

SOUTHERN COLUMBIA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
800 SOUTHERN DRIVE
CATAWISSA, PA 17820

The November 14, 2005 Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:30 p.m. with President Karl Meyer in charge of the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

President Meyer welcomed everyone, followed by a roll call of Board Members.

BOARD MEMBERS

Amanda Bell-Perry
Elsie Bittner
Hugh Jones

Karl Meyer
Ronald Savitski
Paul Starr

Richard Swank
Michael Yeager

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Alan J. Lonoconus, Superintendent; Joseph Springer, Business Manager; Tresa Britch, Board Secretary; Richard J. Roberts, Solicitor; Roy Clippinger, Pat Shultz, James Becker, Paul Caputo, James Dunkelberger and Barbara Lombardo, Administrators; district residents and members of the media.

AGENDA HEARING PERIOD

President Meyer announced that all Personnel Items on the agenda would be considered action items.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Lonoconus' report included the following topics:

1.) He read aloud a note from the United Way Campaign Committee, in which they thanked the Board for allowing the campaign and contributing to its success by offering the day off for one classified and one professional employee.

2.) Mr. Jeff Colosimo will be present at the next Board meeting to demonstrate the Performance Tracker software.

3.) Mrs. Barbara Lombardo, Grants Coordinator, reported that the Community Craft Show sponsored by Communities That Care was held on Saturday. Approximately 50 crafters were in attendance. A Santa's Workshop was set up in the Library for children to participate in various activities, while their parents shopped. Mrs. Lombardo's family donated a bicycle for a raffle. There was also a 50/50 raffle. She wanted to publicly acknowledge Mrs. Kelly Bulla for the outstanding job she did in organizing the event.

Mrs. Lombardo also reported that the After School Tutoring Program is going well. There were 17 new students enrolled in the program during the current week. They are averaging about 100 students daily. There is a total enrollment of 117. There are approximately 50 students enrolled in the After School Art Program and 100 students in the Enrichment Program. She noted that there were samples of some of the projects the students have been doing. She thanked the Board for giving students the opportunity to participate in the programs.

4.) A Veteran's Day Program was held on Friday. Seven veterans and one reserve were in attendance. Dr. Lonoconus would like to see some of the younger veterans attend in the future. The program was held in the gymnasium due to the lighting project underway in the auditorium.

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5.) Wednesday night Miss Allison Young will be presenting at the CSIU on her summer work through the Governor's School. She and her father, Mr. Randy Young, will present to the Board after the holidays.

6.) He noted that Mr. Bill Smith from PPL is present to answer questions regarding the lighting retrofit for the gymnasium, which will be addressed during the Facilities report.

7.) He congratulated the Football and Boys Soccer Teams for winning the District Championships.

8.) He requested an executive session following the Board meeting to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation and the Business Manager interviews.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities & Services - Michael Yeager, Chairperson, deferred to Mr. Smith from PPL. Mr. Smith reported that to replace the halide lights with a multi-lamp fluorescent lighting system would increase energy savings to nearly half of current costs. Over the course of time, the project would pay for itself. The new lights would offer more even lighting. The retrofit process could be completed within one week and could be done during third shift. It should not affect operations. The district would not pay until the entire project was completed. The auditorium sound system should be completed around the first week in December. A training will take place upon completion.

Dr. Lonoconus noted that he received a letter from Howard Organization, Inc. regarding changes to the lighting system. Some lights would not be installed permanently according to B.M.I.'s specifications. They assumed the district had it's own stage lighting person who would change the lights as needed. Dr. Lonoconus and Mr. Campbell met with a representative from Howard Organization and came up with a plan that would correct the problem. The changes could possibly cost an additional \$2,000 to \$3,000. The Board could decide to extend the completion date to accommodate the changes. The extension would only affect an Elementary concert scheduled for December 6th. The contractor cannot guarantee that it will be completed by that date due to the changes. Mrs. Wittig and Mrs. Shultz already have a contingency plan in effect. Solicitor Roberts noted that there should be a change order approved. President Meyer noted that there wasn't enough information available at the current time. It would be addressed at the next meeting.

Mr. Yeager reported that the improvements to the baseball field were put on hold until after the next season, but the fence would be done as soon as possible. He noted that a lot of the things on the "Regardless" list are included on the PPL project list.

Finance - Karl Meyer, Chairperson, reported that the committee discussed the account that is being set up for CTC fundraising.

Negotiations & Personnel - President Meyer noted that the committee is currently involved in interviewing a replacement for Mr. Springer.

ITEMS – TREASURER'S REPORTS

ITEMS – MINUTES/INVOICES

ITEMS – FISCAL

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ITEMS – PERSONNEL

On a motion by Bittner and second by Swank, a Childbearing/Childrearing Leave for Michele Petro (Elementary Learning Support Teacher) beginning on or about February 14, 2006, and continuing through the end of the 2005-2006 school year was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Jones and second by Yeager, acceptance of the resignation of Barbara Trelinski (3-Hour High School Cafeteria Worker) effective November 4, 2005, was presented for approval. Ms. Trelinski has been with the district since August 2001. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Yeager and second by Bittner, the addition of Lori A. Erdman (Bus/Van Driver) to the 2005-2006 Substitute List effective November 15, 2005 (pending completion of all employment requirements) was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Jones and second by Swank, employment of Shaun Gaul as Assistant Junior High Wrestling Coach for the 2005-2006 school year (pending completion of all employment requirements), with 11 points and a salary of \$1,310 was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Bittner and second by Swank, employment of the following individuals as After School Tutors for the 2005-2006 school year (pending completion of all employment requirements), at the rates listed, which will come from proceeds of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant, was presented for approval:

- Kacie Cropf - \$10 per hour, effective November 2, 2005
- Elaine Eichen - \$20 per hour, effective November 15, 2005

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS - POLICY AND PROGRAMS

On a motion by Bittner and second by Jones, Homebound Instruction for a middle school student effective October 27, 2005, until further evaluation by a physician for a maximum of 6 hours per week was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Yeager noted that he was concerned about the number of students involved in the After-School program and the possibility of losing funding in the future. Mrs. Lombardo noted that there might be a total of five years of funding available from the grant. Mr. Yeager noted the Board could not afford to let this program go. Dr. Lonoconus agreed that the program has been very beneficial to the students. Mr. Yeager asked if an academic assessment is done regarding the effectiveness of the After-School program. Mr. Clippinger responded that two reports are required, a program report and a student report. Report cards are also utilized in assessing the program. He noted that it is difficult to assess the variables. He would like to think that not only the day-to-day instruction, but also the After-School program is beneficial. Pre- and post-tests are helpful. He also noted that continuity of the program helps a great deal. Those who make the

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most gains are students who attend an after school program for two years and at least three days per week.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Jones and second by Bittner, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary