

## **Community Relations and Student Life Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors, January 6, 2011**

The Community Relations and Student Life (CRSL) Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Thursday, January 6, 2011 in the Superintendent's Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Present were committee chair Mitch Zimmer; Committee members Bernie Brady and Kelly Jowett; Board President Gary Johnson; Board Vice President Kathleen Oxberry; Board member Mel Brodsky; Superintendent Dr. Vincent F. Cotter; Assistant Superintendent Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer; Director of Pupil Services and Special Education Karen Berk; Activities Director Charles Forster; CITV Director John Quinn; Assistant Public Relations Coordinator Kim Newell; Community Relations Coordinator/School Board Secretary David M. Sherman and community member Linda Doll.

There was no public comment on the agenda.

Mr. Quinn stated that Comcast had replaced equipment at CITV and in its own facility to address the sound issues that arose during the live broadcast of the December School Board meeting. Ms. Newell showed a teachable moment video featuring the use of music to motivate and inspire Life Skills students at Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS). She added that the concert performed by the students is airing on CITV.

The committee reviewed a donation in the amount of \$10,000 from the Morgan Stanley Foundation to Conshohocken Elementary school to be used for after school enrichment and a school field trip. The committee was also apprised of the annual donation of \$2,500 from the Deed of Trust for the Estate of Joshua Morris to be used for the general education of Colonial School District students.

The committee reviewed student trip requests for attendance at the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Orchestra Festivals and the Music Educators National Conference All-East Band. Mr. Forster also presented information on the 2012 PWHS Senior Class Trip to Florida. He noted that the trip needs to be approved a year in advance for scheduling purposes. He added that the trip follows a schedule similar to that of this year's trip. Mr. Forster added that the 2012 trip will cost \$40 more per student. Mr. Forster confirmed for Dr. Cotter that the Cotteta Fund is providing \$2,500 to students in need to help pay for the current year class trip. He stated that students were required to write essays as applications for the funding.

Mr. Forster reported that the PWHS Asian Awareness Club would like to apply to give a "Wake Up Call" on the NBC 10 Early Morning Show.

Mr. Sherman stated that he was seeking Board approval to attend the Pennsylvania School Public Relations Association Annual Seminar in Pittsburgh, Pa., on Tuesday, March 15. He noted that both he and Ms. Newell serve on the association's executive board, and that Ms. Newell was instrumental in planning the programming for the seminar.

Committee members reviewed the list of teachers for the winter and spring sessions of the PWHS Adult Evening School.

Mr. Sherman shared a copy of the 2010 Kindergarten Brochure and a draft of the proposed 2011 Kindergarten Brochure. He noted that the 2010 version was printed on matte paper using just two colors at a cost of \$2,570 for 1,000 copies. He stated that the 2011 brochure will be printed in full color on gloss paper. He added that the current low bid for the project is \$1,665 for 1,000 copies. (Note: a bid of \$1,077 for 1,000 copies was received after the meeting.)

The committee reviewed the next edition of the District's RISE flyer. The focus is the physical education program at Colonial Middle School. Mr. Sherman noted that Ms. Newell will be contacting Mr. Zimmer to tape the video version.

Mr. Sherman stated that more than 325 senior citizens attended the recent Gold Card winter concert and luncheon at PWHS. He shared feedback from the event and noted that about 250 seniors had already reserved seats for the spring matinee and luncheon. He added that PWHS teacher Mickey Engel,

Director of the Colonial Players' production of Titanic, had planned to attend the meeting to seek additional funding for the show. Mr. Forster explained that Mr. Engel's budget for the current year had been reduced by \$2,500. That amount had been earmarked for the extra performance required to produce the matinee. Dr. Cotter stated that the School Board will review the request at a later time.

The committee reviewed four policies that will be presented to the Board on a first-read basis at the January meeting. They include #231.1 Commercial Activities in the Schools, #707 Use of School Facilities, #913 Advertising and #916 Volunteers. In reference to policy #707, Mrs. Doll asked if Victory Fields was not being separated from the other facilities as previously discussed. Dr. Cotter stated that it would be and that topic is on the agenda for the next day's Facilities Management and Transportation Committee meeting.

The committee agreed that the next meeting, scheduled for Thursday, February 3, will begin at 4:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

Mr. Sherman reminded committee members that the Board/Student Town Meeting is scheduled for PWHS on Wednesday, April 13 at 2:30 p.m. in the library multipurpose room. He also reminded members that he will take a group photo of the School Board prior to the January business meeting. The photo is for the PWHS yearbook.

There being no further business or public comment, Mr. Zimmer adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Sherman  
Community Relations Coordinator  
School Board Secretary