

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

The April 16, 2007, 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 ( <i>Absent</i> )	Karl Meyer	Thomas Slusser ( <i>Absent</i> )
Elsie Bittner	Charles Porter	Paul Starr
Hugh Jones	Ronald Savitski	Michael Yeager

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Richard F. Beierschmitt, Acting Superintendent; Daniel Rodgers, Business Manager; Richard J. Roberts, Solicitor; Joseph Shirvinski, Roger Nunkester, James Becker, Robert Mehalick and Barbara Lombardo, Administrators; district residents and members of the media.

The board entered into an executive session at 7:32 p.m. and reconvened the regular meeting at 7:50 p.m. with all members present with the exception of Bell-Perry and Slusser. The purpose of the executive session was to a personnel matter and pending litigation.

**AGENDA HEARING PERIOD**

President Meyer announced that all items on the agenda would be considered action items. Check #00015134 was eliminated from the list of invoices and would be acted upon at a future meeting.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Beierschmitt's report included the following topics:

1.) The last day of school has been changed to June 8<sup>th</sup> for grades K-11 due to the day's snow storm. Graduation will remain on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup>. The seniors will make up the day on a Saturday.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Activities - Paul Starr, Chairperson, reported that no meeting was held, but a facilities use request was received from the Columbia Wildcats soccer team. They want to use the soccer field for practice. Mr. Porter asked if all of the participants are Southern residents. Mr. Becker replied that approximately one-half are district residents.

Curriculum - No report.

Facilities - Mike Yeager, Chairperson, reported that the committee met on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Coach Roth expressed some concern that an addition to the press box on the visitors side might be necessary to meet some of the guidelines of the Heartland Conference. They discussed adding some additional equipment and repairs and maintenance to the weight room. Air conditioning was also discussed. Mr. Tony Schicchitano was scheduled to come in earlier in the day, but his visit was canceled due to the weather. Mr. Beierschmitt reported that he is still waiting for a price on the glass for the trophy cases. The floor paint in the locker rooms and ways to make the floor

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safer were discussed. The district applied for the vendor grant. Bid specs for the gym heating system and lighting would be going out soon. The priority list and athletic fields were also discussed. Mr. Fleming recommended drilling a new well if new sod is placed on the football field. Mr. Porter asked if he knew that the wells were now tied together. Mr. Geffken reported that it was his understanding that the wells had been tied together, but there is a valve that was disconnected because of problems with the sulfur water bleeding into the main system. The sulfur well does continue to be used for the football field, bus barn and other fields. He noted that there are occasional problems with the elementary well not keeping up, but the large holding tanks hold approximately a two-day supply. Mr. Porter asked how the heating system in the gym was going to be bid. Mr. Geffken replied that to ask for a unit that doesn't have the ability to add cooling would be a special order because it is standard in the HVAC industry. He added that he is trying to find a company that would offer a comparable unit that would just offer heating. The bid specs would ask for prices with and without cooling but the unit would have the capability. Mr. Porter stated that he would like to see it done both ways. Mr. Geffken noted that it would be fairly simple to include an addendum to the bid specs.

Finance - Karl Meyer, Chairperson, reported that they discussed educational foundations. A special budget meeting was scheduled for Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. The budget process is moving forward. Mr. Porter reported that the district would commit to CSIU for fuel bids with one-half on a fixed bid and one-half on a fluctuating bid. They also discussed the possibility of having business students track the cost of fuel oil as part of the curriculum to provide an historical record to compare to CSIU costs.

He also reported that Mr. Shirvinski asked them to consider the possibility of assigning a dedicated person to use the copy machine to eliminate some usage problems that are occurring. Mr. Porter asked Mr. Rodgers if his prediction was to have no increase in the General Fund Budget. Mr. Rodgers replied that it wouldn't be his recommendation, but he would like to discuss it more on Monday night.

Negotiations and Personnel - A negotiations meeting is scheduled for Thursday.

Policy - Hugh Jones, Chairperson, reported that there is some interest to put together a policy consistent with Title 65 concerning restricted activities, conflict of interest, etc. He asked for direction from the board. Mr. Porter reported that it was the recommendation of the auditors to establish a policy and also include it in the superintendent's contract. A policy concerning epi-pen self-administration will also be developed. The electronic devices policy will be presented for final review next month.

