

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE / FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2007  
7:30 PM**

**UPDATE ON CURRENT LEGISLATION AFFECTING SCHOOL BUDGETS**

**REVIEW OF SCHOOL BUDGET / SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION TIMELINE**

**STATUS OF 2007 - 2008 BUDGET**

**PROPOSED NEW ADOPTIONS / PERSONNEL**



**PENDING LEGISLATION**

<b>BILL</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>STATUS</b>
A-5/S-4	<p>Provides for various school district accountability measures. Would expand the commissioner of education's authority to intervene in school district business operations and give her the ability to appoint a state monitor under certain conditions. It would expand mandatory training for new school board members and would require reelected and reappointed members to complete advanced training.</p> <p>This bill requires school districts to examine all available group options for employee insurance, including the State Health Benefits Plan. It requires participation in cooperatives including E-Rate, ACES, SEMI. Requires refinancing of outstanding debt, when the savings is at least 3 percent. Requires a user-friendly budget. Additional Support Documentation will be required with budget submission listing contract terms for all employees not in a collective bargaining unit with a salary that exceeds \$75,000. Requires additional accountability for all travel expenditures</p>	Passed Both Houses Awaiting Governor's Signature
A-4/S-10	<p>Provides for the creation of a "Super" County Superintendent of Schools</p> <p>The Senate version would create a politically appointed position with sweeping powers over local school district financial operations and administration. The Senate version keeps the current April school board member/school budget election in place. The Assembly version A/4, which was approved by the lower house in December, would move the school board member elections to November.</p> <p>This bill would not provide tax relief and may cost taxpayers more by creating a super county superintendent bureaucracy. It potentially could negate achievements in the areas of staffing, purchasing and negotiations that have taken place at the local level.</p>	A4 Passed in Dec. 2006 S10 Pending Senate Approval
A-8/S-49	<p>Provides for the creation of a "County Pilot" Administrative School District.</p> <p>The pilot county school district would be governed by a board of education appointed by the freeholder director or county executive. Current local district administrative functions would be concentrated at the county level.</p> <p>Local school boards in the pilot county would be replaced by advisory panels. If enacted, this bill would create a single pilot district for five years, without any input from the voters.</p>	Pending Placement on the Agenda for Vote

**SCHOOL BUDGET / ELECTION TIMELINE**

<b>NOVEMBER 2006</b>	<b>DECEMBER 2006</b>	<b>JANUARY 2007</b>
NOV. 16, 2006 COW-FINANCE MEETING	DEC-14, 2006 COW-FINANCE MEETING	JAN. 24, 2007 COW-FINANCE MEETING
COMPLETION OF AUDIT	REVIEW THE	BUDGET PREPARATION
CLOSE OUT PRIOR YEAR'S BUDGET	BUDGET/NEW ADOPTION/ STAFFING REQUESTS	SOFTWARE DOWNLOAD FROM DEPT. OF EDUCATION
RECEIVE/REVIEW BUDGET AND NEW ADOPTION REQUESTS	SUBMITTED.	AGENDA MOTIONS:
FROM PRINCIPALS, DIRECTORS AND SUPERVISORS	FINALIZE NEW ADOPTIONS	BALLOT DRAWING DATE, TIME, LOCATION, ELECTION HOURS
<b>FEBRUARY 2007</b>	<b>MARCH 2007</b>	<b>APRIL 2007</b>
<b>FEB. , 2007-COW FINANCE MEETING</b>	<b>MARCH 1, 2007 - ADOPT TENTATIVE BUDGET SPECIAL MEETING</b>	APRIL 3, 2007-CANDIDATES FILE REQUEST FOR CHALLENGERS (2ND TUESDAY PRECEDING ELECTION)
<b>FEB. , 2007-COW FINANCE MEETING</b>	<b>MARCH , 2007 - COW FINANCE MEETING</b>	APRIL 3, 2007-APPOINTMENT OF CHALLENGERS (2ND TUESDAY PRECEDING ELECTION)
<b>FEB. , 2007-COW FINANCE MEETING</b>	<b>MARCH 29, 2007-PUBLIC HEARING ON BUDGET-7:30 PM TV STUDIO</b>	APRIL 9-13, 2007-PUBLICATION OF SCHOOL ELECTION NOTICE. (CALENDAR WEEK BEFORE ELECTION)
FIRST WEEK OF FEBRUARY- 2007-08 BUDGET BOOKS DISTRIBUTED	MARCH 5, 2007-LAST DATE FOR CANDIDATE TO WITHDRAW NAME (44TH DAY PRIOR TO ELECTION)	APRIL 13, 2007 (MAIL) -LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT. (WED. PRECEDING ELECTION DAY OR 8TH DAY PRIOR TO ELECTION DAY)
NOTICE TO NEWSPAPER REGARDING ELECTION AND PETITIONS	MARCH 7, 2007-DRAWING OF BALLOT POSITIONS (7 WORKING DAYS FOLLOWING FILING OF PETITIONS)	APRIL 16, 2007 (IN PERSON)-LAST DAY TO APPLY FOR ABSENTEE BALLOT (1 DAY PRIOR TO ELECTION.-BEFORE 3 PM)
RELEASE OF STATE AID ESTIMATED TO BE MARCH 1, 2007	MARCH 19, 2007-LAST DAY FOR VOTER REGISTRATION (29 DAYS PRIOR TO ELECTION)	<b>APRIL 17, 2007-SCHOOL ELECTION</b>
FEB. 26, 2007-LAST DATE TO FILE PETITIONS (50TH DAY PRIOR TO ELECTION)		APRIL 24, 2007 -REORGANIZATION MTG.
PROVIDE COUNTY OFFICE WITH 2ND QUESTIONS PRIOR TO BUDGET SUBMISSION		

