

**COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
MINUTES, AUGUST 21, 1997**

The August meeting of the Colonial School Board of Directors was convened by President Kessler at 8:03 p.m. in the Board Meeting Room of the Colonial Elementary School on August 21, 1997.

Board Members Present: Stuart Kessler, Jack Pinheiro, Rich Connolly, Gary Johnson, Allen Mandelbaum, Robert O'Neill, Marc Orlow, Thomas Yunker.

Board Members Absent: Beverly Brown

Also Attending: Dr. Stanley Durtan, Superintendent; Dr. Ann Evans Buhman, Director of Curriculum & Instruction; James M. Bell, Director of Operations/Board Secretary; R. Scott Klinger, Director of Personnel; Fred Shipman, Director of Pupil Services; Frank O'Hara, Solicitor; Katy Swetkowski and John Lukens, Student Board Representatives; Carol Cohen, CEA; Sally Abbott; Hugh Lipshutz; Don Flatham; Donald Newmeyer; Allan Dovberg; Tom Gibson; Mary Thiess; and Michael Maranind.

Mr. Kessler lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes: It was moved by Mr. Connolly and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the minutes of the Work Session of 7/7/97 as shown in Enclosure #1, the General Meeting of 7/10/97 as shown in Enclosure #2, and the Finance Committee Meeting of 8/5/97 as shown in Enclosure #3. On roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Mandelbaum and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the minutes of the Curriculum Committee Meeting of 8/11/97 as shown in Enclosure 25, as corrected. On roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Financial Reports and Treasurer's Report: It was moved by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Pinheiro to approve the payment of General Fund/Federal Programs Bills (June & July 1997) and to approve the Financial Reports (June & July 1997) listed as Enclosures #4 through #11 and the Treasurer's Report (June & July 1997) listed as Enclosure #12, subject to Audit. On roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

In response to a Board query, Mr. Bickleman reported that amusement tax had not yet been collected from the Regal Cinema complex on Ridge Pike because the address on the tax notice was incorrect and had been returned to the tax collector. Mr. Bickleman visited the facility and secured the correct address.

Public Comments on the Agenda: Mr. Newmeyer formally requested that the Board instruct Administration to make application to obtain state funds to fund a program in Abstinence Sex Education. Dr. Durtan explained that the district had sent a letter to

Governor Ridge asking how to apply for the funds but had not yet received a response. He also indicated that he would have a report for a future Board meeting on the status of the district's health education plan which includes sex education. Mr. Connolly thanked Mr. Newmeyer for his input.

Mr. Dovberg suggested that the district ask for medical clearance for Mr. Heim, the teacher at the high school who is the tennis coach and the sponsor of the DECA Club and the School Store to return to work after a medical sabbatical. He expressed concern that Mr. Heim might be overtaxing himself. Mr. Dovberg queried the nature of the Governor's Conference which the principal of Conshohocken Elementary would be attending and learned from Dr. Durtan that the conference was not political but was on Total Quality Management (TQM). Ms. Davis is scheduled to attend to participate in a program featuring a TQM program at Conshohocken Elementary School called "Koality Kid." Mr. Dovberg also suggested that funds be set aside so that a new Board member would be able to attend the annual NSBA conference later this year and expressed his belief that a new Board member would benefit from the experience. He also suggested that the Board request a refund from the DECA Club because the organization had a surplus and did not require a district subsidy. He noted that he had received information from Mr. Shipman about vision therapy and had no further questions on the agenda item. He also remarked for the TV audience that the Lady Colonials and the Class on 1998 were having car washes, that he was looking forward to the policy from the Curriculum Committee on co-curricular activities, and had used less than his allotted five minutes to speak. Mr. Orlow inquired about seeking a refund of district funds from the DECA Club and inquired about the policy governing district support of co-curricular activities. Dr. Durtan indicated that he was looking into it but noted that the club may need funds to stock the School Store for the new school year.

