

**COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
MINUTES, DECEMBER 4, 2006.**

President Orlow convened the special meeting of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 8:06 p.m. in the Board Room of Colonial Elementary School on December 4, 2006.

Board Members Present: Marc Orlow, Gary Johnson, Tom Davis, Hope Luken, Susan Moore, William Ryan, Pascal Scoles, Steven Slutsky, and Mitch Zimmer.

Board Members Absent: None.

Also Attending: Vincent F. Cotter, Superintendent; MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Assistant Superintendent; Gerald E. Berger, Director of Human Resources; Joseph P. Bickleman, Chief Financial Officer/Board Treasurer; Cassandra DeLong, Director of Pupil Services; Andrew Boegly, Chief Information Officer; Terry Yemm, Director of Operations; David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary; John Quinn, Director of CITV; Rich Connolly.

Mr. Orlow noted that the Pledge of Allegiance was recited prior to the just completed reorganization meeting and announced that the Board had met in executive session on 11/22/2006 and 12/4/2006 to discuss informational, legal and personnel matters.

Minutes: Mr. Orlow noted that there were minutes from several meetings before the Board as separate attachments but stated that there was no urgency to approve the minutes. He said that the Board would take action on the minutes in January.

Financial Reports: Mr. Orlow noted that the financial reports and the Treasurer's Report had been previously approved through October 31, 2006 and that the administration is requesting authorization to pay November bills during December. He stated that November financial reports will be provided for formal action at the January meeting. Mr. Slutsky moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to authorize the payment of November bills during December. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Staff Report: None.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence: Mr. Orlow commented that Auditor General Jack Wagner is providing the Performance Audit Report for the Colonial School District (CSD) for the years that ended on June 30, 2004 and 2003. See enclosure #1. He noted that the report indicates Colonial was compliant with state laws, regulations, contracts, grants and administrative procedures during the time period with no corrective recommendations. Mr. Orlow commended Mr. Bickleman for a job well done in preparing the information for the audit. Mr. Slutsky added his commendation, as well. Mr. Orlow requested that the administration should place the complete audit report on the district Web site and also send a notification to the e-mail list of the audit's availability for public inspection. Mr. Bickleman thanked the Board and noted that the Pupil Services staff, in the area of student accounting, and the Human Resources staff, in the area of teacher certification, had

also worked hard in helping to prepare the audit. Mr. Slutsky moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to accept the Performance Audit Report. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Cotter led the members through his report which included the Personnel Report and Substitute List and the proposed Extra Duty/Extra Pay List. See enclosures #2 and #3. He noted that the Personnel Report contained 12 actions, including the return of the Colonial Elementary School Assistant Principal from a child-rearing leave. Mr. Orlow questioned the length and timing of child-rearing leaves. Mr Orlow asked if an effective date was routinely included in child-rearing leave requests. Mr. Berger noted that effective dates are included and the leaves usually last through the end of a semester or the end of a school year. Mr. Johnson moved and Mrs. Luken seconded a motion to approve the Superintendent's Report. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

Board Student Representatives Report: None.

New Business: Mr. Orlow asked the members to consider the list of dates for the Board's regular monthly meetings in 2007. He noted that the suggested schedule was the same as in years past with the general business meetings being held at 8:00 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month. Dr. Ryan stated that he would like all of the meetings to be held one hour earlier so that the Monday work sessions would begin at 7:30 p.m. and the Thursday business meetings would begin at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Orlow noted that the two monthly meetings represent only a fraction of the meetings that the Board members attend during the year. He added that in recent years, the Board has not held a work session during the month of July and asked that it be removed from the schedule. Mr. Zimmer moved and Dr. Ryan seconded a motion to approve the list of meetings with the times move up one hour and the July work session omitted. On roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

Mr. Orlow sought Board action on a resolution submitted by Mr. Bickleman that amends the CSD Real Estate Transfer Tax Resolution, dated January 15, 1987. See enclosure #4. Mr. Orlow noted that the proposed revisions bring the resolution in line with the provisions of Act 40 of 2005. Mr. Bickleman explained that the revisions include language regarding the collection of interest on delinquent real estate transfer taxes and specifies the rate of interest to be collected. He noted that he did not remember a delinquent real estate transfer tax in the district. He also clarified for Dr. Ryan that the district would share the interest with the county. Mr. Zimmer moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to approve the resolution. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

Mr. Orlow asked the Board members to direct their attention to a student trip request from Amy LaRue, Plymouth Whitmarsh High School Choral Director, for students to attend a district competition. See enclosure #5. Mrs. Luken questioned the \$95 fee per student. Dr. Cotter stated that the fee was for registration and that it was a budgeted expense. He added that the students would be staying overnight with families associated with the host institution. Dr. Scoles moved and Mr. Zimmer seconded a motion to approve the trip request. On roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

Mr. Orlow sought Board approval of a bid for the installation of lighting on Victory Fields #1 and #3. He noted that the district had received four bids with the lowest bid of \$404,300 from I & Y Construction, Inc., being recommended. See enclosure #6. Mr. Orlow stated that the bids had been reviewed and investigated extensively by the Board's Facilities Management and Transportation Committee. Mr. Johnson moved and Mr. Slutsky seconded a motion to approve

the bid contingent on receiving necessary construction licenses and waivers from Whitemarsh Township. On roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

Mr. Orlow noted that this was the time of year that the Board appointed representatives to various external committees and associations. He stated that three members of the Board each serve rotating three-year terms on the Central Montgomery County Area Vocational/Technical School Joint Operating Committee (JOC). He said that Mr. Johnson and Mr. Davis presently served on the JOC but that a replacement was needed for Dr. Scoles whose term had expired. Dr. Scoles moved and Mr. Davis seconded the nomination of Sue Moore to fill a three-year term on the JOC. On roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

Mr. Orlow stated that the Board needed to appoint a representative and a legislative chairperson to the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA). He noted that previously two Board members had filled those positions but recently the Board had combined the roles and that Dr. Ryan had served in both capacities. Mr. Zimmer moved and Dr. Scoles seconded a motion to re-appoint Dr. Ryan as the Board's PSBA representative and legislative chairperson. On roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried. Dr. Ryan thanked the Board and commented that one thing he was able to accomplish was to convince the PSBA to e-mail the weekly legislative report to its constituents.

Solicitor's Report: In the absence of Solicitor Jeffrey T. Sultanik, Dr. Cotter sought Board approval of Disciplinary Stipulation Agreement #8824. He noted that the agreement had been discussed in executive session. Mr. Orlow added that the name or names of those involved were not divulged for privacy reasons. Dr. Scoles moved and Mr. Davis seconded a motion to approve the stipulation agreement. On roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried.

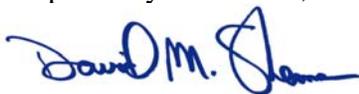
Committee Reports: None.

Mr. Orlow noted that an important meeting of the Whitemarsh Township Supervisors is scheduled for December 21. Among the agenda items is approval of licenses and waivers for the turf installation on Colonial Field and Victory Fields #1. He encouraged all residents who have an interest in the project to attend the meeting.

Public Comment: Mr. Connolly of Plymouth Township stated that the CSD Annual Report was the finest document he had ever seen from the district. He asked if the information was true, adding that if it was, Colonial was a pretty darn good school district and that the Board and administration should be commended on a fantastic job. Mr. Orlow thanked Mr. Connolly and noted that Mr. Connolly had served on the School Board for eight years from 1991 through 1999. Mr. Connolly stated that it was good to see that there were more Ph.D.s and Ed.D.s than lawyers on the School Board now.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Orlow adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary