

**DANBURY BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC HEARING
APRIL 28, 2010**

Questions from the audience:

- 1. Can we avoid eliminating the Full-Day Kindergarten Program and the associated para-professionals and an associated question, is the BOE willing to implement a fee-based Full-Day K Program? Approximately 10 speakers**
- 2. Do we really have to make significant cuts to the fine and applied arts (art, music, family and consumer science and technology education) and world languages (Spanish and French) at the middle school level? Approximately 20 speakers**
- 3. Is there a way to place less emphasis on test scores and increase the emphasis on the special subject areas in order to provide a more well-rounded, holistic education for our students?**
- 4. Can we find a way to avoid cutting the elective programs at the high school (example given: the theater arts program)?**
- 5. General concern regarding why we need to cut teachers and special programs and can we stay away from these areas? Approximately 5 speakers**
- 6. Can we consider cutting administrative positions or other non-teaching positions before cutting teaching positions? Approximately 3 speakers**
- 7. Can we identify another option that would allow us not to close or restructure Mill Ridge Intermediate School and the need to deal with the associated issues of increased travel time and travel-related challenges to attend the King Street campus? Approximately 6 speakers**
- 8. Will the district reopen MRI at sometime in the future in the event that it is closed?**
- 9. What will happen to the Title I funding that MRI receives if the school is closed or restructured?**
- 10. Can we avoid increasing class sizes? Approximately 6 speakers**
- 11. How do we get information regarding public forums such as tonight's session as well as specific information pertaining to a given school?**

- 12. Do we really need to move to a Pay to Participate approach for athletics and co-curricular programs? Approximately 2 speakers**
- 13. Is there more savings to be found by conducting another line-by-line review of the budget such as postage, fuel/heating costs, and other non-instructional costs?**
- 14. Who pays for the mandatory elementary reading summer school?**
- 15. Has anyone asked teachers for their input on potential cost savings/cuts?**
- 16. Has the BOE considered merging selected positions, such as Information Technology, with the City's IT Department?**
- 17. Is it possible that the City will increase the 1.8% recommended increase to the education allocation?**
- 18. General concern regarding the overall impact budget cuts will have on the quality of our future educational programs. Approximately 3 speakers**
- 19. General concern at the loss of educational experience when senior teachers are replaced with less experienced teachers and related question do we have the capability to implement our District Enhancement Plan when we have lost so many veteran/highly-experienced teachers?**
- 20. General concern with cutting any positions at all. Approximately 2 speakers**
- 21. General concern with the local student transportation company and two related terminations including a request for an investigation.**