Staff Report: None

Old Business: None

Correspondence: Mr. Kessler noted the correspondence from Donald R. Newmeyer, district resident, providing information on the subject of Abstinence Sex Education, as shown in Enclosure #13.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Durtan reviewed the recommendations listed on Enclosures #14 through #17.

Glenn Brooks, Teacher, resignation, effective 7/28/97.

Jane Duffy, Teacher, resignation, effective 8/30/97.

Judith A. Horwitz, Psychologist, retirement, effective 12/09/97.

Frances A. Miller, Assistant Principal, resignation, effective 7/15/97.

Mary Ann Otto, Teacher, resignation, effective 7/1/97.

Brian Wisniewski, Teacher .8, resignation, effective 9/1/97.

Katrina Alkinburg, Teacher, leave of absence, effective 9/1/97.
Carol Bucci, Teacher, leave of absence, effective 9/1/97.
Laurel Doran, Teacher, leave of absence, effective 9/1/97.
Wendy Krause, Teacher, leave of absence, effective 9/1/97.
Kate Lynch, Instruction Aide, personal leave, effective 9/1/97.
Dawn Rieder, Teacher, leave of absence, effective 9/1/97.
Chris Rusciollelli, Guidance, leave of absence, effective 9/1/97.
Nancy Sellers, Guidance .6, leave of absence, effective 11/26/97.
Ginny Simonetti, Guidance, leave of absence, effective 9/1/97.

Thomas Auman, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Renata Baronowski, Instructional Aide, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$15,725.
Jeffrey Bass, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Jeffrey Blizzard, Guidance LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$38,499.
Noami Blumberg, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Gina Cantanese, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$35,056.
Lisa Cantor, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Lynn Carr, 12-month Secretary, effective 8/1/97 on the basis of \$22,665.
Edgar Eason, Jr., Master Electrician, effective 7/8/97 on the basis of \$16.40/hr.
Al Erb, Acting Emergency Principal, effective 8/25/95 on the basis of \$350/day.
Kathleen Frank, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Lynell Foley, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$47,576.
Susan Furst, Guidance LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$38,499.
Hope Garfinkle, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$40,690.
Matthew Garonski, Custodian II, effective 8/4/97 on the basis of \$13.50/hr.
Patty Gill, Teacher, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$54,875.
Irene Guerriero, Teacher, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$53,210.
Robert Guzik, Jr., Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Maureen Haegle, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Kevin Hanlon, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Patricia Iannelli, Curriculum Supervisor, effective 7/1/98, on a basis to be announced.

Jerome Joyce, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Tracy Kiwak, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Lauren Klein, Teacher LTS .6, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$23,099.40.
Kirk Kumfert, Teacher TPE, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Tiffany Lett, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Marcy Lipner, Teacher .6, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$23,225.40.
Amy Mollenkof, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$33,084.
Lisa Nardini, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$33,084.
Kim Nardo, Guidance LTS .6, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$24,414.
David O'Neill, Teacher TPE .6, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$19,625.40.
Rachel Ottaviano, Teacher TPE, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Lisa Peuser, Teacher TPE .4, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$15,399.60.
William Price, Teacher TPE .8, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$26,167.20.

Theresa Profit, Teacher, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$48,577.
William Rathgeber, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Kathleen Reagan, Librarian TPE .6, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$30,799.20.
Linda Romano, Middle School Principal, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$75,874.
Mindi Rubin, Teacher TPE, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$38,499.
Theresa Schatz, Librarian TPE .6, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$19,625.40.
Peter Sienko, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$33,084.
Shery Solow, Curriculum Supervisor, effective 8/25/97 on the basis of \$80,396.
Keith Souder, Teacher TPE, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
John Staudenmayer, Teacher LTS .6, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$19,625.40.
Susan Stein-Woolf, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$26,167.20.
David Stewart, Teacher TPE .8, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$38,499.
Annette Schwartz, Teacher TPE .4, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$13,083.60.
Amy Venkus, Teacher TPE .8, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$26,167.20.
George Wadlin, Teacher TPE, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$35,056.
Betsy Wells, Teacher TPE, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$38,499.
Teresa Woodin, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$43,256.
Amy Young, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.
Christopher Young, Teacher LTS .8, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$26,167.20.
Kathleen Young, Teacher LTS, effective 9/1/97 on the basis of \$32,709.

Changes on the Substitute List, as shown on Enclosure #15.

Extra Duty/Extra Pay Assignments, as shown on Enclosure #16.

Conference Requests, as listed on Enclosure #17.

It was moved by Mr. Pinheiro and seconded by Mr. Mandelbaum to approve the personnel actions, as recommended by Dr. Durtan and listed in Enclosures # 14 through #17. On a roll call vote, Mr. Kessler, Mr. Pinheiro, Mr. Connolly, Mr. Johnson, Mr. Mandelbaum, Mr. Orlow and Mr. Yunker were in favor. Mr. O'Neill abstained. Motion carried.

Dr. Durtan provided an update on enrollment. He noted that class sizes at the elementary level were generally in great shape. He indicated that he was watching the enrollment figures for kindergarten and grade 1 at Plymouth Elementary School and kindergarten at Conshohocken Elementary School and that any appreciable increase in enrollment might mean a split of these classes. He also noted that the district was adding a class in grade 2 at Whitemarsh Elementary School, that enrollment in enrichment programs was on the rise and there would be two enrichment classes at Ridge Park Elementary School this year, and that there were still 1.7 budgeted teaching slots still available.

Board Student Representatives Report: The Board welcomed Mr. Lukens as a Board student representative. Mr. Luken expressed gratitude for the opportunity to serve and hoped he would live up to the Board's expectations. He indicated that he was a junior at

Plymouth Whitemarsh High School and had spent three weeks during the summer as a student ambassador. He gave the Board a brief report on all the students who were already back in school for athletic, cheerleading and band practice and provided information on school athletic events and programs scheduled for the end of summer and the first week of school.

Katy Swetkowski recognized the administrators, coaches, trainers, and custodians who supported district programs and provided an update on the activities of the high school's orientation leaders who would be working to help the incoming ninth grade students adjust to their new school.

New Business: It was moved by Mr. O'Neill and seconded by Mr. Connolly to approve contracts for transporting students with the individuals/agencies, as listed in Enclosure # 18. Responding to Board queries, Mr. O'Hara indicated that we would be reviewing the contracts and amending them to provide, among other things, for higher insurance requirements. He noted that the Board could approve the contacts, with this understanding, so that funds could be expended and that he would send revised contracts back to the Board for their final action. Mr. Kessler confirmed that the Sague contract was based on an adjustment made in the Romano contract. On roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Mandelbaum and seconded by Mr. Johnson to approve the contracts for special education services with Lower Merion School District and Norristown Area School district, as shown in Enclosure #19. On roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Mandelbaum and seconded by Mr. O'Neill to approve the contract with a vision therapist for the provision of services to a Colonial School District student who is enrolled at the Vanguard School, as shown in Enclosure # 20. It was noted that the contract was for the 1997-98 school year only. On roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

It was moved by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. O'Neill to approve Corporate Resolutions to Maintain a Deposit Account and Corporate Resolutions to Use a Facsimile Signature Device, as shown in Enclosure #21. Board members confirmed that Dr. Durtan's name would be inserted in the appropriate box of the resolution pertaining to the Food Service account. On roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Dr. Durtan presented the policy on Copyright Guidelines, as shown in Enclosure #26, for first reading. He also provided the related "Copyright Guideline Handbook" for Board review. He noted that the solicitor had reviewed the documents. It was moved by Mr. Mandelbaum and seconded by Mr. O'Neill to approve the policy for a first reading. On roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried. Dr. Durtan encouraged the Board to submit any suggestion which they had on the policy.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. O'Hara reported that an insurance settlement had been reached with Corregis for \$40,000.00. The money is currently being held pending the signatures of the Board President and Board Secretary.

Mr. O'Hara presented a case for expulsion and a resolution on adjudication. It was moved by Mr. Johnson and seconded by Mr. Orlow that the student be expelled. On a roll call vote of those who had attended the original hearing, Mr. Kessler, Mr. Pinheiro, Mr. Johnson, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Orlow and Mr. Yunker voted to approve the expulsion of the student. Mr. Connolly and Mr. Mandelbaum did not vote because they had not participated the original hearing. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Intermediate Unit Board: Mr. Pinheiro advised that, in addition to regional meetings, PSBA had agreed to present a workshop on charter schools at the I.U. on September 19th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. The session will be preceded by a social gathering. Dr. Durtan asked that Board members notify him by September 14th of their intention to attend so that he could notify the I.U. of the number of attendees from the district.

CMVAVTS: Mr. O'Neill indicated that there was no formal report for August but there would be a full report in September. He noted there would be over 700 students at the Vo-Tech School this fall.

Personnel: Mr. Pinheiro reported that the committee recommended the establishment of Hay points and mid-point salaries for the following positions: Director of Technology - 617 points, \$68,013.00; Curriculum Supervisors (2) - 617 points, \$68,013.00; Director of Financial Services - 723 points, \$65,451.00; and Director of Support Services - 729 points, \$65,852.00. It was moved by Mr. Pinheiro and seconded by Mr. O'Neill that the Board accept the committee recommendations. On a roll call vote, all in favor. Motion carried.

Mr. Pinheiro noted that a negotiating session between the Board and the Colonial Education Association was scheduled for September 3rd and that the district would be entering the new school year without a new contract with its teachers. Mr. Orlow queried whether Board action was necessary for teachers to continue to work under the terms of the existing contract. Mr. O'Hara indicated that the matter could be raised and agreed upon at the bargaining table and that no Board action was required at this time. He advised that starting the new year under the existing contract without a Board vote did not present a problem. Mr. Kessler asked if district plans had been updated in case a labor action occurred. Dr. Durtan responded that options were available for Board action if required.

Curriculum and Program: Mr. O'Neill reported that the committee had discussed a possible Board policy on co-curricular activities. The committee will continue discussions on the topic at its next meeting to be announced shortly.

Buildings & Grounds and Transportation: Mr. Connolly advised that Breslin Ridyard Fadero was preparing a land development plan for the high school addition for Whitemarsh Township, had finished a schematic for the new science rooms at the west end of the high school near cafeteria #7, and would next enter the design phase. He indicated that cost-benefit analysis was to come. Mr. Connolly also noted that five Board members had toured Conshohocken Elementary School and the east wing of the high school to look at the condition of the outside walls of these facilities and indicated that the architect would prepare in early September an estimate for a feasibility study to address concerns in these areas. He advised that the architect was working with teachers and the township to keep the planned high school addition moving forward. In response to board queries, Mr. Bell indicated that summer building projects were generally on schedule but he and Dr. Durtan noted that the renovations to the office area at Ridge Park would take place after the start of the school year due to a delay in receiving supplies. Mr. Connolly and Mr. Pinheiro commended the Operations and Maintenance staff for their efforts this summer and noted the improving appearance of district buildings and grounds.

Community Relations: Mr. Orlow reported on a “hop on the bus” program which would take community members on a tour of district schools this fall and close with a reception and the screening of a new video on the district now being prepared by John Quinn, Director of CITV and his students. He also noted that the next Town Meeting was being planned for the second week in October and that the Colonial Foundation for Education Innovation had scheduled two fund raisers: A golf outing sponsored by Murray Dodge at Center Square on October 5th and a walk-at-thon scheduled for October 25th. Those interested in the golf outing can contact Bernie Murray at Murray Dodge to make a reservation. The event, which includes a dinner, costs \$68.00 per person. Individuals interested in the walk-a-thon may pick up informative brochures at district schools.

Legislative: Mr. Kessler reported that State Senator Greenleaf had sponsored a bill on binding arbitration in school districts. He indicated that he had been in contact with Senator Greenleaf to express Board concern about the proposed legislation and would be meeting with him in the near future to discuss the inadvisability of the bill.

Public Comments: None.

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Mr. Kessler adjourned the meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

James M. Bell
Secretary