



Discussion followed: Mr. Conlon talked about his support of families being able to attend schools in their neighborhoods and would like to see incentives strengthened for families to choose neighborhood schools. Ms. Carroll asked for further information regarding magnet schools versus neighborhood schools and city-wide busing. Mr. Oertwig expressed concern regarding the lack of research, history, and information that went into administration's "proposal." Ms. Carter stated support for administration's recommendation and that a logical time frame to report the results would be September, 2004, preceded by periodic updates to the Board from the task force. After further discussion the following motion was made:

**MOTION:** It was moved by Ms. Carroll and seconded by Mr. Brodrick that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education endorse a serious study of transportation related to school choice and incentives for neighborhood school selection in order to address the core issues of achievement and enrollment. Staff will prepare a plan for this that will engage the Board on a regular basis prior to completion of the study in fall 2004.

After further discussion the following substitute motion was made:

**SUBSTITUTE MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Oertwig and seconded by Mr. Conlon that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education direct the Administration bring back a substantial proposal regarding school choice which incorporates cost implications and history done in Saint Paul and across the country before the Board enters into further discussion on this topic.

**Motion Failed**

**Continuation of the original motion: The motion passed on a 6 to 1 vote.**

Mr. Oertwig voted no to the original motion because he did not approve of the quality of the material presented. Mr. Carroll thanked Dr. Harvey for an impressive report that showed a connection to what was heard from families.

Ms. Street-Stewart called a recess at 6:30 p.m.

## **2. 2004-05 Budget Update**

Lois Rockney, Executive Director of Business and Financial Affairs, presented the budget update. (a copy of the budget calendar was previously distributed to committee members.)

Ms. Rockney discussed where the schools are in the budget process, as well as the training for principals and site-based councils. She also provided an update on technology being utilized to prepare school budgets.

Ms. Rockney talked about results from the recent community forums and the exceptional attendance at the Hmong parent meeting and the NEAT forum. She said meeting dates had been set-up with the Latino Consent Decree group, American Indian community, and the African American communities to solicit input from them on the budget process. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) at these meetings will be posted to the Saint Paul Schools' website. Ms. Rockney shared the results from a recent electronic survey on the district budget and what the Board should consider.

Discussion followed. Ms. Carroll inquired about progress being made by the Citizens Budget and Advisory Committee (CBFAC) regarding the report on ELL, and she requested an interim report

on ELL cuts that can be shared with the school community. Ms. Rockney remarked that an interim report could be prepared after the CBFAC March 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Mr. Brodrick thanked Ms. Rockney for the excellent job done on setting-up the community forums to discuss the district's budget process.

Following Ms. Rockney's presentation on the budget update, Ms. Street-Stewart returned to agenda item II. Action Plan Strategy #2 (World of Opportunities) to discuss the second item, Communications, presented by Suzanne Yeager, Executive Director of Communications. She presented and discussed the three (3) goals for 2003-04 out of Essential Effort 2b. 1). Redesign the district's web site to make it more useful to our stakeholders, students, parents and community (she shared a copy of the district's newly designed web site), 2). Develop and implement a plan to strengthen relationships with ethnic neighborhood, non-English language, and media outlets, and; 3). Continue to provide marketing media relations assistance for principals and other district staff.

Ms. Yeager talked about up-coming projects that will bring positive attention to the district. Any comments or suggestions can be forwarded to Ms. Yeager in the Communications Office.

### 3. Facilities Planning Process

Mr. Patrick Quinn, Executive Director of School Services, presented a proposal to the Committee of the Board on the 2004 Capital Bond Proposal Process for discussion and recommendation which included the funding description, the process for soliciting project proposals, and priorities: 1) Learning Space, 2) Effective Use of Alternative Sites, and 3) Improvements to Facility Environments and Special Projects.

Mr. Quinn recommended the reconstitution of the Citizens Long Range Space Planning Advisory Committee. The new committee would be named the **Capital Expenditure Advisory Committee (CEAC)** and members would have a one-year tenure. It would have a maximum of 21 members and would remain advisory to the Board. Mr. Quinn commented on the urgency of getting the Capital Bond Proposal Process forms distributed to the schools tomorrow, along with the nomination form.

The following motion was made:

**MOTION:** It was moved by Mr. Conlon and seconded by Mr. Brodrick that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education approve the committee name change to Capital Expenditure Advisory Committee (CEAC), and the 2004 Capital Bond Proposal Process with the Board's modifications.

**Motion Passed.**

### 4. Approve Mission and Ends Statement

Ms. Street-Stewart read the Board's new Mission and Ends Statement:  
Mission of the Saint Paul Public Schools – Premiere Education For All.

Ends:

High Achievement – Learners will meet the highest district and state standards through a learning journey that is academically rich and rigorous.

Meaningful Connections – Learners will understand the relationship between their lives and the lives of others, and the relevance of their educational experiences to their roles in society.

Respectful Environment - The learning environment will be safe, nurturing, and equitable for our diverse learners.

The following motion was made:

**MOTION:** It was moved by Ms. Carroll and seconded by Mr. Conlon that the Committee of the Board recommend the Board of Education approve the Mission and Ends Statement.

**Motion Passed on a 6 to 1 vote.**

Mr. Oertwig abstained.

**III. Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m. by Ms. Carter, Committee Chair.

Respectfully submitted by  
Diana J. Sanders, Recorder  
Board of Education

Saint Paul Board of Education