

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

The May 17, 2010, Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 7:34 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

Paul Starr

Timothy Vought

Jennifer Shoup (*Absent*)

Richard Steele

Michael Yeager

Eric Stahley

David Stellfox (*Absent*)

John Yocum

OTHERS PRESENT

Charles Reh, Superintendent; Daniel Rodgers, Business Manager (*Arrived 8:57 p.m.*); Tresa Britch, Board Secretary; Richard J. Roberts, Solicitor; Joseph Shirvinski, Roger Nunkester, James Becker, Brenda Monick, Robert Mehalick, Administrators; Timothy George, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds; district residents and members of the media.

AGENDA HEARING PERIOD

President Yeager announced that all items on the agenda with the exception of Policy and Programs Items E through H would be action items.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

- 1.) Election forms for the CSIU Board were distributed to Board members. Mr. Reh directed the members to return the completed forms to the Board Secretary following the meeting.
- 2.) Mr. Reh announced the following upcoming events:
 - May 26th at 7:00 p.m. – Awards ceremony – High School Auditorium
 - June 2nd at 7:00 p.m. – Baccalaureate – High School Auditorium
 - June 6th at 2:00 p.m. – Graduation – Haas Auditorium, Bloomsburg University
- 3.) Gifted Education Teacher, Mrs. Sally Meyer, and High School Librarian, Mrs. Allison Burrell, reported on the independent study program offered at Southern Columbia. Three students; Cynthia Adams, Sarah Raup and Sarah Yeager gave brief presentations on each of their individual independent study projects. The students utilized the Bloomsburg University Library resources and database. Mr. Reh thanked Mrs. Meyer and Mrs. Burrell for their work with the students.
- 4.) Mr. Becker reported that earlier in the day, the juniors gave presentations on their career studies, which began their freshman year. He noted the presentations were excellent and it was phenomenal to see the amount of effort put into the presentations.
- 5.) Mr. Nunkester reported that the Middle School held a very successful Law Day. Over twenty service organizations were present. Three helicopters landed on the football field.
- 6.) Mr. Reh requested an executive session following the regular meeting to discuss negotiations and personnel.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum, Instruction & Technology - John Yocum, Chairperson, reported that the committee met on April 26th with the high school department heads, and Mrs. Monick gave a report in the April 30th Friday Letter. He distributed a copy of the report to Board members. Brian Davis (Business) thanked the Board for sending the FBLA students to the national competition. Maria Sock (Mathematics) reported that some curriculum work is needed in Algebra II to get ready for Keystone Exams. Claire Campbell (Pupil Services) reported that their biggest problem was space and storage. George Henry (Science) indicated that it was too hot in the science storage room. He also reported that Earth and Space Science is lacking for the PSSAs. Kevin Jones (Social Studies) indicated that the special needs student inclusion is really working well. He also indicated that they would drop Social Science, as most students take that in college. Economics are now covered in POD. The (Vocational and Fine Arts) Music and Chorus reported that many repairs are needed in the auditorium and band room, and the auditorium air conditioning. Mr. Jankowski indicated that they need some technology upgrades to keep up with the changes. He also indicated that they should change the department name to Technical Education/Family and Consumer Science/Fine Arts Department. Mrs. Baker reported that the kilns in the art room are over thirty years old and one of them does not work. Mr. George reported that he has been hearing about needed repairs, but has received no work orders.

At the regular committee meeting prior to the regular meeting, Mr. Shirvinski gave a quick outline on RTII (Response to Intervention and Instruction). The program is designed to pick up students early to assess them and apply the correct education to prevent the students from falling into special education. Mrs. Meyer also talked about the Gifted Program and testing resources needed to test students to see if they are above grade level. It will require a lot more testing on her part. The employee portal will be available for staff to hopefully alleviate some paperwork in the business office. Mrs. Monick reported that they will be holding a social networking workshop for teachers on June 7th regarding Facebook and My Space and the proper sharing of information.

Transportation Services – Tim Vought, Chairperson, reported that a representative from BusTracks would be on campus Thursday for training. Mrs. Pheasant wants to do the rosters right away and distribute them to drivers. One of the mini buses is broken down. They discussed formulating a policy to address drivers who are trained by the district and then leave once they obtain their CDL. Mr. Stahley asked the status of the cameras from Keystone. Mr. Vought stated that he asked Mrs. Pheasant again this evening to contact Keystone to have them installed before the end of the school year to try them out.

