

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

The June 8, 2009, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:42 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
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 Fiscal Item H and Personnel Item A on the agenda would be considered action items.

President Yeager announced that the Board met in executive session prior to the regular meeting to consult with counsel regarding personnel and negotiations.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

- 1.) He commended Mr. Becker for organizing the graduation ceremony held the previous day.
- 2.) An executive session will be held at 7:10 prior to the next Board meeting to meet with recommended candidates for the current vacancies.
- 3.) Mr. Becker announced that Ralph Beishline was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship through the Frederick A. Morris Academic Achievement Award, and Thomas Yeager received a \$1,500 National Honor Society Scholarship.
- 4.) Mr. Reh announced that The Architectural Studio would like to meet with the Board on June 22nd at 6:00 p.m.
- 5.) Mr. Nunkester reported that Middle School students participated in Mobile Ag in the Classroom the week following Memorial Day. Both the teachers and students spoke favorably of the program. The Mobile Ag Lab will be scheduled every other year.
- 6.) Mr. Clippinger reported that about ninety percent of the Language Arts materials have been identified. A few items for 5th Grade Reading have not yet been identified.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities - The meeting was cancelled. A meeting with the spring sports coaches would be scheduled.

Facilities - Dave Stellfox, Chairperson, reported that they discussed making sure that the summer work would get done. The Board will be looking for a plan from Mr. George. Some additional summer help will be added pending Board approval. Mr. George reported that several projects are already underway.

Finance - Charlie Porter, Chairperson reported that a large part of the discussion was the budget. The budget includes a .63 mill tax increase in Columbia County and 2.0 mill increase in Northumberland County. A large part of that increase is due to a pension savings fund. Over \$100,000 will be set aside in a pension fund to prepare for projected increases in PSERS contribution rates. The district will receive over \$400,000 in stimulus funds. Mr. Rodgers reported that the Title I stimulus monies of \$111,000 will be going primarily for supplies, professional development and a reading paraprofessional. The IDEA stimulus monies of \$354,000 have to be spent in the special needs area, such as the social worker and behavior intervention specialist. Mr. Porter reported that the budget does include some new positions, which actually represent a savings over contracting out for services. They also discussed fuel oil and the locker room floors. Mr. Rodgers informed the committee that the district would receive a \$20,000 decrease in the worker's compensation insurance premium. The Safety Committee and projected pension increases were also discussed.

President Yeager stated that the district must be doing a good job managing its budget as it has been able to add staff and programs and still set aside over \$100,000 for projected retirement costs.

Mr. Porter reported that there would be a three percent increase in the athletic budget and athletic budget salaries. The assessment increase for Clean and Green will not take affect until July 2010.

Policy and Programs - Rich Steele, Chairperson, reported the committee is continuing to work on Policy 504 Public Participation in Board meetings.

Vo-Tech - Graduation is scheduled for July 9th. A Director of Student Services would be recommended to the Board.

ITEMS - TREASURER'S REPORTS

ITEMS - MINUTES/INVOICES

ITEMS - FISCAL

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Vought, Richard C. Parsons Land Surveying, L.L.C., to complete a Site Survey per the General Project Requirements established by The Architectural Studio at a cost of \$16,840, which includes the survey of the football stadium, was presented for approval. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 7-Yes, 1-No (Stahley voted No.)

ITEMS - PERSONNEL

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Starr, employment of the following Student Maintenance/Custodial Workers effective June 9, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at the state minimum wage; 35 hours per week for approximately 9 weeks, was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

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ITEMS - POLICY AND PROGRAMS

BOARD COMMENTS

President Yeager questioned the process of developing a contract regarding Charter Bus services. Solicitor Roberts stated that he would try to get some samples and would check with PSBA.

Mr. Porter asked about the Football and Band Booster donation which was discussed at the last Facilities/Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Roth stated that the Football Boosters talked about initiating a committee to look into renovating the concession stand and incorporating some restrooms. He also spoke to Mr. Thomas regarding the Band Boosters involvement. Mr. Thomas had not gotten back to him at the time of the meeting.

Mr. Porter referred to the Project Meeting #2 minutes that were included in the Friday Letter and asked if other project meeting minutes could be given to the Board. Mr. Reh stated that he would forward any of the minutes that he had received.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

ADJOURNMENT

Prior to adjournment, President Yeager announced that a brief executive session would be held following the regular meeting.

On a motion by Yocum and second by Starr, the meeting was adjourned at 9:49 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary