

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

The July 20, 2009, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:40 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  
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; Brenda Monick, Roger Nunkester, James Becker and Robert Mehalick, Administrators; district residents and members of the media.

**AGENDA HEARING PERIOD**

President Yeager announced that all items on the agenda would be considered action items.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

- 1.) He thanked the administrators for the time they put into the hiring process. He introduced the individuals being recommended for the social worker and teaching positions.
- 2.) Southern Columbia ranked first among area schools in meeting the requirements of the state in PSSA results in fifteen of seventeen categories. The goal for next year is to meet the requirements in all seventeen categories. Southern Columbia also has the highest Special Education population.
- 3.) Barry Brobst and Heather Schmidt from The Architectural Studio gave a presentation regarding Plan Con A and B pertaining to the proposed building project.

**ITEM - FISCAL**

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Starr, Plan Con A and B for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (per Exhibit B), were presented for approval. Prior to voting, Mr. Porter noted several concerns regarding the proposed building project. Mr. Stellfox and Mr. Steele concurred that something needs to be done and that the Board needs to be visionary. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 8-Yes, 1-No (Porter voted No).

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (continued)**

- 4.) Mr. Becker gave an update regarding the Driver Education program.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Activities - Paul Starr, Chairperson, reported that the committee met with several spring coaches. Mr. Young, Baseball Coach, expressed concerns over field maintenance, safety and lack

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of storage space. Mr. Shults, Wrestling Coach, reported that he needed a mat hanger. Mr. Conner reported that twenty-five percent of the student body participates in Track and Field. His only concern was the rocky condition of the shot put and javelin area. Mr. Cihocki, Softball Coach, stated that he needed to purchase three new bats. He had no field complaints.

Curriculum - John Yocum, Chairperson, reported that Mrs. Monick reported to the committee that this past summer, seventeen Southern Columbia teachers joined a number of other teachers from fourteen other districts and participated in Learning Focused Schools on a collaboration project. Each session focused on looking at PDE's update of curriculum resources such as standards aligned systems and also using Learning Focused Toolbox. The committee discussed the 2009 Technology survey. Mrs. Monick is starting a K-12 Tech Team. In the K-6 building, some new flat screen iMac computers were purchased. All grades met all of the AYP targets. Mr. Yocum is recommending that the committee name be changed to the Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Committee. President Yeager requested that the technology survey be included in the Friday Letter.

Facilities - Dave Stellfox, Chairperson, reported that the committee met four times since his last report. They discussed Plan Con A and B. The Architectural Studio presented some additional information regarding upgrades to the mechanical systems of the facilities. The summer work seems to be progressing quite well. The upgrade of some of the air handling units is a concern.

Finance - Charlie Porter, Chairperson reported that the committee met July 13<sup>th</sup>. They interviewed three prospective financing companies for the proposed building project. They discussed different financing options. Two companies recommended that the current bond be refinanced in a wrap-around bond. The total costs range from \$33 million to approximately \$40 million. They also discussed bond counsel, which is a negotiable item.

Policy - Rick Steele, Chairperson, reported that the committee met prior to the regular meeting. Several policies were discussed. The Organizational Chart, Public Participation in Board meetings, Use of Facilities and a new policy pertaining to Relations with Booster Organizations were discussed.

CSIU - Mr. Porter submitted his resignation from the CSIU Board of Directors. Mr. Yeager agreed to take his place.

Vo-Tech - Mr. Yeager reported that Mr. Stellfox would be changing from a representative to an alternate representative and Eric Stahley agreed to take his place as a representative on the Joint Operating Committee. The Vo-Tech school just hired three Southern Columbia Area graduates. Mr. Sokoloski was offered a job with another district and Vo-Tech offered him more money to stay. Vo-Tech had the top NOCTI scores in the nation.

### ITEMS - TREASURER'S REPORTS

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

### ITEMS - MINUTES/INVOICES

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

- A. Minutes of June 8 and 15, 2009.

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B. General Fund invoices in the amount of \$736,571.50, Capital Reserve Fund invoices in the amount of \$106,110.00 and Athletic Fund invoices in the amount of \$6,583.36. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS - PERSONNEL

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

- A. To adopt a Resolution pertaining to the Hearing Report of July 1, 2009 (per Exhibit A).
- B. *(Item B was changed to a Fiscal Item.)*
- C. Employment of Derek Stine as Head Girls Soccer Coach for the 2009-2010 school year with 17.75 points and a salary of \$3,519.
- D. To correct the salary of Kami Roth, Assistant Girls Basketball Coach, to \$2,366 for the 2009-2010 school year *(previously approved at 85% of the Assistant Varsity Coach point value)*.
- E. To accept the resignation of Ciara Martucci from the position of Half-time Paraprofessional (Life Skills classroom) effective July 6, 2009. Ms. Martucci has been with the district since August 2008.
- F. Employment of the following individuals for the Summer Programs effective June 15, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at the rate of \$10 per hour, which will come from proceeds of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant:
  - Holly Brink
  - Gregory Hilderbrant
  - Austin Lonoconus
  - Jena Oley
- G. Employment of the following individuals for the 2009 Summer Programs effective June 15, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements), at a rate of \$21 per hour in June/\$22 per hour in July, which will come from proceeds of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grant:
  - Casie Baker
  - Allison Burrell
  - Claire Campbell
  - Lanny Conner
  - Tricia Hoffman
  - Kristen Vitkauskus
  - Samantha Yanuzzi
  - Christy Yohe

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- H. To change the remuneration source for the following Extended School Year Paraprofessionals from proceeds of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers Grants to the General Fund:
- Brenda Webb
  - Allison Shiko
  - Carol Williams
  - Ciara Martucci
  - Peggy Swank
  - Laura Coulumbe
- I. To change Susette Wertman from Substitute Bus/Van Driver to Regular Run Driver effective July 21, 2009; salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- J. To change Russell Gleeson from Substitute Bus/Van Driver to Part-time Regular Run Driver effective July 21, 2009; salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- K. Employment of Kristen Wasileski for the position of Life Skills Teacher effective August 24, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at Step 2 of the Bachelor's Salary Schedule (\$38,991); benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- L. Employment of Travis Williams for the position of Middle School Technology Teacher effective August 24, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at Step 1 of the Bachelor's Salary Schedule (\$38,457); benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- M. To adopt an Addendum to the Act 93 Administrator Compensation Plan (per Exhibit C).
- N. Employment of Jill Burkhardt for the position of School Social Worker; working 200 days per year, effective August 24, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements) at a salary of \$32,500; benefits per the Act 93 Compensation Plan.
- O. Employment of Kami Roth for the position of Full-time Paraprofessional for 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Reading effective August 24, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- P. Employment of Laura Coulumbe for the position of Part-time Paraprofessional (working 4.5 hours per day, currently assigned to K-3 Life Skills) effective August 24, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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- Q. Employment of Michelle Miller for the position of Half-time Paraprofessional (working 3 days of the 6-day cycle, currently assigned to grades 9-12 Learning Support) effective August 24, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- R. *(Item R was removed from the agenda.)*
- S. Motion to approve employment of Paula Brosius for the position of Half-time Paraprofessional (working 3 days of the 6-day cycle, currently assigned to Middle School Life Skills Program) effective August 24, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- T. A correction to the salary of Jerid Lindenmuth (Secondary Social Studies Teacher) to Step 1 of the Master's Salary Schedule (\$40,554).
- U. Employment of Bethany Valencik for the position of Full-time Paraprofessional (currently assigned to K-3 Life Skills) effective August 13, 2009 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- V. To accept the resignation of Charles Porter from the CSIU Board of Directors effective July 20, 2009.
- W. To appoint Michael Yeager as a Representative to serve on the CSIU Board of Directors effective July 20, 2009, to fill the unexpired term of Charles Porter.
- X. To change the designation of David Stellfox as a Representative on the Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School Joint Operating Committee to Alternate Representative effective July 20, 2009, and to appoint Eric Stahley to serve as a Representative on the Joint Operating Committee effective July 20, 2009, through November 2010.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS - POLICY AND PROGRAMS

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

- A. Motion to approve the 2009-2010 Elementary Center Handbook (**per Exhibit D**).
- B. Motion to approve the 2009-2010 High School Student Handbook (**per Exhibit E**).
- C. Motion to authorize the Board President to establish a Transportation Services Committee and appoint members.

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Prior to voting, Mr. Steele pointed out a typographical error in the Elementary Handbook. He also noted that information pertaining to School Reach should be included on page 22 of the handbook.

On a motion by Steele and second by Porter to amend the Elementary Handbook to include School Reach information, was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

With a motion and second on the table, the motion as amended was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### **BOARD COMMENTS**

Mr. Stellfox stated that he appreciates the Board's commitment as a lot of the decisions over the last month have been difficult and time consuming.

Mr. Porter asked if there was a policy in existence requiring booster clubs to be audited. Mr. Rodgers replied negatively, but noted that they do have a booster club agreement, which requires booster clubs to do a certain number of things each year. Mr. Reh and Mr. Rodgers will be reviewing the agreement and the Policy Committee is currently discussing a policy relating to booster organizations. Mr. Porter stated that it is good business practice to have some accountability. Solicitor Roberts noted that the district can require a lot of things of a booster organization, however it cannot enforce the compliance.

President Yeager congratulated the newly hired employees. He also announced that there would be an executive session following the meeting to discuss negotiations.

### **RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Starr and second by Stahley, the meeting was adjourned at 9:31 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch  
Board Secretary