Negotiations & Personnel - Charlie Porter, Chairperson, reported that they have not yet met with the teachers, however some progress is being made behind the scenes. June 29th is the first scheduled session. The teachers union will make a written presentation. They have indicated that they have very few issues. Both sides have high hopes for a short negotiations process.

PSBA Liaison - Rick Steele stated that he had nothing new to report. They have been focusing on retirement issues.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

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

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MINUTES AND INVOICES

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

- A. Minutes of April 12 and 19, 2010.
- B. General Fund invoices in the amount of \$500,757.46, Capital Reserve Fund invoices in the amount of \$10,250.63 and Athletic Fund invoices \$10,981.06.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – FISCAL

On a motion by Yocum and second by Starr, budgetary transfers in the 2009-2010 budget to ensure proper accounting were presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote. (*Item A*)

(Fiscal Item B was held until the end of the meeting so Mr. Rodgers could be present.)

ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. Employment of Cheyenne Wilson for the position of English as Second Language (ESL) Teacher effective August 26, 2010, at Step 1 of the Bachelor's Salary Schedule (\$38,457)*; benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
 - * *Salary subject to change due to upcoming negotiations*
- B. To appoint Paul Starr from Region II (Catawissa Borough, Catawissa Township) as Board Treasurer for the term July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011, with the annual salary of \$240 waived.
- C. The addition of the following individual to the 2009-2010 Substitute List effective May 18, 2010 (pending completion of all employment requirements):
 - Richard Donald (Elementary)
 - Jessica Yeager (Elementary/Special Education)
- D. To change Sandra Snyder from Substitute Paraprofessional to Half-time Paraprofessional (working 3 days of the 6-day cycle), effective May 13, 2010 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.
- E. To change Jolyn Pinamonti from Substitute Paraprofessional to Half-time Paraprofessional (working 3 days of the 6-day cycle), effective May 13, 2010 (pending completion of all employment requirements); salary and benefits per the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

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- F. FMLA qualifying leave for employee #1942AP effective August 23, 2010, through the end of the second marking period (tentatively January 19, 2011).
- G. Revised Job Description for the position of Athletic Director (**per Exhibit B**).
- H. Motion to approve employment of the following student workers effective June 1, 2010 throughout the summer months at minimum wage (35 hours per week for approximately 9 weeks):
 - Brianne Zins (Elementary Office)
 - Allison Young (High School Office)
 - Kayla Hoffman (Middle School Office)

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – POLICY AND PROGRAMS

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

- A. *(Item A was removed from the block vote.)*
- B. First reading of new Policy 826 Privacy of Health Information (HIPAA) (**per Exhibit D**).
- C. To authorize the Board Secretary to send a Notice of Reasonable Assurance of Employment for the 2010-2011 school year to those non-instructional employees and substitutes employed less than 12 months.
- D. Motion to approve participation in the National School Breakfast and Lunch USDA Commodities Program for the 2010-2011 school year.

(Items E, F, G and H were Discussion items only)
- I. Motion to approve Homebound Instruction for an elementary student #53243 effective May 19, 2010, until further evaluation by a physician, for a maximum of five (5) hours per week.

On a motion by Vought and second by Starr, the second reading and adoption of Policy 114 Gifted Education was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote. *(Item A)*

ITEMS – FISCAL

Mr. Rodgers gave a PowerPoint presentation on the proposed 2010-2011 budget. After some discussion throughout the presentation, the item was brought to a vote.

On a motion by Vought and second by Steele, the Southern Columbia Area School District tentative budget for the 2010-2011 fiscal year in the amount of \$16,798,456.00 (**per Exhibit A-1**) was presented for approval. Prior to voting, Mr. Stahley stated that he has a real problem with the 3.8 percent increase, but he will vote in favor of the motion to keep the process moving. Mr.

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Porter also stated that he would vote for it to keep the process going, but he noted that more work needs to be done. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

BOARD COMMENTS

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

District resident, Mr. Florey Guarno asked when the public would know about the teachers' contract. Mr. Porter stated that in order to facilitate negotiations, the offers are not made public. The public will have an opportunity to comment on the contract prior to Board approval.

President Yeager reminded the Board that an executive session would be held following the regular meeting to discuss negotiations and personnel.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Yocum and second by Stahley, the meeting was adjourned at 9:58 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary