

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

The April 13, 2009, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:41 p.m. with President Michael Yeager in charge of the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

President Yeager announced that an executive session was held prior to the Board meeting to consult with counsel regarding pending litigation. He welcomed everyone, followed by a roll call of Board Members.

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Timothy Benner  
Charles Porter  
Eric Stahley

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; Richard J. Roberts, Solicitor; Roy Clippinger, Joseph Shirvinski, Roger Nunkester, James Becker and Robert Mehalick, Administrators; district residents and members of the media.

**AGENDA HEARING PERIOD**

President Yeager announced that all Personnel Items A through N, Fiscal Items C, D and E, and Policy and Programs Items A, B and C on the agenda would be considered action items. District resident and Head Mechanic, Mr. Robert Leffler, asked if anyone interviewed or gave the substitute drivers a test drive. Mr. Reh stated that he would need to check with Mrs. Pheasant. It was agreed that the drivers would be approved pending completion of all employment requirements.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

- 1.) He congratulated Mrs. Christina Force, FBLA Advisor, as several of her students placed in the State FBLA competition. Ralph Beishline qualified for the National competition in Anaheim, California.
- 2.) He also congratulated Colin Klebon, who was a 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-State AA Basketball player. This was the third year Colin was named as an All-State player.
- 3.) Mr. Reh thanked basketball coaches, Curt Stellfox and Brian Davis for their many years of dedication to the district and to the basketball program.
- 4.) Another successful Act 80 Day was held last Wednesday. A presentation regarding the work done during the Act 80 Days will be given to the Board at a meeting in May.
- 5.) He commended Mrs. Letha Stone and the student for their excellent performance of Bye Bye Birdie.
- 6.) Mr. Mehalick announced that the last installment of the para-educator training was held on the last in-service day. All of the para-professionals have met or exceeded the mandated twenty hours of training for the current school year.

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Mr. Porter stated that it is a great honor for Ralph Beishline to attend the National FBLA Competition. He recommended that the district request the state to at least partially fund the national competition, as it is not something that districts include in their budgets.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities - The meeting was cancelled, but a meeting with the Winter sports coaches would be scheduled.

Facilities - Dave Stellfox, Chairperson, reported that the committee met on the previous Monday. There is an issue with the high school water tanks. They received quotes. One quote was for grinding and re-painting, which would be the least expensive option. Mr. George would be looking into the guarantee. There is some minor damage inside the tanks. The sewage grinder pump has been installed. A representative from Penn State submitted a list of recommendations for field maintenance. Mr. Rodgers has put it out on bid. They discussed the energy audit, but are still waiting for a price from NRG. The Priority List was discussed. There is concern that all of the items on the Priority List which are targeted for the summer may not be able to be accomplished.

Finance - Charlie Porter, Chairperson reported that the committee met last Monday. Band uniforms were put out on bid with bids due May 1<sup>st</sup>. The district decided this year to separate itself from the CSIU for fuel oil bids. There was no pay upfront option with CSIU and the district could not request separate bids for diesel fuel and unleaded gasoline through CSIU. They discussed the bank repayment agreement, the Tax Collection Committee and the lease agreement with Apple Computer which are all on the agenda. Mr. Rodgers would be arranging a health care benefits analysis through a consultant to make sure the district is getting the maximum value. The Finance Committee will hold a special budget meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Proposals for financing would be requested to compare to RBC Capital Markets. The Act 93 Agreement was discussed. They discussed the comparative analysis for transportation. It continues to be a working document and Mr. Rodgers will be providing an update. The Board made a conscious decision to make the analysis public. The committee also discussed stimulus money, but the exact amount the district will receive has not been confirmed.

Policy - Rick Steele, Chairperson, reported that the committee met earlier in the evening. They discussed the following policies: 504 Employment of Classified Employees, 810 Transportation, 810.3 School Bus Idling, 818 Contracted Services and 903 Public Participation in Meetings.

CSIU - No report was given.

Vo-Tech - Mr. Yeager reported that they would be interviewing for a new principal the following day. They will be administering one PSSA test for six days instead of two tests for three days in an effort to improve scores. Three students in their Hotel Management placed first in state competition and will be going on to national competition. Dr. Rushton has moved up from principal to director.

Mr. Stahley reported that he, Mr. Reh and Mr. Yeager attended a training at CSIU, Operating Successfully as a Team of 10, sponsored by PSBA. A list of the top ten tips for operating successfully as a team of 10 will be distributed to Board members via the Friday Letter.

Mr. Steele reported that as the PSBA Liaison, he attended a Region 6 Cabinet meeting of PSBA representatives. Region 6 stretches from Berwick to Shippensburg. They will have additional meetings in an attempt to become more localized. He reminded Board members that they all have access to the member's area of the PSBA web page, which has several resources for Board members.

