

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

The April 20, 2009, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:58 p.m. with President Michael Yeager in charge of the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said by all.

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

BOARD MEMBERS

Timothy Benner
Charles Porter
Eric Stahley

Paul Starr
Richard Steele
David Stellfox (*Absent*)

Timothy Vought
Michael Yeager
John Yocum

OTHERS PRESENT

Charles Reh, Superintendent; Daniel Rodgers, Business Manager; Richard J. Roberts, Solicitor; Roy Clippinger, Joseph Shirvinski, James Becker and Robert Mehalick, Administrators; Dana Carroll-Lucas, Grant Project Director; 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 announced that Southern Columbia participated in the Model UN competition at Bloomsburg University on April 15th and took first place. Mrs. Sally Meyer and Mr. Ian McCoog were the advisors.
- 2.) A group of Mrs. Meyer's Gifted middle school students participated in the Stock Market Game with Pennsylvania Economics. Southern Columbia placed first in the competition.
- 3.) There was a discussion regarding future budgeting for the national FBLA competition. The issue would be discussed further at the next Finance Committee meeting.
- 4.) Mr. Shirvinski reported that Tyler Weaver made Second Team for Boys Bowling in the Heartland Coalition.
- 5.) Mr. Shirvinski also reported that Community Night would be held in the elementary on April 27th.
- 6.) Ms. Lucas reported that Gary Hutchison from the Pennsylvania Department of Education would visit the Family Center to read to the preschool children. A blood drive will be held later in the week. The tutoring sessions are going well. Some new technical items were purchased for the Bye Bye Birdie production that will remain on campus for future use. The P.R.I.D.E. students and the Theatre Arts Enrichment students visited the Metropolitan Museum and then saw a Broadway presentation of The Lion King.
- 7.) Mr. Shirvinski reported that currently 100 students are registered for Kindergarten, with several more registrations anticipated.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum - John Yocum, Chairperson, reported that Mr. Clippinger distributed Curriculum Instruction Findings, Revisions and Recommendations 2003-2009 to the committee members. He also distributed the curriculum review schedule, a list of literature for Interactive Reader and Writer Grade 10, and information pertaining to a rubric for math and language arts placement. They discussed the Local Assessment Validity Study performed by Penn State and the 5th Annual AP Report to the Nation for Pennsylvania.

Negotiations and Personnel - Charlie Porter, Chairperson, reported that several negotiations sessions were held. They met April 9th regarding cost savings suggestions for transportation services. The AFSCME Representatives have been given all of the documents regarding bus proposals, correspondence between the contractors and the district and the comparative analysis. At the April 9th meeting, Board members and administrators heard suggestions coming from the Union, and the Board and administration will consider those suggestions. Mr. Porter noted that they do not feel that it is in the best interest of negotiations to bring everything from the negotiations table to the public at this time. They are considering the Union's latest proposal. Some modifications have been made to the comparative analysis. More changes are anticipated throughout the analysis and negotiations process. The goal is for the Board and the public to have information that is clear, correct, complete and in context. In addition, a third party consultant will be hired to perform an analysis and make a recommendation to the Board. The next negotiations session will be held April 27th.

Policy - Rick Steele, Chairperson, reported that Board members received updated policy information with the last Friday Letter. The first readings of the revised policies will be presented for approval in May.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

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

MINUTES AND INVOICES

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

- A. Minutes of March 9 and 16, 2009.
- B. General Fund invoices in the amount of \$498,189.99, Capital Reserve Fund invoices in the amount of \$66,593.52 and Athletic Fund invoices in the amount of \$14,477.01.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – FISCAL

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

- A. Budgetary transfers in the 2008-2009 budget to ensure proper accounting (**per Exhibit A**).

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- B. To appoint Daniel C. Rogers as a Delegate and Charles A. Reh as an Alternate Delegate, respectfully to the Columbia County Tax Collection Committee effective April 21, 2009.
- C. To revise Article IV, Section (A) of the Act 93 Compensation Plan, to read as follows:
 - (1) Credits must be of graduate level and taken on site at an accredited college or university, unless and online course in an approved graduate program is approved by the superintendent.
- D. The Stipulation Fixing Assessment (per Exhibit B), in the Case No. 2007-CV-1830, and to authorize the Solicitor to execute the Stipulation on behalf of the District.
- E. An application to host Summer Youth Workers pursuant to ARRA of 2009 and to approve Youth Worker Agreement with Central Pennsylvania Workforce Development Corporation.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. The addition of the following individuals to the 2008-2009 Substitute List effective April 21, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements):
 - Leonard Robel (Van Driver)
 - Kimberly Palubinsky (Elementary K-6)
- B. To deny Grievance No. 12779349.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – POLICY AND PROGRAMS

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

- A. A 12th Grade English Trip to Washington, D.C., to tour the Holocaust Museum on Wednesday, May 13, 2009; with no expense to the district.
- B. *(Item B was removed from the agenda.)*
- C. The 2009 Summer School Program “SoCo Summer” for middle school and high school students from June 29, 2009, through July 16, 2009; Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Transportation will be provided and all costs will be covered by proceeds of the 21st Century Community Learning centers Grant.

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- D. The 2009 Summer Kindergarten Readiness Program “Ready, Set, Grow” for incoming Kindergarten students from June 29, 2009, through July 16, 2009; Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Transportation will be provided and all costs will be covered by proceeds of the 21st Century Community Learning centers Grant.

- E. The 2009 Summer Fun-da-Mentals Program “Pirates Searching for the Treasures Within” for High School P.R.I.D.E. to collaborate with instruction for Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and 3rd grade students; June 29, 2009, through July 16, 2009; Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Transportation will be provided and all costs will be covered by proceeds of the 21st Century Community Learning centers Grant.

- F. The 2009 Summer Dynamics Program (ESY), June 29, 2009, through July 16, 2009; Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Transportation will be provided and all costs will be covered by proceeds of the 21st Century Community Learning centers Grant.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

BOARD COMMENTS

President Yeager announced that an executive session would be held following the Board meeting to discuss personnel matters.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

District resident, Blaine Madara, questioned the cost of the consulting company. Mr. Rodgers replied that the cost is not yet known.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Yocum and second by Starr, the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary