in Math, English, History, Science, Language Arts or Study Skills, then this tutoring program is the perfect opportunity for you. The tutors are your teachers! Any student in grade 6th, 7th and 8th is welcome to come and join our program. If you are interested in receiving some extra help with your schoolwork, or even just want to come in and see what we are all about, contact the Youth Services Coordinator at 860-334-6125 or stop by office on Monday or Thursday between 9 and 3.

Girls Group

This program aims to promote positive self-esteem, body image and good decision making skills while having fun and meeting new people. Meets every Thursday after school until 4:30 at Preston Plains Middle School.

Counseling Services

Counseling services are private, confidential and offers a warm, supportive, and trusting environment. Resource Center Therapists are specially trained in Family Therapy and Individual Models of therapy to help you address and resolve difficulties that you may be experiencing. Counseling fees are affordable. Some insurances, sliding scale and Husky Insurance.

Local Prevention

Our Local Prevention Council works directly with SERAC to provide direct education to the students, families and community of Preston on the many problems and kinds of substance abuse and addiction.

Southeastern Regional Action Council (SERAC) is one of 14 Regional Action Councils (RACS) created by the Connecticut Legislature in 1989 to help communities address the problems of substance abuse and addiction on a local level.

We are a nonprofit organization. Our membership includes community leaders, professionals, parents, youth and other concerned citizens interested in developing and carrying out strategies to reduce and prevent addiction and to support the recovery of individuals affected by addiction. We focus on all types of addictions including alcohol, drugs, tobacco, and gambling. We are not a direct service provider.



PRESTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Preston Plains Middle School
1 Route 164
Preston, Connecticut 06365-9756

Raymond E. Bernier, Jr.
Principal

860-889-3831
FAX 860-204-0126

January 7, 2011

To the Parents/Guardians of _____:

Preston Plains Middle School (PPMS), in conjunction with the Preston Youth Service Bureau (YSB), will be offering an afterschool homework program beginning Monday, January 10th, 2011. It will run each week Monday through Thursday from 3:00 – 4:00 P.M., with the exception of previously scheduled staff meetings. It is designed to assist struggling students with their school work and to provide an hour of structured time for students to complete their homework. Teachers are volunteering their time to offer this opportunity to students but can only successfully work with a small group at a time; therefore, there is a limited capacity. Students have been recommended by teachers to attend the afterschool program.

In an attempt to accommodate all three grade levels at the middle school, certain days have been designated for each: **8th grade on Tuesdays, 6th grade on Wednesdays, and 7th grade on Thursdays.** Mondays will be left open as an additional day for hand-selected students across all grade levels or as a "make-up" day for those weeks interrupted by a staff meeting (i.e. 7th grade students will be staying on Monday, January 10th as there is a staff meeting on Thursday, January 13th). Each month, a calendar will go home with your child outlining the days they are expected to attend. If students have too many *unexcused* absences, they may have to forfeit their spot in the program. In addition, students are expected to take this opportunity seriously and be on their best behavior; otherwise, their parents/guardians will be notified and students will be asked not to return.

At this time, a late bus will be provided (free of charge) on Tuesdays and Thursdays leaving the school around 4:00 P.M. This bus will be transporting students to their homes, but a specific route has yet to be determined based on need. (It is anticipated that the bus will run in the vicinity of the intersection of Routes 165 and 164 over to Route 12.) If you live in this general area and would like to take advantage of the bus on Tuesday (8th grade) or Thursday (7th grade), please indicate on the attached form. Otherwise, you will be expected to pick up your child promptly at 4:00 P.M. Since this is our first attempt at providing a structured afterschool homework program, we are unsure of the logistics, but you will be notified if any changes are needed. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Melissa Durkee at PPMS (860) 889-3831 or durkeem@prestonschools.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melissa Durkee".

Melissa Durkee
7th Grade Teacher
Afterschool Homework Program Coordinator

Please return this completed form to Ms. Durkee by Monday, January 10th, 2011.

My child, _____, has permission to stay for the afterschool homework program on the designated days (based on grade level).

I will be picking him/her up at 4:00PM each day.

I would like to take advantage of the late bus on Tuesday (8th grade) or Thursday (7th grade).

Please include contact information for updates:

Phone number(s): _____ (Home) _____ (Cell)

Email Address: _____

Emergency Contact: _____ Phone Number: _____

Street Address: _____ (for bus accommodations only)

Comments:

January 2011

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
3	4	5	6	7
7 th Grade	8 th Grade Bus Available	6 th Grade	No After School Homework Program Faculty Meeting	14
10	11	12	13	14
No School Martin Luther King Day	8 th Grade Bus Available	6 th Grade	7 th Grade Bus Available	21
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
Selected Students (parents will be notified)	8 th Grade Bus Available	6 th Grade	7 th Grade Bus Available	28
31				
Selected Students (parents will be notified)				

On December 1, 2010, the PVMS community celebrated reading and writing by hosting author, Jerry Pallotta. Jerry Pallotta is an author of many types of children's books, although he is best known as a writer of non-fiction alphabet books. Jerry's passion for books and children made him an ideal choice to come to our school. We are so grateful to the PVMS PTO and Preston Youth Services for funding his visit.

Prior to his visit, students read his books and even prepared a Preston ABC book as a gift for Jerry. Jerry spent the entire day at PVMS meeting with grade levels of students to talk about his life as an author and to share insights about the writing process. Between his animated discussions about his book ideas and getting the kids involved in his presentation, our students had a fabulous day. They are still talking about Jerry and his books. As a matter of fact, "Jerry Pallotta books", as the kids call them, are still hot commodities in the PVMS library.

As a result of PTO contributions and a school fundraiser, every PVMS student received a signed Jerry Pallotta book as a memento of the day. Jerry was an integral part of our school day, right down to wanting what the kids were having for lunch. He spent the time between presentations signing books for parents and staff and visiting with people in the hallways. It was a day that teachers and students will be talking about for some time to come and I thank you for the YSB support of the visit.

Sincerely,

Elaine Lettiere
School Librarian

Preston Youth Service Bureau
860-889-3831
prestonysb@hotmail.com
Located in Preston Plains Middle School

SNOW FLAKE SHAKE

Dance For Preston Plains School Students in 6th, 7th & 8th Grade



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. • Admission: \$5.00

Preston Plains Cafeteria



Prizes will be awarded for the most
Festive & Dance Contests

Blue, White, Silver
Be Creative

Soda, water & snacks will be
available for a small fee
\$1.00 for items

This permission slip is required for admission into the dance.

Youth need to bring it with them on the night of the dance.

Please do not hand it in early!

I give _____ my permission to attend the Preston Youth Services Dance
on February 25, 2011 from 7:00 to 9:00.

I grant my permission for my child to participate in the above listed program. I agree to provide transportation in a timely manner (i.e. I will be on time to pick up my child, otherwise I understand I will be billed for staff overtime at a rate of \$10 for every 15 minutes), provide proper equipment and appropriate clothing for my child for this activity He/she is in proper physical health and has a clear understanding of the possible hazards involved with this activity. In my absence, Preston Youth Services Staff may authorize emergency medical treatment as deemed necessary by attending medical personnel. This authorization is valid for the above listed program or until written notification of change is received by the Youth office. My child's photo may be placed on Youth Services website. Any child who exhibits troublesome behavior can be expelled from any/all of the above listed programs; programs fees are non-refundable under these circumstances.

Parent/Guardian Signature

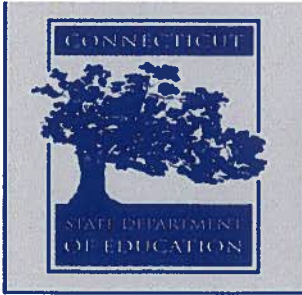
Date

Address

Youth's Age/Grade

Home#

Emergency #



For Immediate Release:

Contact: Tom Murphy 860.713.6525

Tuesday, February 22, 2011

Weather-Related School Cancellations for 2010-2011 Academic Year Reach Near-Record Levels for Connecticut's Public Schools; Local School Systems Review Alternatives to Meet 180-Day, 900-Hour Minimums

(HARTFORD, CONN.) A survey of Connecticut's Public Schools shows that most of the state's K-12 systems have cancelled classes for seven full days thus far this year with some districts reporting cancellation totals of as high as eleven days. (The survey only registers full-day cancellations, and does not report delayed openings or early dismissals.) Currently, all school districts appear to be on track to meet required minimum days and hours –if the weather cooperates for the remainder of the snow season.

It is important to note that every school district has unique circumstances relating to school cancellations, related to the terrain, width and condition of roads, size of the district, conditions at bus stops, duration of bus rides and severity of storms. Some towns simply have more hills, congested traffic and/or driving challenges or had more severe conditions during January's series of winter storms. Superintendents must make their decisions with student safety as the first consideration.

Under Connecticut state law, local and regional school districts have the authority to establish their school calendars within the statutory requirements of providing every student with a minimum of 180 days and 900 hours of instruction. State law also gives the local superintendent of schools the authority to delay opening, dismiss early or cancel school altogether, provided the school district meets the state-required minimums by June 30th. Most school districts in Connecticut schedule 181 days or more in their calendars and most school systems end the school year in mid-June thus giving some flexibility to meet the required state minimums. School districts also have the option of revising their winter or spring vacations as well. The majority of Connecticut's school systems have scheduled this week for winter recess and April 18th – 22nd for spring break.

(See "Openings and Closings Report" http://www.sde.ct.gov/sde/lib/sde/pdf/pressroom/CT_schoolopenings_closings_10_11.pdf).

Results of the survey are on following pages.

Total number of full days cancelled in district/charter school as of Friday, February 04, 2011.	School District
7	Achievement First Bridgeport Academy Middle School, Bridgeport
6	Achievement First Charter School, Hartford
8	Amistad Academy, New Haven
6	Andover
9	Ansonia
7	Ashford
6	Avon
7	Barkhamsted
6	Berlin
7	Bethany
7	Bethel
6	Bloomfield
7	Bolton
7	Bolton
6	Bozrah
7 for total district: 9 for middle school	Branford
7	Bridgeport
7	Bristol
7	Brookfield
7	Brooklyn
6	Canterbury
7	Capitol Region Education Council (CREC)
6	Chaplin
8	Cheshire
6	Colchester
6	Columbia
8	Common Ground High School, New Haven
7	Cooperative Educational Services (CES)
6	Coventry
7	Cromwell
7	Connecticut River Academy at Goodwin College, East Hartford
8	Danbury
5	Darien
9	Derby
6	East Granby
7	East Haddam
8	East Hampton
7	East Hartford
7	East Haven
6	East Lyme
7	East Windsor
7	Eastern Connecticut Regional Educational Service Center (EASTCONN)
7	Eastford
8	Easton

9	Ellington
8	Elm City College Preparatory, New Haven
7	Enfield
5	Explorations Charter School, Winsted
6	Fairfield
6	Farmington
6	Franklin
7	Glastonbury
6	Granby
6	Griswold
6	Groton
8	Guilford
8	Hamden
6	Hampton
8	Hartford
7	Hartland
7	Hebron
8	Highville Charter School, Hamden
6	Integrated Day Charter School, Norwich
6	Interdistrict School for Arts and Communication, New London
6	Jumoke Academy Charter School, Hartford
7	Killingly
7	Long Range Educational Assistance for Regional Needs (LEARN)
6	Lebanon
7	Ledyard
6	Lisbon
7	Litchfield
6	Madison
7	Manchester
7	Mansfield
6	Marlborough
7	Meriden
8	Middletown
8	Milford
10	Monroe
6	Montville
11	Naugatuck
7	New Beginnings Family Academy, Bridgeport
6	New Canaan
7	New Fairfield
7	New Hartford
8	New Haven
6	New London
6	Newington
8	Newtown
8	Norfolk
7	North Branford
8	North Haven
7	North Stonington

6	Norwalk
6	Norwich Free Academy
5	Norwich
9	Odyssey Community School, Manchester
7	Old Saybrook
7	Orange
10	Oxford
6	Park City Prep Charter School, Bridgeport
7	Plainfield
7	Plymouth
7	Pomfret
6	Preston
6	Putnam
8	Redding
6	Regional School District 01
7	Regional School District 05
7	Regional School District 06
7	Regional School District 07
8	Regional School District 08
8	Regional School District 09
8	Regional School District 10
6	Regional School District 11
8	Regional School District 12
8	Regional School District 14
8	Regional School District 15
8	Regional School District 16
5	Regional School District 17
6	Regional School District 18
9	Ridgefield
7	Rocky Hill
7	Salem
6	Scotland
8	Seymour
10	Shelton
7	Side by Side Charter School, Norwalk
6	Simsbury
7	Somers
7	South Windsor
7	Southington
6	Sprague
10	Stafford
5	Stamford
7	Sterling
6	Stonington
9	Stratford
6	Suffield
7	The Bridge Academy Charter School, Bridgeport
7	The Gilbert School
8	Thomaston
7	Thompson

10	Tolland
9	Trumbull
1	Department of Children & Families USD 2
7	Union
6	Wallingford
10	Waterbury
8	Watertown
6	West Hartford
8	West Haven
6	Westbrook
7	Wethersfield
8	Willington
8	Winchester
6	Windham
6	Windsor
7	Windsor Locks
8	Wolcott
6	Woodbridge
8	Woodstock
7	Woodstock Academy