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### ITEMS - TREASURER'S REPORTS

### ITEMS - MINUTES/INVOICES

### ITEMS - FISCAL

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

- C. The Act 93 Compensation Plan, effective July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2013 (**per Exhibit B**).
- D. A Repayment Agreement with First Columbia Bank & Trust Co. (**per Exhibit C**).
- E. A Forty-Eight Month Lease Agreement with Apple, Inc. in the total amount of \$106,228.40 to commence on April 14, 2009. Pricing is based on state contract.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS - PERSONNEL

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

- A. Motion to accept the resignation for retirement of Susan Gelety from the position of Learning Support Teacher effective June 8, 2009. Mrs. Gelety has been with the district since August 1991.
- B. Motion to accept the resignation for retirement of James McGinley from the position of 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Teacher effective June 8, 2009. Mr. McGinley has been with the district since August 1974.
- C. Motion to accept the resignation for retirement of Susan K. Yodock from the position of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mathematics Teacher effective June 8, 2009. Mrs. Yodock has been with the district since August 1978.
- E. Motion to accept the resignation of Brian Davis from the position of Assistant Boys Basketball Coach effective March 17, 2009. Mr. Davis has been with the basketball program since 1993.
- F. Motion to approve the following individuals as Volunteer Assistant Track and Field Coaches for the 2008-2009 school year (pending receipt of favorable clearances and a negative Tuberculin test):
  - Sarah Fetterman
  - Steven Rey
  - David Townsend

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- G. Motion to approve Nathan Shirk as a Volunteer Wrestling Coach for the 2008-2009 school year (pending receipt of favorable clearances and a negative Tuberculin test).
- H. Motion to approve the addition of the following individuals to the 2008-2009 Substitute List effective April 14, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements):
- Louise Bartlett (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Melissa Bennett (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Frederick Bennett, Jr. (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Frederick Bennett, III (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Dean Foust (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Christine Hess (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Grace Hovancak (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Bonnie Karc (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Terry Kemmerer (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Sandra Milroy (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Scott Smith (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Craig Young (Bus/Van Driver)
  - Laurie Wilson (Transportation Aide)
- I. Motion to approve the following individuals for the After School Programs effective as listed (pending completion of all employment requirements) at the rates listed, which will come from proceeds of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant:
- Todd Wolinsky (\$10 per hour)
  - Michael Williams (\$21 per hour)
  - Cassidy Shults (\$21 per hour)
- J. Motion to approve to change Michaelle Miller from Substitute Transportation Aide to Transportation Aide effective April 14, 2009, salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- K. Motion to approve the job description for the Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology position (**per Exhibit D**).
- L. Motion to grant the request of Roy K. Clippinger to change the effective date of his retirement from June 30, 2009, to June 26, 2009.
- M. Motion to provide four (4) students with on the job clerical training and five (5) students with on the job custodial/maintenance training in the district during the summer months at minimum wage (35 hours per week maximum for approximately 9 weeks).
- N. The job description for the Administrative Assistant for Student Information Systems position (**per Exhibit D-1**).

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

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On a motion by Porter and second by Starr, to accept the resignation of Curtis Stellfox from the position of Head Boys Basketball Coach effective April 6, 2009, was presented for approval. Mr. Stellfox had been with the basketball program since 1987. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 8-Yes, 1-Abstainsion (**Stellfox abstained**).

### ITEMS - POLICY AND PROGRAMS

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

- A. A 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Trip to Clyde Peelings Reptiland, Lewisburg, on Friday, April 17, 2009; district expense to include transportation and substitute costs. (*This trip replaces the previously approved 7<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to Corning Museum of Glass, Corning, NY.*)
- B. A trip for Christina Force (FBLA Advisor) and Ralph Beishline (FBLA member) to attend the National FBLA Competition in Anaheim, CA, on June 23 through June 29, 2009.
- C. Homebound Instruction for a High School Student (#79548) effective April 1, 2009, for a maximum of five (5) hours per week, until further evaluation by a physician.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

The Board requested a minor change to the Middle School Student Handbook for the next meeting.

### BOARD COMMENTS

#### RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Leffler asked if there was an updated transportation analysis available. Mr. Rodgers replied that the analysis has been updated but it was presented during negotiations and was not made public on the advice of labor counsel. After a brief discussion, Mr. Rodgers agreed to follow up with Mr. Carl Beard to see if it could be made public. Mr. Leffler expressed concern over articles that were printed in the newspaper stating that the district would save \$200,000 by contracting for transportation services, when the actual figure is not yet known.

Mr. Rodgers stated that the comparative analysis is a projection of what the costs will be for the 2009-2010 school year for keeping the buses in-house versus contracting out. It is a working document that continues to change based on the fluctuating market. Fuel bids are due May 1<sup>st</sup>. The comparison could change based on those bids. He added that the only thing used in negotiations at this time is a projected analysis. It has nothing to do with the budget or the Annual Financial Report. Mr. Steele stated that the concern is that the document was originally made public and now it's not.

President Yeager announced that an executive session would be held following the regular meeting to discuss negotiations.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Yocum and second by Vought, the meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch  
Board Secretary