

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

The July 21, 2008, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:45 p.m. with President Michael Yeager in charge of the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

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

BOARD MEMBERS

Timothy Benner
Charles Porter
Thomas Slusser

Paul Starr
Richard Steele
David Stellfox

Timothy Vought
Michael Yeager
John Yocum

OTHERS PRESENT

Charles Reh, Superintendent; Daniel Rodgers, Business Manager; Tresa Britch, Board Secretary; Roy Clippinger, Joseph Shirvinski, Roger Nunkester, James Becker, Robert Mehalick and Barbara Lombardo, Administrators; district residents and members of the media.

AGENDA HEARING PERIOD

President Yeager announced that the Board met in executive session to discuss Personnel at the last Facilities/Finance Committee meeting. He also announced that all items on the agenda would be action itimes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

- 1). Mr. Reh welcomed the new teachers to the district and thanked the administration and staff for their participation in the interviews and the hiring process.
- 2). He announced that the revised 2008-2009 School Year Calendar including additional Act 80 days was on the agenda for approval.
- 3). He distributed information to the Board regarding the proposed building project.
- 4). The PSSA results were excellent. The district met AYP in all areas and no warnings were received. Mr. Clippinger will give a detailed report at the August 18th Board meeting.
- 5). The security project is being completed. All cameras and monitors have been installed and are up and running. All employees will have a key fob but will have limited access according to their duties.
- 6). Training for Power School began earlier in the day, with a group of administrators, secretarial staff and technology staff. Various trainings will continue throughout the week. The Tech Lead Teachers would be trained and would then train the remaining staff. President Yeager asked if it would be up and running for the beginning of the school year. Mr. Becker replied that they would probably be using a combination of the two programs until it is all up and running. Mrs. Monick noted that additional features such as scheduling will be added during the year.
- 7). Mr. Lanny Conner proposed a "Driving for Fuel Efficiency" clinic that he would like to offer to the public free of charge on the evening of August 5th. He noted that the clinic would involve all types of driving environments from rural roads to interstate driving. It would also

Board Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2008

Page 2

include tips for proper automobile maintenance. Mr. Reh noted that Mr. Conner would be using the school facilities to provide the clinic. The Board informally approved the clinic.

8). Mr. Reh reported that at the end of the school year, he and Mr. Mehalick met with Cathy Hummel from CSIU to discuss differentiated instruction. They will offer SCA faculty a 30-hour course on differentiated instruction. There will be 14 hours of face-to-face training and 16 hours outside of the classroom. The cost is \$35 and each teacher who passes the course will earn one credit as well as 30 hours of Act 48 credit. There are 20 seats available for the course.

9). Mr. Reh requested an executive session following the regular meeting to consult with counsel regarding possible litigation.

Mr. Porter asked the status of the driver education program and if the district is using CSIU services. Mr. Becker replied affirmatively regarding CSIU Services. He reported that every senior that wanted to participate completed their behind-the-wheel training, but there is still a backlog with juniors. President Yeager stated that it is most likely that Mr. Conner will not be doing any behind-the-wheel instruction in the upcoming year due to his schedule. Mr. Stellfox stated that it is important that the district work on getting the juniors caught up. Mr. Porter asked how often Mr. Conner is able to work with students during the summer. Mr. Conner replied that it varies, but he has worked several days during the past week and will be working with students up until school starts.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities - The meeting was cancelled. Mr. Becker asked if he should set up a meeting with the spring sports coaches. Mr. Starr replied affirmatively.

Curriculum - There was no report given.

Facilities & Services - Michael Yeager, Chairperson, reported that the committee met July 10th. A lot of the projects are getting completed. The hot water heater, roof and parking lot projects are done and the security project is about 85 percent complete. The DEP permit renewal has been received and the Lowe's grant was discussed. The well is complete and it is being used to water the fields. Four applications have been received for the Maintenance Specialist position. Mr. Rodgers stated that he would like to set up interviews with the Personnel Committee. They agreed to schedule a date following the meeting. There are several companies coming in to look at the hockey field and give quotes. They are in the process of getting three quotes for a pavilion for the lower fields. Mr. Stellfox recommended that the committee meet before the next regularly scheduled meeting in case the project needs to be put out for bid. Mr. Porter stated that he would like to see a three-sided building as an alternate quote or bid. Mr. Geffken stated that he would spec a large enough overhang on the building to allow for the installation of sides at a later date. The "Priority List" is dwindling. The pavilion and the high school gym floor were moved up on the list.

Finance - Charlie Porter, Chairperson reported that the committee met with the Facilities Committee on July 10th. They discussed the Act 80 days, the Maintenance Specialist position and the IRS audit. The new telephone service is in use. The district saved \$10,000 over the previous contractor. There is still some work to be done concerning the line to the transportation garage. The district received an additional \$18,000 credit on the Power School purchase because of being a previous SASI customer. They discussed the PEP grant. At the end of the meeting, they went into executive session to discuss the Business Manger's contract, which is on the agenda for approval. He deferred to Mr. Rodgers to report on the purchase of buses. Mr. Rodgers reported that the total of \$140,640 exceeded the \$135,000 that was budgeted for the purchase of five buses. There were

Board Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2008

Page 3

five buses that did not pass inspection. He anticipates getting between \$1,500 and \$2,000 per bus for scrap or around \$8,000 total. The administration is recommending the purchase of one 2000 model bus, one 2001 model bus and two 2003 model buses. The buses would not include on-spot chains.

Policy - Rick Steele, Chairperson, reported that the committee met July 14th. Two policies are on the agenda for approval; revised Policy 215 Promotion and Retention and new Policy 118.1 Distance Learning/Virtual/Online and Dual Enrollment Courses.

Negotiations and Personnel - Mr. Slusser reported that the committee held an executive session. Mr. Reh stated that he and Mr. Rodgers would be meeting with Attorney Carl Beard at 2:00 p.m. on July 24th.

CSIU - Mr. Porter, reported that at the last meeting there was a presentation regarding the services offered by CSIU. He noted that it is difficult to comprehend all that the CSIU programs encompass. There were a number of position changes and title changes to reflect additional duties and monetary additions.

Vo-Tech - There was no report given.

ITEMS – TREASURER’S REPORTS

On a motion by Slusser and second by Vought, the Treasurer’s Reports were presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – MINUTES/INVOICES

On a motion by Slusser and second by Stellfox, the following items were presented for approval:

- A. Minutes of June 9 and 23, 2008.
- B. General Fund Invoices in the amount of \$686,616.24 and Capital Reserve Fund Invoices in the amount of \$31,653.00.

ITEMS – FISCAL

On a motion by Slusser and second by Stellfox, to award a bid for four used 72-passenger School Buses to Brightbill Body Works, Lebanon, in the amount of \$140,650 was presented for approval (**Bid tabulation per Exhibit A**). The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Steele and second by Benner, to award the High School Gymnasium Floor Restoration Project to Miller Flooring Company, Inc., in the amount of \$19,103.66 was presented for approval. The project pricing is in accordance with the PAEJPC purchasing program. Prior to voting, Mr. Porter stated that he had asked for quotes on similar jobs that other schools had done. No quotes were obtained and for that reason he would be voting “No.” Mr. Stellfox stated that the CSIU is stating that it is okay for Miller Flooring to do the work. Mr. Steele noted that it seemed a little repetitive to get quotes for a JPC project. Mr. Geffken stated that he tried to research the project through FMS, but companies were not willing to quote or were unavailable. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 7-Yes, 2-No (Porter and Slusser voted No).

Board Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2008

Page 4

ITEMS – PERSONNEL

On a motion by Yocum and second by Slusser, the following items were presented for approval:

- A. Employment of Suzanne Harder (Teacher) as an Extended School Year Instructor (off campus) for a maximum of twenty-five (25) hours at the contracted rate.
- B. To accept the resignation of Dane Aucker from the position of 4th Grade Teacher effective June 24, 2008. Mr. Aucker was approved for employment in the 2008-09 school year at the June 9, 2008, board meeting.
- C. To acknowledge that Kathleen Crisp will serve as a Long Term Substitute Instructor for 4th Grade for the first semester of the 2008-2009 school year (pending completion of all employment requirements).
- D. Employment of Kathleen L. Crisp for the position of Elementary Teacher (assigned to 4th Grade) effective the beginning of the 2nd semester of the 2008-2009 school year (on or about January 21, 2009 - pending completion of all employment requirements) at Step 1 of the Bachelor's Salary Schedule (\$37,135); benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- E. Employment of David M. Yost for the position of Middle School Mathematics Teacher effective August 20, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at Step 11 of the Master's Salary Schedule (\$49,799); benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- F. Employment of Rebecca Maley for the position of 6th Grade Teacher effective August 20, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at Step 1 of the Bachelor's Salary Schedule (\$37,135); benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- G. Employment of Holly J. McCullough for the position of Life Skills Teacher effective August 20, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at Step 2 of the Master's Salary Schedule (\$39,700); benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- H. To change Vera Stellfox from Substitute Aide to Half-time Instructional Aide (Life Skills) effective August 13, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- I. Employment of Ciara Martucci for the position of Half-time Instructional Aide (Life Skills) effective August 13, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- J. The addition of Susette P. Wertman (Bus/Van Driver) to the 2008-2009 Substitute List effective July 1, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements):

