

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

The March 21, 2011, 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

Jennifer Oiler
Charles Porter
Eric Stahley

Paul Starr
Richard Steele
David Stellfox

Timothy Vought (*absent*)
Michael Yeager
John Yocum

OTHERS PRESENT

Charles Reh, Superintendent; Daniel Rodgers, Business Manager; Tresa Britch, Board Secretary; Brenda Monick, Robert Mehalick, James Becker, Roger Nunkester, Joseph Shirvinski, 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 including addendum items would be action items. District resident, Florey Guarno, asked why numbers were being used instead of names on some of the personnel items. President Yeager replied that the items are confidential. Mr. Rodgers added that it is done to comply with the HIPAA law. Mr. Guarno asked for one of his comments to be included in the public comment section of the February 21, 2011, minutes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Reh's report included the following topics:

- 1.) Mr. Reh congratulated Mrs. Stone and the cast and crew on their excellent performance of Seussical.
- 2.) He announced that the Friday Letter would be distributed on Thursday of the following week.
- 3.) Mr. Becker introduced senior students, Aleah Jones, Rebecca Bryden, Alexa Marinelli, Sarah Yeager and Molly Carl. They requested a trip to Great Wolf Lodge and also a trip to Washington, D.C. Mr. Becker stated that the students looked into an overnight trip to Washington, D.C., but he had concerns regarding safety and security. The Washington trip would take place on a Saturday make-up day. The Great Wolf Lodge trip would take place on Sunday into Monday, May 22 and 23, 2011. After some discussion, a motion was brought to the table.

ITEMS – POLICY AND PROGRAMS

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Steele, a Senior Class Trip to Great Wolf Lodge, Tannersville, PA, on May 22 and 23, 2011 was presented for approval. The district expense would include the cost of substitutes. Prior to the vote, the item was opened to the public. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 5-Yes, 3-No; (Oiler, Porter and Stahley voted No).

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4.) Mr. Shirvinski reported that Kindergarten Registration would take place the following week.

5.) Mr. Becker reported that there is a tremendous amount of time and effort that goes into the musical production each year. He commended all of the volunteers and everyone involved with the production.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Curriculum, Instruction & Technology – John Yocum, Chairperson, reported that the committee met prior to the regular meeting. The Keystone Exams are on hold for the 2011-12 school year. There will be Keystone Exams in May of the current year in Algebra, Biology and Literature. A new and improved district website will be unveiled by the end of the year. It is hopeful that it will be easier to navigate and update. Emphasis will be put on data for the upcoming year. The PVAAS system is now open. The district will be saving between \$7,000 and \$8,000 annually by implementing the use of a print resource program. A new cyber school task force is being put together to provide options for current cyber school students. Mr. Yocum encouraged Board members to attend the Curriculum meetings because they go over a lot of things that may not be included in his report. A discussion regarding cyber schools followed Mr. Yocum's report. A special Curriculum, Instruction and Technology Committee meeting would be scheduled for the following week.

Negotiations & Personnel - Charlie Porter, Chairperson, reported that an executive session was held to discuss potential negotiations with the unions, and they will be holding another executive session following the regular meeting to further discuss the topic. The healthcare consultant services companies have been invited to attend the April 4th Finance Committee meeting.

Transportation Services – Jennifer Oiler, committee member, reported that they discussed the electronic bus routing system and the GPS training that was done online. Bus Tracks are working on some issues in the system and should have them resolved within the next week. A mapping training will be done in the near future. There are some concerns with the video from the bus cameras. Some of the views are good, but some are not. Information from Bus Tracks will be used for state reporting. Mr. Rodgers stated that one construction project that is coming up in mid-April should have little effect on transportation.

PSBA Liaison - Rick Steele reported that all of the Board members have been invited to the Region 6 cabinet meeting at the Selinsgrove Middle School on March 30th. He announced that the deadline for registration is March 25th. A “Wage Freeze and Collective Bargaining” seminar is being offered on March 30th at 11:00 a.m. President Yeager stated that he would try to attend the Region 6 meeting.

Vo-Tech - Eric Stahley reported that the budget for the Vo-Tech has been removed from the agenda. They had a meeting last Tuesday and they discussed ways to revise the budget in light of the changes that are coming down to the sending districts to make it easier financially for them. It was decided that the Vo-Tech Business Manager would average the percentages of decrease in state subsidy for the upcoming budget term versus the previous year of each of the sending districts. They would then work toward that percentage of cuts in the Vo-Tech budget.

CSIU – Jennifer Oiler circulated a Program Profile regarding two centers that support parents as well as their birth to grade 3 children; helping parents get their GED and learn to interact and work with their students. Ms. Oiler spent the day Saturday listening to presentations and interviewing candidates for the Director position. They are down to two candidates. Mr. Stahley stated that he was told that the salary range for the Director was between \$200,000

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and \$250,000. He asked if that was accurate. Ms. Oiler stated that she just started this month, but she understood that it was closer to \$200,000. Mr. Porter stated that he would be voting against the CSIU budget as his way of trying to control the cost of the Executive Director.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

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

MINUTES AND INVOICES

On a motion by Oiler and second by Stahley, the minutes of February 14, 2011 and February 21, 2011 (as amended), were presented for approval. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Starr and second by Oiler, General Fund invoices in the amount of \$375,810.09 and Capital Reserve Fund invoices in the amount of \$9,312.50 and Athletic Fund Invoices in the amount of \$9,485.94 were presented for approval. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 7-Yes, 1-No (Porter voted No.)

ITEMS – FISCAL

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

- A. Budgetary transfers in the 2010-2011 budget to ensure proper accounting (**per Exhibit A**).

(Items B and C were pulled from the block vote.)

- D. To appoint Brewer & Company, LLC to audit the financial records for the local tax collectors for the year ended December 31, 2010, as required by the Pennsylvania Local Tax Collection Law, at a cost not to exceed \$2,350.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

On a motion by Stellfox and second by Oiler, PlanCon Part K for the Middle/Senior High School (**per Exhibit B**) was presented for approval. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 6-Yes, 2-No (Porter and Stahley voted No.)

On a motion by Starr and second by Oiler, the 2011-2012 Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit General Operating Budget in the amount of \$1,500,249 (**per Exhibit C**) was presented for approval. By roll call vote, the motion carried; 6-Yes, 2-No (Porter and Stahley voted No.)

ITEMS – PERSONNEL

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

- A. To accept the resignation for retirement of Suellen Adams from the position of Elementary Head Cook effective June 8, 2011. Mrs. Adams has been with the district since August 1989.

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- B. FMLA qualifying leave on an intermittent basis for employee #1711KZ effective March 18, 2011; not to exceed 12 weeks in the next 12-month period.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

ITEMS – POLICY AND PROGRAMS *(Continued)*

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

ABCDE

- A. First reading of revised Policy 113.1 Behavior Management for Exceptional Students (per Exhibit D).
- B. Sophomore Class Trip to Washington, D.C. on Wednesday, May 19, 2011; teachers and parents to chaperone. District expense to include the cost of regular transportation and cost of one substitute.
- C. FBLA Trip to New York City, NY on Wednesday, May 19, 2011; teachers and parents to chaperone, with no expense to the district.

The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

BOARD COMMENTS

Mr. Porter asked for clarification regarding the sale of the bonds. Mr. Rodgers confirmed that RBC Capital Markets underwrote the bonds that did not sell on the date of closing. They then had to distribute those bonds and sell them at their points of distribution that week. Mr. Porter stated that the price was set on January 10th. Mr. Rogers agreed but stated that they are not settled until the February closing date. Mr. Porter asked what the settlement was on the bonds. Mr. Rodgers stated that they settled at those exact prices. Mr. Porter asked for confirmation that the bonds were settled on February 11th at the prices set in January. Mr. Rodgers replied affirmatively and added that it is typical of a bond sale.

RECOGNITION OF THE PUBLIC

Mr. Guarino stated that there were two handouts distributed to the Board and asked if they were public documents and if he could get a copy of them.

District resident, Barbara Splitt, asked if the new gymnasium would be used for three classes. President Yeager replied affirmatively and stated that there would be three teaching stations in the new gym, as well as two in the existing gym, the weight room and the auxiliary gym. Ms. Splitt asked if there are a limited number of students per teacher in cyber school. Mrs. Monick stated that there are restrictions based on the needs of the students.

President Yeager reminded the Board that there would be an executive session immediately following the regular meeting.

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ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Oiler and second by Yocum, the meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m. The motion carried by unanimous affirmative voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tresa J. Britch
Board Secretary