

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

The November 1, 2010, special Board Meeting of the Southern Columbia Area School District Board of Directors convened in the High School Library at 6:03 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**

Jennifer Oiler

Charles Porter (*Arrived 6:38 p.m.*)

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, James Becker, 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 announced that the bid opening for the proposed building project would be held Wednesday, November 10, 2010. The approval letters from Franklin Township and the Columbia County Planning Commission have been received. The next Board meeting is November 15<sup>th</sup>, at which time the bids could be approved. If a special meeting is needed, it could be scheduled for November 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Barry Brobst from The Architectural Studio stated that once the bids are opened, they will be analyzing data from the bids to determine the apparent low bidders. It will be based on assumptions that the Board will accept certain alternates, which will be worked out with the administration. The bids and alternates can be discussed on the 15<sup>th</sup>, and action could be taken that evening. Mr. Stahley asked for clarification on "the assumption that the Board will accept alternate bids." Mr. Brobst stated that the base bid is the building project. Several alternates include the track, heating and air conditioning units on the roof, the cafeteria and library, and an alternate for the control systems. The evening of the 15<sup>th</sup>, they will present the base bid along with the recommended alternates. The Board would make the final decision on the alternates. Mr. Brobst stated that the way the contracts are anticipated, the Board should take action in November. Mr. Steele asked if the bid tabulations could be included in the Friday Letter. Mr. Brobst stated that the bids should be available in a rough format by Thursday following the bid opening. Mr. Stellfox asked if the alternates need to be approved at the onset of the project. Mr. Brobst stated that the alternates need to be known for approval of PlanCon F. Mr. Vought asked if it would be possible to begin the meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. It was agreed that the meeting time would be decided at the November 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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2.) Mr. Reh reported that Tom Corbett, candidate for Governor, attended the football game and commented on the old track. Mr. Reh also discussed funding of the Cyber/Charter schools with Mr. Corbett.

### ITEMS – MINUTES/INVOICES

On a motion by Vought and second by Yocum, the following Capital Reserve Fund invoice was presented for approval:

- \$92,626.56 - The Architectural Studio

Prior to voting, Mr. Stellfox stated that when the district enters into a contract with someone, and the job is done; it is the district's requirement to pay the bills. Mr. Porter asked if copies of the contracts with the subcontractors were obtained. Mr. Brobst stated that there are numerous contracts on this project, but the contract that exists between The Architectural Studio and the District is really the contract. Mr. Porter stated that the **architect obligated the District** to pay HRG over \$50,000. Mr. Brobst stated that there is a contract between The Architectural Studio and the school district. In that contract, there is a two-phase contract on the civil; one is for the contract documentation, which is a known price. The other is for the approval process, which is the contract portion which is sent through to the district. Mr. Porter stated that in a past bill, there were copies of the invoices from the subcontractors justifying the cost, but in the most recent bill he did not see that. Mr. Rodgers stated that a copy of the HRG bill was attached to the most recent invoice from The Architectural Studio. He noted that it was consistent with how it has always been billed. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 7-Yes, 2-No (Porter and Stahley voted No).

### ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. The addition of the following individual(s) to the 2010-2011 Substitute List effective November 2, 2010 (pending completion of all employment requirements):
  - Lance A. Cunningham (Physics/Earth & Space Science/General Science)
  - Lisa Halczak (Elementary)
- B. FMLA qualifying Leave for employee #1250KG effective November 2, 2010; not to exceed 12 weeks in the next 12-month period.
- C. To accept the resignation of Kent D. Lane from the position of Elementary Wrestling Coach effective October 27, 2010.
- D. To accept the resignation of Jerry Marks from the position of Elementary Wrestling Coach effective October 31, 2010.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

### ITEMS - POLICY AND PROGRAMS

On a motion by Steele and second by Oiler, an Agreement pertaining to a student disciplinary matter and to authorize the Superintendent to execute the same on behalf of the District was presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

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### BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Porter requested a brief executive session regarding a child custody matter, following the regular meeting.

### RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

District resident, Florey Guarno, asked if the bids come in lower than the \$20 million, would alternates be used to bring it up to the \$20 million. President Yeager stated that it is a possibility.

Lanny Conner reported that nearly twenty-five percent of the student body in the high school is involved in Track and Field every year. He also noted that all of those students participate in every meet. He noted that in three of the eleven years that he has been coaching, they have not had the opportunity to step on a facility prior to the first meet. He noted that the condition of the track is not favorable in the Spring due to melting snow and rain. If they would practice on the track when it is wet, it would make the surface too uneven when dried out and would put the students at risk of injury. He stated that if the District doesn't take the opportunity to install an all-weather track at this time, it may never get done. He also stated that public use of the track would probably skyrocket.

Kevin Jones stated that he was on the Mount Carmel School Board when they made the decision to install an all-weather track. He reported that their track gets a lot of community use.

Mr. Porter asked how the Relay for Life is run at Mount Carmel. Mr. Jones stated that there are some limitations, but it is run the same way that it is at Southern. He noted that a mat is put down where they cross the track, but there have been no problems.

Mr. Porter asked Mr. Roth if the public would still be allowed to stand on the track during football games. Mr. Roth stated that the design wouldn't allow for public use of the track during football games. He noted that there would be a walkway in the end zone, which is common with all-weather tracks. He added that a lot of programs would benefit from an all-weather track. Mr. Porter stated that he had concerns as to whether the stadium would have enough room for some of the bigger games, without the track area.

Mr. Roth also noted that the track is the one surface that the athletes have to practice and compete on that has a direct affect on their health.

District resident, Leonard Wasileski, stated that he is a physical therapist and he instructs patients to walk as part of their therapy. The track could be beneficial to people in varying ages from Kindergarten to the elderly; especially for people with cardiac conditions, joint replacements and diabetes. He noted that the two inside lanes on the existing track are horrendous. He noted that the coaches have to incorporate a different training technique because of the lanes. He stated that they see a higher incidence of shin splints and other injuries.

### ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Oiler and second by Stellfox, the meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch  
Board Secretary