

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

The April 12, 2010, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:32 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

Charles Porter
Jennifer Shoup
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; Joseph Shirvinski, Roger Nunkester, James Becker, Administrators; Timothy George, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds; district residents and members of the media.

AGENDA HEARING PERIOD

President Yeager announced that all Personnel Items and Fiscal Item B on the agenda would be considered action items.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

1.) He explained the Guaranteed Admission Agreement with Bloomsburg University, which was included on the agenda for discussion.

2.) He reported that the Columbia-Montour Area Vocational-Technical School would be approving their budget on April 20th.

3.) Mr. Rodgers explained the taxpayer rebate program offered by the State. The application deadline is June 30, 2010.

4.) Mr. Barry Brobst of The Architectural Studio was present to answer questions regarding PlanCon D and E. Mr. Reh reported that #42 on page 12 of part E should be corrected to reflect a "yes" answer. Mr. Brobst explained the site plan revisions and traffic flow patterns that are being proposed. The revisions include moving the fuel tanks, removing the kindergarten porch and adding a third lane to the existing exit to the campus. Mr. Porter asked why the plan that is wanted is not being submitted for approval. Mr. Stellfox stated that it doesn't work that way on a state level. Mr. Brobst stated that counties operate differently, but they usually want a plan submitted that meets their code and then an appeal could be submitted for revisions. Following the discussion, it was agreed that the Board would take action on Fiscal Item B before Mr. Brobst left the meeting.

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ITEM – FISCAL

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Vought, PlanCon D and E for submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Education with the aforementioned correction (**per Exhibit B and C**) were presented for approval. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 7-Yes, 2-No (Porter and Stahley voted No).

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT *(continued)*

5.) Mr. Reh announced that Mrs. Monick is recovering from surgery and Mr. Mehalick had an emergency and had to leave work earlier in the day.

6.) Mr. Shirvinski reported a successful “Donuts With Dad” event on the past Saturday. The Pennies for Patients campaign raised \$4,369.98 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. On March 16th, a Parent Pre-K Night was held for parents of children ages 3-5 years, to prepare students for kindergarten. Approximately nineteen families were in attendance. He gave an update on the SIE (Science: It’s Elementary) program and the positive effect it has had on student learning and achievement. Mr. Venna and Mr. Shirvinski recently presented interviewing techniques and portfolio techniques to a group of Bloomsburg University student teachers.

7.) Mr. Nunkester reported that on Wednesday, the Middle School would be honored with a Partner in Education Award for Action Health for a Diabetes unit that is done with sixth grade students. On May 4th, a “Sexting/Cell Phone Use” assembly will be held for middle and high school students.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Activities - Paul Starr, Chairperson, reported that the committee met prior to the regular meeting. They discussed the soccer coach search. The two applicants who applied will be interviewed. They will meet with the winter coaches on Tuesday, April 27th at 6:00 p.m. in the High School conference room. They also talked briefly about the Athletic Director and Assistant Athletic Director salaries and field maintenance.

An executive session to discuss personnel will be held immediately following the regular meeting.

Facilities & Services - Tim Vought reported that they discussed the tractor and sprayer bid specifications. The bid opening will be held April 19th. The summer project list will be prioritized by Tim George and distributed to Board members. A letter was received from Cholin Corp. concerning an issue in the elementary cafeteria/gymnasium where the mats on the glass wall are covering the fire alarm pulls and the panic bars on the doors. Mr. George stated that he can work with the existing mats to correct the issue. Mr. George reported that the control system that was donated by NRG will be ready to go online Wednesday. Alarms will come to his school phone, his personal and cell phone and through e-mail.

Finance - Eric Stahley, Chairperson reported that two meetings were held since his last report. A special meeting was held March 25th. Items discussed were electric rates, fuel oil bids, a first draft of the five-year budget projection and changing the cell phone provider for the administrators.

On April 5th, the licensing agreement with Microsoft was discussed. Electric rates were discussed. Mr. Rodgers stated that he will include the energy rate quotes along with the administration’s recommendation in the Friday Letter for action at the next meeting. Fuel bids and communication devices were discussed. The 2010-2011 athletic budget figures were discussed. There was little change from last year’s figures. The Capital Reserve Fund and big ticket items

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were discussed. A special budget meeting will be held April 22nd at 6:00 p.m. Several buses are out of service and they will be sold for scrap while scrap metal prices are high.

Mr. Porter stated that it is crucial that all of the Board members receive the five-year budget projection.

Policy - Rick Steele, Chairperson, reported that they met prior to the regular meeting. The second reading and approval of the Relations with Booster Organizations policy is on the agenda. A new policy regarding Gifted Education will need to be approved prior to July 1, 2010. A policy regarding AEDs and a policy regarding HIPAA and FERPA are also in progress.

PSBA Liaison - Rick Steele reported that he attended the PSBA Legislative meeting at Mt. Carmel on April 7th. The PSBA Board and State Representatives were present. Ten potential legislators (candidates) fielded questions. Most of the candidates admitted that they had a lot of learning to do pertaining to education issues. The PSBA Region 6 meeting would be held later in the week.

Transportation - Mike Yeager reported that the committee discussed the bridge construction project. For the most part, students have been getting to school on time. They have not had to hire any additional personnel for the morning as students are not getting to school that much earlier. It was reported that cars are blocking the intersections and delays of seven or eight minutes have been occurring. The Ashton Hollow bridge project has been put off until fall and the Bear Gap project is delayed until summer. Data has been sent to Bus Tracks and a training session will be scheduled for early May. The committee also discussed cameras. Mrs. Pheasant noted that the new regulated seat heights will make it necessary to have cameras on the buses as drivers will be unable to see younger students on the newer buses. Mr. Stahley asked if it is possible to purchase buses with cameras already installed. Mr. Rodgers replied affirmatively and stated that it could be made part of the bid specs.

Mr. Rodgers reported that the Transportation Services Committee meetings will be moved to the third Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m.

Vo-Tech - Eric Stahley reported that two meetings were held since his last report. An executive session was held prior to the first meeting to discuss the support staff contract. Their Librarian who has been with them for 40 years is retiring. Millville School District can participate in the Vo-Tech football program beginning with the 2010-2011 school year. The 2010-2011 budget and General Fund issues were discussed. Dr. Rushton is recommending an eight percent cap on the General Fund Balance. Other topics of discussion included adult education funding, a three-year budget projection, preparation for PSSAs and a special education update from Mr. Dunkelberger. Gifted Education was also discussed.

At the second meeting, they discussed cost-cutting measures to the sending districts and a monthly budget report. The goal is to take the General Fund balance down to eight percent. They discussed establishing a new Capital Improvements Fund.

Due to the length of the meeting thus far, President Yeager, recognized a member of the public and gave her an opportunity to address the Board. District resident, Kim Noll, stated that she wanted to address the Board concerning compensatory education. She stated that the administration, Special Education Director, Special Education Department and the teachers are violating the IDEA Act. Solicitor Roberts stated that the issue implicated personnel and that it should be discussed in executive session. It was agreed that they would meet in executive session following the meeting.

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CSIU - Mike Yeager reported that they had a presentation regarding the Joint Purchasing Council. An audit is performed at their expense. The contracted fuel oil amounted to \$64.5 million this past year.

ITEMS – TREASURER’S REPORTS

ITEMS – MINUTES/INVOICES

ITEMS – FISCAL

ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. To accept the resignation for retirement of Robert Leffler from the position of Head Mechanic effective April 5, 2010. Mr. Leffler had been with the district since April 1982.
- B. To rescind the resignation of Susan C. Robinson from the position of Middle School Guidance Counselor effective June 7, 2010, and accept the resignation for retirement of Susan C. Robinson from the position of Middle School Guidance Counselor effective June 14, 2010.
- C. To accept the resignation of Laura Gleeson from the position of part-time Paraprofessional effective April 3, 2010. Mrs. Gleeson has been in the position since February 17, 2010.
- D. The addition of the following individuals to the 2009-2010 Substitute List effective as listed (pending completion of all employment requirements):
 - Lindsay Reed (Paraprofessional) - effective April 9, 2010
 - Marisa Miller (Special Education) - effective April 13, 2010
 - Cassia Stonier-Bails (Elementary/Special Education) - effective April 13, 2010
 - Kimberly Delbo - (Registered Nurse) - effective April 13, 2010
- E. To designate Greg Davis as a Volunteer Assistant Track & Field Coach for the 2009-2010 school year.
- F. To designate Nicholas Bender as a Volunteer Assistant Baseball Coach for the 2009-2010 school year.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS - POLICY AND PROGRAMS

BOARD COMMENTS

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RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

District resident, Florey Guarno, stated that the district will be operating under a deficit for the next five years, and will take care of the deficit by taking money from the Fund balance. By his projection, in the year 2015 the Fund balance will be depleted and there will be a deficit of \$333 million.

District resident, Amanda Diettrick, asked if other parents could stay for the executive session. Solicitor Roberts stated that if they were not going to discuss individual IEPs, they could stay.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Yocum and second by Shoup, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary