

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

The July 16, 2007, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:42 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 (<i>Absent</i>)	Charles Porter	Paul Starr
Hugh Jones (<i>Absent</i>)	Ronald Savitski	Michael Yeager

OTHERS PRESENT

Richard Beierschmitt, Acting Superintendent; Daniel Rodgers, Business Manager; Tresa Britch, Board Secretary; Richard J. Roberts, Solicitor; Roy Clippinger, Joseph Shirvinski, Roger Nunkester, Robert Mehalick and Barbara Lombardo, Administrators; district residents and members of the media.

AGENDA HEARING PERIOD

President Meyer announced that an executive session would be held following the meeting to discuss personnel matters. He also announced that all items with the exception of Personnel Items E and G on the agenda would be considered action items.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

1.) President Meyer presented a citation of academic achievement was presented on behalf of the district to sophomore student, Ralph Beishline, for placing third in the national FBLA competition in the area of Business Math. Mrs. Lori Shively, FBLA Advisor, thanked the board for their continued support of the FBLA program. Mrs. Penny Fetterman accompanied Mr. Beishline to the competition in Chicago, Illinois.

2.) Athletic Trainer, Katie Fisher, gave a presentation on the Impact Testing program, which is a preventive procedure for concussions. Students participating in all levels of football, soccer, field hockey and basketball, as well as pole-vaulters and high jumpers, are required to take the baseline test. All other athletes are encouraged to take the baseline test, but they are not required to do so before they can participate. The impact test is a series of cognitive tests, which establishes a baseline for each athlete in case they incur a concussion. The athlete is then tested following a concussion to determine the severity of the injury. The criterion for an athlete to return to play is that the athlete must have no symptoms both at rest and during activity.

3.) Mr. Joseph Shirvinski, Elementary Principal, gave a presentation on his proposal for Hartman Helping Hands Adult Volunteer Program. He noted that the community/school relationship is very important and there is always room for volunteer help. Interested individuals would go through an hour-long orientation before they could have contact with students. He noted that parents would not be assigned to their own child's classroom. Mr. Reh noted that all volunteers would need to be approved by the board and the board would need to determine what

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clearances would be necessary. Policies from other districts concerning volunteers would be reviewed.

Mr. Porter noted that the district pays to have the stadium cleaned following home football games. He asked if it would be possible to take the FBLA students off of the highways and have them clean up the stadium. Mrs. Shively noted that FBLA has not done the highway cleanup for the past two years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Facilities & Services - Michael Yeager, Chairperson, announced that the committee met on Thursday. The corridor lighting and gymnasium air handling projects are underway. They are waiting on a third quote for the air conditioning units for the band and weight rooms. Three quotes were obtained for a new well for the football field area. The low quote of \$3,835.00 was from Swank & Son Well Drilling. Mr. Geffken reported that the bid includes drilling the well and the casing. A pump would need to be purchased at an additional cost, but the total cost would be below \$10,000, and a bid process would not be required. It was the consensus of the board to move forward with the project.

The athletic fields were aerated and top-dressed. Some control problems were corrected in the elementary heating and air conditioning system. Some mechanical problems are also being addressed. Mr. Yeager noted that it takes two and one-half days to cut the grass. They plan to discuss the possibility of contracting a grass service. Mr. Porter asked when Mr. Geffken would be coming to the board with a cost for replacement windows. Mr. Geffken could not give an exact date, but expected it would be fairly soon. Mr. Porter expressed concern over the hockey field being played on so quickly after seeding. Mr. Geffken noted that there would be an alternate field for practice.

Mr. Geffken noted that the process for cleaning the rooms has been changed. In the past, all of the furniture and equipment was moved into the hallways and the entire floor was cleaned at one time. This year, they are moving all of the items to one side of the room and cleaning one half of the floor at a time. They are two weeks ahead of schedule. Mr. Geffken also noted that the new lighting is going to make the floors look terrible due to the buildup of old wax. They are going to strip all of the old wax and use a new product, which will eliminate the need for stripping and waxing.

Finance - Karl Meyer, Chairperson, announced that the committee discussed the band truck issue. Mr. Rodgers noted that the band truck would probably cost more than \$10,000 and it is his recommendation to put it out on bid. A surplus sale is being planned for sometime in August to dispose of some of the equipment and furniture that is no longer being used. Mr. Reh will be doing some further research on educational foundations. The district calendars will not be mailed to all district residents this year in an effort to avoid unnecessary expense. The calendars will be sent home with students and will be available in several locations for those who are interested. The Lowe's vendor grant proposal is being considered and the district should be notified if it was successful in the near future.

Negotiations & Personnel - Karl Meyer reported that the next negotiations meeting would be held the following evening.

Activities - Paul Starr, Chairperson, reported that the committee did not meet. Athletic Director, Mr. Terry Sharrow, announced that reserved seating football tickets would go on sale Thursday and Friday.

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Curriculum - Mr. Clippinger gave a report on the curriculum review cycle. He noted that through his handouts, he tries to not only give facts and figures, but also to build a better understanding of what goes on during the school year in planning and putting things together. The goal for this particular report is to show how things are integrated. He referred to the chart on the second page of the handout that lists all of the major instructional categories from kindergarten through 12th grade. It is broken down into a six-year cycle. The first four years are planning, development, implementation and evaluation years. The latter two years of the cycle continue implementation and evaluation. He noted that everything that is done with students comes back to the curriculum cycle in some form. The curriculum cycle integrates with the budget cycle. Language arts is such a large area that it has to be dealt with separately in the curriculum cycle. Most of the teachers throughout K-12 deal with some aspects of language arts and they deal with a great deal of materials. The major subject areas are not dealt with in the same year. It helps to spread the course out over the six-year cycle both time-wise and financially. All of the approximately 110 courses need to be periodically reviewed as far as content alignment and degree of rigor alignment, so that the students have a good chance at being proficient and have marketable skills upon graduation. It also allows the district to use resources more efficiently and maximize their use. Curriculum also integrates into the instructional supervision of the school district. Classrooms, students, what students are learning and what teachers are teaching needs to be observed on a regular basis. That feedback affects the curriculum cycle. It helps to determine if the curriculum is being delivered to students, at what level and at what degree of rigor and complexity. The curriculum cycle also integrates with the data assessment of the school district. That can be from day-to-day assessment to annual assessments. That helps determine that there are not students falling through the cracks; that the course is on target and it efficient.

The curriculum cycle also integrates with the professional development of the school district. It helps determine what new skills are needed by the faculty members in order to demonstrate and deliver the new or revised course. The district has been successful at putting together a plan that can be carried into the future. He noted that there has to be an understanding by the board of why the plan is put together in this way so that it can carry forward.

Policy and Programs - Mr. Reh reported that the committee would be recommending the Eligibility of Non-resident Student policy. Solicitor Roberts has suggested a few additions to the policy to substantiate the statements made in the sworn statement by the individual taking responsibility for the student. Mr. Porter asked what legal right the district would have to go after someone for tuition. Solicitor Roberts replied that if it would turn out that the sworn statements are inaccurate, the district would have the right to pursue them for tuition. The policy states that the district can follow up to verify that the sworn statement is accurate.

Vo-Tech - No meeting was held.

CSIU - They passed their financial audit.

ITEMS – TREASURER’S REPORTS

On a motion by Porter and second by Yeager, the Treasurer’s reports were presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – MINUTES/INVOICES

On a motion by Savistki and second by Yeager, the June 11 and 21, 2007, Minutes were presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

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On a motion by Yeager and second by Savitksi, General Fund Invoices in the amount of \$304,087.24 were presented for approval. Prior to voting, Mr. Porter asked what becomes of the non-consumable items purchased for the summer program. Mrs. Lombardo replied that the supplies are kept from year to year. They always pull of the old supplies and try to plan around the supplies on hand before they ask for new supplies. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – FISCAL

On a motion by Savitski and second by Yeager, to accept the Audit Report from the Pennsylvania Auditor General for the fiscal years 2002-03, 2003-04, 2004-05 and 2005-06 was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. To note satisfactory evaluations and accept recommendations (pending completion of all employment requirements) for approval/reapproval of the Athletic /Activities positions and salaries for the 2007-2008 school year (**per Exhibit A**).
- B. The Athletic/Activities Volunteers (pending receipt of favorable clearances and a negative Tuberculin test) for the 2007-2008 school year (**per Exhibit B**).
- C. The Band and Choral positions for the 2007-2008 school year (**per Exhibit C**).
- E. Employment of Rena Carl as an Extended School Year Instructor for Summer 2007 effective July 10, 2007.
- F. The salaries for the following non-union Support Staff for the 2007-2008 fiscal year:
 - Linda Mayernick - \$15,326.00
 - Sam Hunsinger - \$32,972.00
- H. To change Colleen Laskoskie from Substitute Aide to Full-time Aide effective August 27, 2007, (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- I. To accept the resignation of Benjamin Chere from the position of 2nd Shift Custodian effective July 13, 2007. Mr. Chere has been with the district since November 2006.
- J. Employment of the following individuals for the Summer Fun-da-Mentals Program effective July 13, 2007, at their respective contracted rates:
 - Joan Doraski (Aide)
 - Rena Carl (Aide)

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

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ITEMS - POLICY AND PROGRAMS

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

- A. The revised Athletic Policy Handbook (**per Exhibit F**).
- B. The 2007-2008 High School Student Handbook (**per Exhibit G**).
- C. The purchase and implementation of Textbooks and Instructional Software for the 2007-2008 school year (**per Exhibit H**).

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Porter thanked Mr. Shirvinski for taking the initiative to propose the volunteer program.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Mrs. Tia Brown, Elementary Art Teacher, welcomed Mr. Reh on behalf of the Southern Columbia Education Association.

District resident, Mrs. Rita Beishline, noted that the small courtyard near the gym is full of bags of garbage. Mr. Rodgers noted that the recyclables are kept there, but that area was discussed earlier in the day and it would be addressed.

Mr. Shirvinski reported that he is very pleased with the job the maintenance and custodial staff is doing over the summer. Mr. Nunkester echoed his comments.

Mr. Porter asked about the status of the middle school office project. Mr. Geffken reported that they would be looking at approximately \$10,000 to \$15,000 to make it a functional space. Mr. Nunkester noted that they were looking for direction from the board. President Meyer stated that he would like to see a total cost for the project.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Porter and second by Savitski, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary