

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

The September 15, 2008, 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 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 ( <i>Absent</i> )	Paul Starr	Timothy Vought ( <i>Absent</i> )
Charles Porter	Richard Steele	Michael Yeager
Thomas Slusser ( <i>Absent</i> )	David Stellfox	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 including one addendum would be action items.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

1.) Barry Brobst and Heather Rizzetto-Schmidt of the Architectural Studio have requested a meeting with the Board to finalize the feasibility study. President Yeager recommended that a special Board meeting be held. The special meeting was scheduled for Monday, September 22, 2008, at 7:00 p.m., in the High School Library.

2.) Southern Columbia is only one of two districts that have not received any warnings pertaining to PSSA results. Mr. Clippinger stated that the PSSA testing results are now certified and the district is one of only two districts in the IU that have not received a warning.

3.) On Wednesday and Thursday, Mr. Reh will be attending a Leadership Course for superintendents in order to meet Act 48 requirements.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Curriculum - John Yocum, Chairperson, reported that the committee met prior to the meeting and Mr. Clippinger talked about how it is decided when a new course is needed. They are looking at the possibility of an Economics course. It has not yet been determined if the course will be offered. They are still doing some fact-finding. Although the district is not on warning pertaining to PSSA scores, there are some vulnerabilities in grades 3 through 5 in Reading and grades 6 through 8 in Special Education Math. Mr. Clippinger also gave an update on the Strategic Plan. The district will need to ask for a 60-day extension beyond the September 30<sup>th</sup> deadline, which is not unusual for a district to request. Scheduling for in-service on the Act 80 days has begun.

Policy – Rick Steele, Chairperson, reported that the committee met prior to the meeting and they are discussing a policy on Foreign Exchange Students. They are looking at several sample

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policies from other districts. Mr. Becker will be looking at the policies and making recommendations. Mr. Ted Yeager, a representative from the Rotary Association, was present at the meeting to give his input regarding foreign exchange students.

Negotiations and Personnel – No meeting was held.

### TREASURER'S REPORTS

On a motion by Starr 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 Minutes of August 11, 18 and 25 (special meeting), 2008, were presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Steele, General Fund invoices in the amount of \$405,239.53 and Capital Reserve Fund invoices in the amount of \$207,887.72 were presented for approval. Prior to voting, Mr. Porter questioned the invoice from NRG. Mr. Rodgers explained that it was the bill for the security system including everything except for a ten percent retainer, which he is holding. Mr. Porter asked for clarification on two invoices from Floyd Frey. Mr. Rodgers replied that one invoice was for a small paving project in the elementary playground and the other invoice was for repaving due to moving the baseball concession stand. Mr. Stellfox asked the status of the security system. Mr. Rodgers responded that everyone except for some of the coaches have been issued fobs. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 5-Yes, 1-No (Porter voted No).

### ITEMS – FISCAL

On a motion by Yocum and second by Stellfox, to direct the administration to advertise a Request for Proposals for Transportation Services within the school district was presented for approval. Prior to voting, Mr. Steele asked for a clarification of the intent of this motion. Mr. Rodgers explained that the proposals will be analyzed by the administration and presented at a Finance Committee meeting. Negotiation Counsel and the Board Solicitor will be consulted regarding the feasibility of pursuing the possibility of hiring an outside busing contractor. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. Employment of the following individuals as tutors for the After School Programs for the 2008-2009 school year effective September 15, 2008, at the rates listed, which will come from proceeds of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant:
  - Marc Longenhagen (\$21/hour)
  - Amy Phillips (\$21/hour)
  - Karah Molesevich (\$10/hour)

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- B. The addition of the following individuals to the 2008-2009 Substitute List effective September 16, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements):
- Sharon Gray (Aide)
  - Deborah Lauer (Aide/Clerical)
  - Tracy Sudol (Aide)
  - Susette Wertman (Aide/Clerical)
- C. To accept the resignation of Dale W. Payne from the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift Custodian effective August 25, 2008. Mr. Payne was approved for employment on August 18, 2008.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS – POLICY AND PROGRAMS

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

- A. First reading of new Policy 800 Records Management (**per Exhibit A**).
- B. First reading of revised Policy 801 Public Records (**per Exhibit B**).

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Porter asked if the architects would be bringing a finalized booklet on Monday. Mr. Reh stated that they would be presenting their recommendations to finalize the feasibility study. Mr. Porter stated that his concern with the goals, which were included with the Friday Letter, was that with the previous figures they presented, they could not come close to budget. It was roughly \$13 million for a gym, \$13 million for an addition plus \$8 million in improvements. Mr. Stellfox stated that if he understood it correctly, the architects gave three different scenarios and they are basically presenting the \$20 million project, which incorporated quite a few changes from the \$26 million project. Mr. Reh stated that the architect stated that the goals are what the Department of Education is looking for in the feasibility study. The architect is saying that he can meet the goals for \$20 million. He will present it in more detail on Monday night. Mr. Porter stated that since the Board hasn't seen a comprehensive fiscal analysis as to what the debt payments will be and what the fund balance and the Capital Reserve will look like; he is a little uncomfortable finalizing the feasibility study. Mr. Rodgers replied that the idea is to leave the General Fund balance and the Capital Reserve balance as it is to handle ongoing projects as it has been used in the past.

President Yeager reported that the following items would be coming up on the next Columbia-Montour Vo-Tech Joint Operating Committee agenda: 1) Articles of Agreement, 2) the district will be receiving a check from CMAVTS for fuel escalation costs and 3) Mr. Curry's salary.

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**RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC**

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Steele, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch  
Board Secretary