

**Colonial School District**  
**District Operations**  
**Facilities Management/Transportation Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**9/29/2010**

Committee Chair Bernie Brady called the meeting to order at 8:55 AM.

Other Committee Members Present: Sue Moore, Kathy Oxberry, Alan Tabachnick

Other Board Members Present: Beth Suchsland, Kelly Jowett, Gary Johnson, Mel Brodsky

Also Attending: Dr. Vincent F. Cotter, Superintendent; Dr. Maryellen Gorodetzer, Assistant Superintendent; Terry R. Yemm, Director of Operations

Public Comment on the Agenda: None

The Committee discussed a proposal to consider the elimination of the 4:15 PM activity busses for the Plymouth Whitemarsh High School on all PTL days and early dismissal days for the remainder of the school year. The 4:15 PM activity bus run was monitored for student count on the afternoon of the last PTL day. There were three (3) busses scheduled for the run and there were six (6) students that utilized the three (3) buses. Based on the low rider count and the costs associated with the run, the Committee provided direction to work with the PW Administrative team to determine if there would be any concerns before making a final decision on the elimination of the 4:15 PM activity busses on the days provided above.

A proposal for the construction of a paved surface area at the Colonial Middle School was provided for review. The paved surface will be used for an intramural sports program. Mr. Yemm told the Committee that the approval process may take in excess of six (6) months due to potential issues with storm water management. Based on the timetable for approvals the Committee provided direction on moving forward with the engineering required to obtain permits for the construction.

Information was provided on two issues at the Colonial farmhouse. The first issue dealt with a request to separate the water feed to our farmhouse from the feed for four other buildings located on the Angus Tract. The request is being made by the company that is hired to manage the daily operations of the Angus tract. Mr. Yemm reported that the District's public water service needs are being met under the current scenario and that, while we will consider suggestions from the managing company, the District does not need to agree to any changes that may cost the District any money. The Committee agreed. The second issue dealt with the final sub-division of the property. The property that the farmhouse is located on has not been officially subdivided from the Angus Tract. Mr. Yemm suggested to the Committee that the final configuration of the wetlands area and the location of the walking track may have a substantial impact on the amount of land

that may be available for District use. The Committee agreed to wait until the construction of the wetlands area is completed and the walking track is installed before moving forward with the final sub-division.

Mr. Yemm reported that the solar energy project is in the manufacturing stages. The engineers have been onsite to finalize all last minute items for the manufacture of the panels. In addition to the installation of the solar panels, the project also includes the installation of a natural gas main to the Colonial Elementary School. Running the boilers on natural gas is a major part of our energy initiatives. The solar panels will be installed on the Colonial Middle School first and then the Colonial Elementary School.

The installation of the athletic field lights for Victory Fields #1 and #3 was completed and ready for use on Monday September 20, 2010. The alignment of the lights was tested with lasers during the daytime hours and, all lights being properly aligned, the system was turned over to the District for use. The lights were turned on that night and visually tested for proper operation.

The construction of the comfort station required for the Victory Fields Lighting Project began in the end of August. A meeting was held in late July with Chestnut Hill College (CHC) to discuss their financial contribution to the construction costs as they will be sharing the restroom and the storage area is being constructed for their use. CHC agreed to fund one-third (1/3) of the construction costs but asked that they be allowed to pay their share over a ten (10)-year period. The financial contribution for the turf installation on Victory Field # 1 and installation of athletic field lighting is in the 4<sup>th</sup> year of a ten year agreement. The Committee requested that the District explore the possibility of establishing a new agreement ten (10)-year agreement. The new agreement will include the remaining portion of the existing agreement, the payment for the comfort station and additional fees for the use field after the expiration of the existing agreement. Mr. Yemm will put together a proposal and provide same to the Committee for their review and comment at a future meeting.

An update was provided on the status of the renovation of the tech-ed labs and shop at the Plymouth Whitmarsh High School. The computer labs were ready for the opening of school in late August. The shop area was not completed in time for the opening of school. Some components of the construction process ran behind schedule and the delivery and installation of the a few pieces of high tech equipment was not able to be used until user training was complete. The tech lab and adjoining shop is now completed and fully operational.

The approval for the construction of the all-purpose athletic field behind the Colonial Elementary School is in its final stages. The District had to meet with the Department of Environmental Resources (DER) to determine some last minute engineering issues. The DER then requested that the District meet with the local representative of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for final review. The representative for the EPA approved the engineering design as provided and the District submitted the final drawings to the Township for approval. Mr. Yemm also reported that the contractor that

was officially awarded the project in July has agreed to a contract extension and will start the work once the approvals are given by the Township. However, the contractor has provided that it may be advisable to wait and start the project in the early spring to avoid potential problems with the winter weather. This decision will be made once the approvals are received.

Additional Public Comment on the Agenda: None.

There being no further business before the committee, Mr. Brady adjourned the meeting at approximately 10:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Yemm  
Director of Operations