### **TREASURER'S REPORTS**

On a motion by Savitski and second by Porter, the Treasurer's Reports were presented for approval. Prior to voting, Mr. Porter questioned the reason for the change in the Capital Reserve Fund balance. Mr. Rodgers replied that it was due to the final transfer from the General Fund relating to the end of year audit, a transfer of \$19,500 for the bus insurance payment and the proceeds for the scrap aluminum. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### **MINUTES AND INVOICES**

On a motion by Savitski and second by Jones, the minutes of March 12 and 19, 2007, were presented for approval. *\*(Prior to voting, Mr. Porter asked some questions concerning invoices. Those questions have been included with the appropriate motion to avoid confusion.)\** The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

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When Mr. Porter realized that the previous motion was concerning minutes and not invoices, he made a motion to amend the eighth sentence under Item #3 of the Superintendent's Report of the March 19, 2007, minutes to read: "The second part was that the district was notified of a violation of the ethics law." The motion was seconded by Jones. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Savitski and second by Starr, General Fund invoices in the amount of \$1,271,330.54 and Capital Reserve Fund invoices in the amount of \$50,967.12 were presented for approval. \*Mr. Porter asked why the district was paying the Music Boosters for the District VIII Songfest instead of paying for it directly. Mr. Rodgers agreed to look into the matter. He also questioned the \$1,000 payment to HDC, Inc. Mr. Geffken replied that it was the standard payment under the contract for the sewage treatment plant. Mr. Porter asked if the Craft Show has been a profitable venture. Mrs. Lombardo replied affirmatively. She noted that the profit is just under \$2,000. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS – FISCAL

On a motion by Starr and second by Savitski, to approve budgetary transfers in the 2006-2007 budget (**per Exhibit A**) to ensure proper accounting was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Jones and second by Starr, payment of the following invoices from the Capital Project Fund was presented for approval:

- Vought's Equipment Rental, Inc. - \$709.85 (athletic fields improvements)
- Stadium Dirt Designs, Inc. - \$3,236.26 (baseball field improvements)

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS – PERSONNEL

On a motion by Porter and second by Savitski, the following items were presented for approval:

- B. To accept the resignation for retirement of Terry L. Stellfox (3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher) effective June 30, 2007. Mr. Stellfox has been with the district since August 25, 1975.
- C. To accept the resignation for retirement of Sharon C. Leisenring (5<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher) effective June 30, 2007. Mrs. Leisenring has been with the district since August 25, 1980.
- D. To accept the resignation for retirement of Sandra R. Rarig (French Teacher) effective June 30, 2007. Mrs. Rarig has been with the district since August 27, 1985.
- F. Employment of Dale Schoch as Assistant Track and Field Coach for the 2006-2007 school year (pending completion of all employment requirements) with 11.5 points and a salary of \$1,768.
- G. To designate Casey Oberdorf as a Volunteer Assistant Softball Coach for the 2006-2007 school year (pending receipt of favorable clearances).

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- H. To accept the resignation of Donna Miller from the position of Regular Run Bus Driver effective March 30, 2007. Ms. Miller will remain on the Substitute List.
- I. The addition of Thomas A. Lauer (Bus/Van Driver) to the 2006-2007 Substitute List effective March 28, 2007 (pending completion of all employment requirements).
- J. A Childbearing/Childrearing Leave for Kelly Konyar (Learning Support Teacher) for the entire 2007-2008 school year.
- K. Employment of the following individuals as After School Tutors effective April 10, 2007, (pending completion of all employment requirements) at the rates listed, which will come from proceeds of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant:
  - Amy Fronhofer (\$20 per hour)
  - Elizabeth Boyer (\$10 per hour)
- L. Employment of Louise Telesky as 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Team Leader for the remainder of the 2006-2007 school year to replace Nadeen Swab while on Childbearing/Childrearing Leave, at a salary of \$1,066 (pro-rated)

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Jones and second by Porter, to elect Charles A. Reh to the position of District Superintendent for a 3-year term beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2010, at an initial annual salary of \$94,000, and to approve a contract with him for such position was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Porter and second by Jones, employment of JoEllen Gallinot as Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach for the 2007-2008 school year (pending completion of all employment requirements) with 20.5 points was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS – POLICY AND PROGRAMS

On a motion by Savitski and second by Starr, the following items were presented for approval:

- A. Homebound Instruction for an elementary student beginning April 30, 2007, until further evaluation by a physician for a maximum of 6 hours per week.
- B. To increase the amount of Homebound Instruction for a middle school student from 1.5 hours per week to a maximum of 6 hours per week effective April 7, 2007, until further evaluation by a physician.
- C. To approve Homebound Instruction for a high school student beginning April 27, 2007, until further evaluation by a physician for a maximum of 6 hours per week

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

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**BOARD COMMENTS**

Mr. Savitski asked Mr. Shirvinski about enrollment numbers in kindergarten. He replied that 102 are registered and it will likely be a large class. Mr. Porter noted that modular units had been discussed for the Middle School Office and asked if anything had been done regarding the issue. Mr. Beierschmitt replied that he and Mr. Rodgers would be going to see the Berwick School District modular units early next week. He also received some information through Mr. Slusser from Oxford School District. The band truck is budgeted for next year.

**RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC**

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Jones and second by Savitski, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch  
Board Secretary