



New London Public Schools

Exhibit 7.2.a.

Friday, April 11, 2008

Presidents Report February 21, 2008:

1. On January 25, 2008 NLPS invited BOE and City Council members on an ALL SCHOOL tour of the school system. The schools toured were Bennie Dover Jackson Middle School, New London High School and Winthrop Elementary school. Councilors Buscetto, Curtin, and Mayor Cavanagh plus Board members Pearce, and I joined staff members on the tour. We visited class rooms, observing the students, teachers and room presence. I was very pleased to see the exchange between teacher and student in the classrooms. I enjoyed witnessing seeing children reading aloud and learning in English and Spanish in our dual language classes.
2. Saturday, January 26, 2008 Mr. Pearce and I toured the New Jennings School. Many thanks to Mike Sorano and Skanska's general site manager for giving of their time to provide us the opportunity to go through the school. I am please with the progress of construction. It is truly a building New Londoners should be proud of and will house the children of New London for decades.
3. Continued our weekly cable access television show PS New – New London every Wednesday Channel 25 from 7:00 – 8:00PM. Dr. Clouet and I appreciate staff and students participation. I wish to thank Jackie Bagwell for her weekly support to the show that makes it a success.
4. On January 30, 2008 Councilor Curtin (council's liaison to the BOE), Ivan Sadler and I met in the office of the City's finance director where we opened bids from architectural firms for the contract to design services for renovating and additions to Nathan Hale and Winthrop Elementary schools. By NEW state statutes we are obliged to take the lowest bidder. That turned out to be Tai Soo Kim Partners in the amount of \$1,728,380. The next action is for Council to award the contract which is scheduled for Tuesday, February 19, 2008.
5. On February 12, 2008 the BOE and City Council meet in joint session to discuss with our State Delegation (Representative Hewett and Moukawsher). Our concerns (all BOE members having received copies of my remarks) were met with great concern by the delegation. I might add that since then bills have been submitted and referred to respective committees. My thanks for the delegations.
6. February 15, 2008 attended the SBMC meeting chaired by Councilor Curtin and Wade Hyslop. Verbal progress reports on Jennings construction status and STMHS punch list were provided.
In addition a status of work orders submitted to the city for maintenance and repair work items. It is becoming alarming that items previously identified for our upcoming NESAC visit in October this fall are still out standing. Deputy Mayor Hyslop, Councilor Curtin and I sat with City Manager Berliner and Interim Public Works Director Samul (Fire Chief) about our concerns of being ready for



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- the inspection especially with limited resources. The City Manager and Chief Samul are working on a plan to meet the school districts needs to support his accreditation visit.
7. Conducted Administration committee meetings. Minutes of these meetings are on the agenda for your information.
 - a. Public Relations committee
 - b. Policy Committee meeting
 8. Finally, attended various school or school related functions; i.e.,
 - a. Art and Science Forum which also concluded with a discussion on Magnet School Themes and Kente Art exhibition just to mention a couple.
 - b. Attended a well attended meeting for the High School Girls Basketball team and their parents to openly discuss the incident with the Thompson School District. There will be more to come on this issue. I trust all board members will support the team and help us through this trying time.