

MINUTES OF FISCAL
COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Stamford, Connecticut
May 6, 2009

The Fiscal Committee Meeting of the Board of Education was held on May 6, 2009 at the Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard. The meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m. by Ms. Heftman, Chairperson, with the following Committee members present: Ms. Heftman, Mr. King, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino. Absent: Mr. Mathews. Also in attendance: Ms. Lorenti, Ms. Wade, Dr. Starr, Mr. Murphy, and Ms. Dennies.

The Fiscal Committee discussed the ARRA stimulus funds with respect to the allocation that would go to ECS reimbursement. The Commissioner for the State Department of Education has indicated that the money for Stamford, representing \$1M would go directly to the school district, but would not confirm this in writing. The projections for 2009-2010 are that ECS funds will be flat funded by the State with 86% coming from the State and 14% coming from Federal Stimulus funds which may have different rules attached. Also, the 14% would need to be applied for similar to other grants and would have accountability and reporting requirements similar to other grants.

Dr. Starr met with Mr. Skigen, Chair, Finance Committee, Board of Representatives today, who indicated that if the 14% of Federal Stimulus funds for ECS goes directly to the Board of Education, then the Board of Education would be expected to give that money back to the City. He asked for a written agreement or the Board of Education would risk a budget cut for that amount from the Board of Representatives. Dr. Starr noted that if the funds are turned over to the City we won't have the money and will be responsible for the accounting of the Federal funds.

Dr. Starr indicated that it would be premature to enter into a written agreement at this time and asked that the Board of Education direct him to essentially agree to that when we receive the money that we sit down with the City to see what can be done. Currently we do not have all the facts or answers from the State.

It was agreed by the Committee not to put an agreement in place at this time since all the facts and rules are not available.

Mr. King moved, seconded by Mr. Rubino to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m. with the following Committee members voting in favor: Ms. Heftman, Mr. King, Ms. Nabel, and Mr. Rubino.

Joshua P. Starr, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools
Executive Officer