Board Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2008

Page 5

- K. The addition of Kathleen Baas to the 2008-2009 Substitute List effective August 20, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements) and to acknowledge that she will serve as Long-term Substitute Elementary Registered Nurse for the entire 2008-2009 school year at an annual salary of \$20,000.
- L. Activities Advisors, Department Lead Teachers, Building Lead Teachers, Support Teachers and Tech Lead Teachers for the 2008-2009 school year **(per Exhibit B)**.
- M. Athletic/Activities Volunteers (pending receipt of favorable clearances and a negative Tuberculin test) for the 2008-2009 school year **(per Exhibit C)**.
- N. Band and Choral positions for the 2008-2009 school year **(per Exhibit D)**.
- O. Revised salaries for Elementary Coaches, Weightlifting Supervisors and Game Managers for the 2008-2009 school year **(per Exhibit E)**.
- P. Five-year contract with Daniel C. Rodgers for the position of District Business Manager effective July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2013, at an initial salary of \$78,000, and to approve a contract with him for such position.
- Q. To change Barry McBride from 3rd Shift Custodian to 2nd Shift Custodian effective July 22, 2008, salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- R. Employment of Kati Walters for the position of 3rd Shift Custodian (pending completion of all employment requirements) effective July 22, 2008, salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- S. Employment of the following individuals for the 2008 Summer Programs effective as listed (pending completion of all employment requirements) and at the rates listed, which will come from proceeds of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant:
 - Danielle Appel - effective June 25, 2008, \$10/hour
 - Tricia Hoffman - effective July 7, 2008, \$21/hour

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Slusser and second by Yocum, to revise the status of Donald Spotts to Game Manager only and eliminate Athletic Trainer, was presented for approval. Prior to voting, Mr. Stellfox asked for clarification on the Athletic Trainer's responsibilities as to what she legally can and cannot do. It was agreed that information would be provided in the Friday Letter. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Board Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2008

Page 6

ITEMS - POLICY AND PROGRAMS

On a motion by Slusser and second by Vought, the following items were presented for approval:

- A. First reading of new Policy 118.1 Distance Learning/Virtual/Online and Dual Enrollment Courses (per Exhibit F).
- B. First reading of revised Policy 215 Promotion and Retention (per Exhibit G).
- C. 2008-2009 G. C. Hartman Elementary Center Student Handbook (per Exhibit H).
- D. 2008-2009 Southern Columbia High School Student Handbook (per Exhibit I).
- E. Revised 2008-2009 Southern Columbia Area School District School Year Calendar (per Exhibit J).
- F. The following textbooks for 5th and 6th grade Social Studies, respectively:
 - History Alive! America's Past, ©2007
Teachers' Curriculum Institute, ISBN 1-58371-040-X
 - History Alive! The United States, ©2007
Teachers' Curriculum Institute ISBN 1-58371-187-2

Prior to voting, it was agreed that a few changes would be made to the High School Student Handbook. Mr. Porter noted that educational absences show up on students' report cards. He asked if there was any way that they could not be included. Mr. Becker stated that they are still absences, but are considered excused absences and would not count against the student. Mr. Shirvinski stated that he has had issues with Nintendo DS games in the past and they would no longer be allowed on the buses. He would also be allowing parents to come in at lunchtime to celebrate their child's birthday. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Slusser stated that the administration was going to ask if any staff members were interested in driving buses and asked the status. Mr. Reh replied that several staff members and administrators would be going for bus driver training.

Mr. Porter stated that Mr. Rodgers reported that five buses did not pass inspection, but only four were being purchased. Mr. Rodgers explained that one of the buses was a carryover from last year that was being used as a shelter at the lower fields. He also noted that there are three spare buses. Mr. Porter stated that last year they discussed consolidating bus runs. Mr. Rodgers stated that they continually look at the runs and he will discuss it with Mrs. Pheasant. Mr. Porter asked if they are looking at eliminating some stops. Mr. Rodgers stated that they would be looking at the existing runs and the possibility of consolidating some of the stops.

Mr. Slusser stated that there is only one 48-passenger bus and they should probably start looking for a replacement because they are difficult to find. Mr. Rodgers stated that he would get a recommendation from the mechanics.

Board Meeting Minutes

July 21, 2008

Page 7

Mr. Yeager congratulated the newly hired teachers and welcomed them to the district. He also thanked the board and administration and anyone who was involved in the process of getting the projects completed. He also asked about the evaluation forms for the Board and for Mr. Reh. They agreed to discuss it in executive session.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Porter thanked Mr. Conner for taking the initiative to offer the Fuel Efficiency Driving Clinic.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Steele and second by Slusser, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary