

Community Relations and Student Life Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors, November 12, 2009

The Community Relations and Student Life (CRSL) Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Thursday, November 12, 2009 in the Superintendent's Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. Present were committee chair Mitch Zimmer, committee members Kelly Jowett and Hope Luken, Board Vice President Susan Moore, Board member Tom Davis, Dr. Vincent F. Cotter, Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Karen Berk, Charles Forster, John Quinn, Kim Newell, David M. Sherman, Board Student Representatives Lauren Stern, Jessica Piergiovanni, Allan Hong, Stephen Pepper and Stacey Wong, and Alex Chialastri, Jake Lorenzon and Megan McCreesh.

There was no public comment on the agenda.

Mr. Chialastri, Mr. Lorenzon and Ms. McCreesh presented a PowerPoint on the Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) Water Polo Club. They noted a high level of interest and participation among the student body in this PIAA sanctioned sport. The group was well organized and well coached. Committee members expressed an interest in helping the students build a goal.

Members reviewed a request to accept a \$1,000 donation from Subaru to the PWHS Swim Team. The decision was to allow the company to purchase a \$1,000 advertisement in the guide that is distributed at home meets.

Mr. Forster outlined the 2010 PWHS football schedule with emphasis on new opponents in the beginning of the season.

The Committee examined field trip requests for the PWHS Water Polo Team to attend the NCAA Men's Water Polo Championships at Princeton University, PWHS Spanish and French students to participate in an exchange program and the PWHS Boys' Basketball Team to participate in the Big Apple Invitational in New York City in January.

Members reviewed a coaching clinic request for two PWHS boys' lacrosse coaches to attend a weekend clinic in Baltimore, Md., December 11-13. Mr. Forster noted that each coach will receive \$50 from the school and pay the bulk of the expenses and conference fees themselves.

Members were informed of a donation of calculators by Mr. Michael Schwab to Conshohocken Elementary School in support of a family education night activity.

Mr. Sherman reviewed the status of the Communication Plan. He reported that the annual report is scheduled to be delivered to the post office on November 17 and that invitations have been mailed for the senior citizen winter concert and luncheon on December 18. He discussed the social media outlets of Twitter and Facebook and noted how more and more school districts are using these tools to communicate with constituents. It was agreed that the District should begin to use Twitter. It was also agreed that Facebook was not a viable option for the District.

Mr. Sherman also reported on current school/business partnerships and positive feedback from PWHS Distinguished Graduate Kenneth Pearson on the possibility of forming a Business Advisory Council.

Mr. Sherman also noted that the District is looking to upgrade the management of its e-mail news distribution list.

Ms. Newell reported that CITV has won three more Telly Awards, including a silver Telly. She also reported on the number of views different programs have received from the District Web site.

Mrs. Berk reported that approximately 2,100 applications were received for the H1N1 vaccination, including 750 second doses. There is no indication as to when the District will receive the vaccine.

Students reported on Homecoming week activities, the non-public open house held at PWHS, the Santa Breakfast and a holiday canned food drive.

It was noted that the next meeting will be scheduled after the Board's annual reorganization meeting in December.

There being no further business or public comment, Mr. Zimmer adjourned the meeting at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David M. Sherman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Sherman" clearly legible.

David M. Sherman
Community Relations Coordinator