**SCHOOL BUDGET / ELECTION TIMELINE**

NOVEMBER 2006	DECEMBER 2006	JANUARY 2007

**2007 - 2008 BUDGET STATUS  
ANALYSIS OF STATE AID VS. TAX LEVY INCREASES**

SCHOOL YEAR	STATE AID	GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY	STATE AID WITH 3% INCREASE	INCREASED AID	DECREASED GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY	
					GENERAL FUND TAX LEVY	% DECREASE
2001-02	36,266,073	59,497,358	37,354,055	1,087,982	58,409,376	
2002-03	36,266,073	63,878,460	38,474,677	2,208,604	61,669,856	-3.46%
2003-04	36,266,073	68,223,529	39,628,917	3,362,844	64,860,685	-4.93%
2004-05	37,354,055	70,922,282	40,817,785	3,463,730	67,458,552	-4.88%
2005-06	37,354,055	75,239,507	42,042,318	4,688,263	70,551,244	-6.23%
2006-07	37,354,055	81,116,094	43,303,588	5,949,533	75,166,561	-7.33%
2007-08	?	?				

CALENDAR YEAR	GENERAL FUND TAX RATE	GENERAL FUND STATE AID HAD INCREASED AT 3% PER YEAR	BASE OF RATABLES	INCREASE OVER PRIOR YEAR
2003	\$2.09	\$2.00	3,162,773,038	91,079,521
2004	\$2.18	\$2.07	3,196,717,300	33,944,262
2005	\$2.24	\$2.11	3,265,492,900	68,775,600
2006	\$2.36	\$2.20	3,309,359,004	43,866,104
2007	?	?	3,335,270,600	25,911,596

**2007-08 SCHOOL YEAR BUDGET  
NEW ADOPTIONS/PERSONNEL**

	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>RATIONALE</b>
<b>NEW POSITIONS</b>		
6 Middle School Teachers-Estimated Salary and Benefits	360,000	To complete the second year of the Middle School Realignment
1 Middle School Music Teacher-Estimated Salary and Benefits	60,000	To expand the Elementary Strings Program into the Middle School
2 Field Technology Staff Members-Estimated Salary and Benefits	110,410	Required to maintain District Network, the number of workstations and peripherals in use, as well as the number of software applications in use
<b>NEW STIPEND POSITIONS</b>		
2 Assistant Band Directors	6,020	To aid in the managing, supervision and instruction of the Marching
<b>NEW ADOPTION PURCHASED SERVICES</b>		
Technology Literacy-K-12	12,000	Net Trekker Search Engine Access Rights - Replaces Skills Tutor
Technology Literacy-Gr.6	2,000	Site License for Middle School Keyboarding Curriculum
<b>NEW ADOPTION SUPPLIES</b>		
Elementary Science - Kindergarten - 2	7,654	To provide unilateral District instructional materials for all kindergarten students
Elementary Music - K-5	2,500	Ipods and cables for elementary music teachers to standardize the curriculum.
Elementary Health - Gr. 3, Gr. 4 and Gr.5	0	Complimentary materials with a value of @\$60,000
Health Instruction - Gr.9 - First Aid-CPR	0	The Carol M. White Grant will fund the texts, supplies, and teacher training for the 2007-08 school year. The district will be responsible thereafter.
Health Instruction - Gr. 12-Health & Wellness	898	To update senior health teaching materials
<b>NEW ADOPTION TEXTBOOKS</b>		
Integrated Science CP & Integrated Science-Gr.9	72,600	New Adoption Textbooks
English II CP/Academic-Grade 10	51,613	New Adoption Textbooks
English III CP/Academic-Grade 11	58,095	New Adoption Textbooks
English AP -Grade 12	1,445	New Adoption Textbooks
Health Instruction - Gr.3, Gr.4 and Gr.5	100,459	New Adoption Textbooks
Health Instruction - Gr.9 - First Aid-CPR	0	850 Texts at \$15 each funded by Carol M. White Grant
Health Instruction - Gr. 12-Health & Wellness	4,339	New Adoption Textbooks
Technology Literacy-Keyboarding	2,800	New Adoption Textbooks
Social Studies-US History I H - Gr. 10	13,335	New Adoption Textbooks
<b>LOSS OF CHARACTER EDUCATION FUNDING</b>		
Peer Leadership H.S. & Peer to Peer M.S.Program	26,901	Cost of Coordinator Stipends 7,900; Retreat 7,960, Transportation-4,000 Speakers-4,000, Supplies & Materials-3,041