

Community Financial Review Committee
Report to the Red Clay Consolidated School District Board of Education
Wednesday, October 17, 2007

The Community Financial Review Committee met on Thursday, October 11, 2007, at 7:00 P.M., at the Linden Park offices.

All members attended: Paul Lloyd, John Allison, Jane Rattenni, Tom Shopa, Michael Bank-RCEA, Jill Floore-Red Clay Financial Director, Gary Linarducci-Red Clay Board, James Buckley-Red Clay Board, 5 representatives from DOE (Dorcell Spence, Jerry Gallagher, Frank Rishel, Emily Falcon, Nancy Shevock)

Also attending: Board President Irwin J. Becnel Jr., Pati Nash – Red Clay Administrator, Deborah Roberts, Red Clay Finance Office

Public Attendance: 14 members—parents, community members, the press and State Representative Nick Manolakos

The purpose of this largely informal meeting was to begin organizing the committee.

- Mr. Buckley announced that the Delaware School Board Association (DSBA) has offered a financial training session for committee and board members. This training will occur in December (date to be determined).
- There was a roundtable discussion of board, community and committee members' expectations for the committee, its mission and process. This will be formalized by the committee after recommendations from the organization subcommittee.
- Subcommittees were formed:

Organization: Jane Rattenni (Chairperson), Michael Bank, Gary Linarducci—This subcommittee will make recommendations on mission, structure (officers/terms of service), and procedures (voting/meeting schedule).

Financial Report: Tom Shopa (Chairperson), Paul Lloyd, John Allison, Jill Floore, Jack Buckley—This subcommittee will examine past reports, models and Department of Education template in order to formulate a recommended monthly report reflecting the financial health of the district on behalf of the Red Clay Board of Education and the Red Clay community. This subcommittee also recommended procedures and practices to evaluate the significance, verifiability and accuracy of reported data.

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The meeting concluded with an open discussion among committee members and the public. Everyone had an opportunity to voice a concern or two. Particularly, many expressed concern for financial transparency and the need for better communication between the district and residents. Special thanks for Mr. Becnel and Ms Floore for fielding many of the questions.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 9.

**THE COMMITTEE WILL MEET -AGAIN ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2007,
AT 7:00 P.M., LINDEN PARK OFFICES.**