

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

The October 20, 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, 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.) He recommended that the Board hire a paraprofessional to assist Mrs. Meyer with data collection. A motion is included on the agenda.
- 2.) The CSIU has not had any districts opt to participate in the Common Cents Initiative to date. The school districts that were approved were from the western part of the state.
- 3.) The National Honor Society Induction program will be held Tuesday, October 21st, at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Dr. David Soltz, President of Bloomsburg University, will be the keynote speaker.
- 4.) He recommended that the Board approve the feasibility study which is on the agenda. The district has two years from the date the feasibility study is approved to begin the PlanCon process.
- 5.) He requested an executive session following the board meeting to consult with counsel regarding pending litigation and personnel matters.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum - John Yocum, Chairperson, deferred to Mr. Clippinger to summarize the meeting. Mr. Clippinger explained the handout that Board members had received. The first page deals with instructional goals to improve achievement, which is a state requirement for strategic planning. All of the plans refer back to the common goals. The state is requiring those common goals to center around student achievement. There will be goal statements in the strategic plan that refer to each of the areas that need improvement. Another state requirement is a statement of shared value. He pointed out some comparative PSSA Science scores for grades 4, 8 and 11.

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The revised Social Studies courses are on the agenda for approval. The economic standards had to be incorporated into the curriculum and assessment procedures had to be refined. He discussed the CSIU districts comparison of scores.

Policy - Rick Steele, Chairperson, reported that the second reading of two policies is on the agenda for approval. The committee continues to work on a draft policy pertaining to foreign exchange students. The first reading should be presented to the policy in the near future.

Negotiations and Personnel – Thomas Slusser, Chairperson, reported that the committee will be scheduling a meeting with Carl Beard to begin negotiations.

TREASURER’S REPORTS

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

- A. Minutes of September 18, 15 and 22 (special meeting), 2008, were presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.
- B. General Fund invoices in the amount of \$905,652.26 and Capital Reserve Fund invoices in the amount of \$217,729.96 were presented for approval.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – FISCAL

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Starr, the Southern Columbia Area School District Feasibility Study submitted by The Architectural Studio dated October 6, 2008, was presented for approval. Prior to voting, Mr. Porter stated that he would like to see a little more specificity in some areas of the study. He noted that the study recommends over \$1 million in repairs and renovations to the bus garage, but it is not detailed. He also noted that a new track and turf were included in the study, but the Board didn’t ask for that. Mr. Reh stated that it was just an estimate that the architect included in the study. Mr. Porter noted that operating costs are not addressed. Mr. Rodgers stated that by approving the Feasibility Study, the Board is not committing to anything. This is the first step in a long process. He noted that he could put a projection of operating costs together, but it would be a “guesstimate.” Only a fraction of the allotted tax increase under Act 1 would be needed to support the debt service, so there is room to support other areas within the district. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 6-Yes, 2-No (Porter and Slusser voted No).

On a motion by Starr and second by Porter, a Resolution to Participate in the Common Cents Program (per Exhibit A) was presented for approval. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 7-Yes, 1-No (Stellfox voted No).

On a motion by Yocum and second by Steele to accept the Tax Collector Audit Report from Brewer, Gehrig & Johnson for the real estate taxes collected during the 2007-2008 fiscal

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year (**per Exhibit B**) was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. FMLA Leave on an intermittent basis for Employee #1250KG effective November 3, 2008; not to exceed 12 weeks in the next 12-month period.
- B. FMLA Leave on an intermittent basis for Employee #1667SW effective November 14, 2008; not to exceed 12 weeks in the next 12-month period.
- C. Employment of Lisa Long as a Paraprofessional for the Enrichment Program, working 4 hours per day, effective October 21, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- D. Employment of Allison Shiko as a Half-time Paraprofessional, working 3 days of the 6-day cycle, effective October 22, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- E. FMLA Leave on an intermittent basis for Employee #1085TB effective November 1, 2008; not to exceed 12 weeks in the next 12-month period.
- F. The addition of Stephen Polchin (Elementary) to the 2008-2009 Instructional Substitute List effective October 21, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements).
- G. To change Justin Schultz from Substitute Custodian to 2nd Shift Custodian effective October 20, 2008 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- H. Employment of Travis Williams as 8th Grade Boys Basketball Coach for the 2008-2009 school year with 10 points and a salary of \$1,249.00.
- I. Lindsey Dietz as a Volunteer Assistant Athletic Trainer for the 2008-2009 school year (pending receipt of favorable clearances and a negative Tuberculin test).

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

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ITEMS – POLICY AND PROGRAMS

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

- A. The second reading and adoption of new Policy 800 Records Management (per Exhibit C).
- B. The second reading and adoption of revised Policy 801 Public Records (per Exhibit D).
- C. A trip for the After School Theatre Arts Program to New York City to see the Broadway show “Into the Heights” on Sunday, November 16, 2008. All expenses to be paid through proceeds of the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Grant.
- D. The following revised Social Studies courses, which have been aligned to the PA Academic Standards (content) and the Reading Assessment Anchors (level of complexity):
 - 7th Grade World Geography
 - 8th Grade Civics
 - 9th Grade American History CN121
 - 10th Grade American History CN221
 - 11th Grade World History CN321
 - 12th Grade Problems of Democracy CN421
 - Advanced Placement European History CN352
 - 5th Grade Social Studies
 - 6th Grade Social Studies

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

BOARD COMMENTS

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Porter stated that he went down and looked at the field hockey practice field and it was obvious that the staff had done a lot of work. He thanked them.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Slusser and second by Yocum, the meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary