

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

The August 18, 2008, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:35 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 (*Absent*)
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; Richard J. Roberts, Solicitor; 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 all items on the agenda would be action items.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

1.) Mr. Barry Brobst, Paul Felder and Heather Rizzetto Schmidt of The Architectural Studio gave a presentation on the feasibility study (**Attachment A**). Mr. Felder noted that the feasibility study is set up in a format required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. He emphasized that the document is a work in progress. He noted that the projected enrollment would not drive a building project; however additional programs could potentially drive a building project. He pointed out the separation of the middle school students, special education needs and the gymnasium as issues. He noted that the buildings are maintained well, but they have some issues with aging systems. The bus garage is also in need of some work. He stated that the cost estimates are a moving target. The earliest a building project could begin would be approximately fifteen to eighteen months, and there is no way of knowing the rate of inflation. Ms. Schmitt briefly explained the gymnasium addition, parking modifications, classroom additions, science lab renovations and additions, cafeteria and library expansions, the renovation of the health suite and modifications to the District Office. Mr. Felder pointed out, as an example, that a \$10 million project at twelve percent inflation or a \$20 million project at six percent inflation would cost the district \$100,000 per month in escalation costs by not making a decision.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum - John Yocum, Chairperson, reported that the committee met prior to the board meeting. An outline of courses, policies, graduation projects and test standards will be sent to the Pennsylvania Department of Education by August 31st to satisfy the Department's request as to whether our graduation requirements are rigorous enough. The committee asked Mr. Clippinger to give the board an update and information on testing, terms, etc., at some time.

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Policy - Rick Steele, Chairperson, reported that the committee met prior to the board meeting. They are working on some changes to Policy 206 Assignment Within District pertaining to classroom placement of twins and higher order multiples. Policy 801 Public Records will be updated to comply with the Right to Know law. A new Policy 800 Records Management will be developed to guide staff on various records retention laws as well as other issues pertaining to Right to Know.

Negotiations and Personnel – Thomas Slusser, Chairperson, reported that no meeting was held. Mr. Reh noted that the Board already passed a resolution to create a request for proposals and they would pass a resolution to advertise the request for proposals at a September meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

On a motion by Porter and second by Yocum, the Treasurer's Reports were presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

MINUTES AND INVOICES

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

- A. Minutes of July 21, 2008.
- B. General Fund Invoices in the amount of \$405,321.95 and Capital Reserve Fund Invoices in the amount of \$37,893.85.

Prior to the vote, Mr. Rodgers pointed out that a revised list of Capital Reserve Fund invoices, excluding a \$115,000 invoice for Tremco Roofing, was distributed to board members. Representatives from the different parties that were involved with the project will be coming to the next Facilities/Finance Committee meeting to clear up any misunderstandings. Representatives from Tremco and CSIU will be present. Mr. Rodgers noted that it was in the best interest of the district to remove the invoice at this time. Mr. Porter stated that he met with Geoff Kimball at CSIU on Friday. He also spoke with Solicitor Roberts regarding the proper venue to inform the board of what he found. Because it is dealing with a contract issue and potential legal issue, he requested to discuss it in executive session. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – FISCAL

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Vought, to adopt a Resolution to designate a Reserve Fund for the purchase of computers (per Exhibit A) was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. To change Cheryl Gipple from Half-time Instructional Aide to Half-time ACCESS Secretary (working 3 days of a 6-day cycle) effective August 18, 2008, at a rate of \$10.50 per hour; benefits per the Non-Union Support Staff Handbook.

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- B. Employment of Diana S. Wagner as a Half-time ACCESS Secretary (working 3 days of a 6-day cycle) effective August 21, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at a rate of \$10.50 per hour; benefits per the Non-Union Support Staff Handbook.
- C. Employment of Dale W. Payne as a 2nd Shift Custodian effective August 25, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- D. The 2008-2009 Substitute List (pending completion of all employment requirements) [**per Exhibit B**].
- E. Employment of Kathleen Lazarski as a Student Clerical Worker effective August 13, 2008, for the 2008-2009 school year (pending completion of all employment requirements) at the state minimum wage.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – POLICY AND PROGRAMS

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

- A. Motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the District and the Locust Township Police Department (**per Exhibit A**).
- B. Motion to approve the first reading of new Policy 800 Public Records (**per Exhibit B**).
- C. Motion to approve the second reading and adoption of revised Policy 801 Public Records (**per Exhibit C**).

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

BOARD COMMENTS

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Steele and second by Slusser, the meeting was adjourned at 9:36 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary