

**COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462**  
**WORK SESSION MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 13, 2010**

President Johnson convened the work session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 7:33 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on September 13, 2010.

**Board Members Present:** Bernie Brady, Mel Brodsky, Gary Johnson, Susan Moore, Kathleen Oxberry, Beth Suchsland, Alan Tabachnick and Mitch Zimmer.

**Board Members Absent:** None.

**Note:** One Board seat is currently vacant.

**Also Attending:** Dr. Vincent F. Cotter, Superintendent; Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Assistant Superintendent; Joseph P. Bickleman, Chief Financial Officer/Board Treasurer; Karen Berk, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education; Andrew Boegly, Chief Information Officer; Terry Yemm, Director of Operations; Richard Hartz, Director of Human Resources; John Quinn, Director of CITV and David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary.

Mr. Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and announced that the Board had met in executive session on August 25, September 8 and prior to the meeting.

Dr. Cotter confirmed for Mr. Johnson that six Master Teachers will be presented for Board recognition on Thursday evening. The Master Teachers were recently appointed to two-year terms.

**Minutes:** Mr. Johnson asked Board members if they had any questions regarding the minutes of the Work Session of August 16; the General Meeting of August 19; the Special Meeting of August 25; the Human Resources Committee and the Finance and Audit Committee of September 1; the Community Relations and Student Life Committee of September 2 or the Facilities Management and Transportation Committee of September 3. See enclosures #1 through #7. There were no questions from the Board. Mr. Johnson noted that the minutes of the Curriculum Committee of September 13 will be included in the yellow pages on Thursday evening.

**Financial Reports:** Mr. Johnson requested that the Board examine the financial reports on the list for approval on Thursday evening. They include the Bond Fund Report, the Capital Projects Report, the General Fund/Federal Program Bills, the Capital Reserve Fund, the Food Service Bills/Cafeteria Report, the Outstanding Investment Report, the Cash Flow Summary, the Comparison of Taxes Collected, the Real Estate Tax Escrow Report, the Trust Fund Report, the Reconciliation of Cash Accounts, the Budgetary/Deficit Status Report and the Treasurer's Report for the month ending August 31. See enclosures #8 through #19.

**Public Comments on the Agenda:** None.

**Staff Report:** Dr. Cotter stated that on Thursday evening Mrs. Berk and Dr. Liz McKeaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment will present a report on the District's summer literacy, math and special education programs.

**Old Business:** Mr. Johnson noted that the Board will take action on Thursday on Board Policy #703 Memorials. He stated that the policy is before the Board on a second-read basis. See enclosure #20.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Superintendent's Report:** Dr. Cotter stated that his report includes the Personnel Report and Substitute List, the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List and the Enrollment Report. See enclosures #21 through #23. He stated that the Personnel Report and Substitute List contains 10 actions including a rescinded appointment, two leaves of absence, four replacements, a temporary need and a voluntary move to a

part-time position. He added that there were two substitutes listed. Dr. Cotter stated that the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List included eight appointments and three changes. He added that the enrollment report shows class sizes of 19-23 in grades K-3, 16-24 in grades 4-5, 18-22 at the middle school and class sizes vary by course at the high school. Dr. Cotter noted that all class sizes fell within acceptable guidelines.

**New Business:** Mr. Johnson stated that Mr. Boegly is requesting Board approval of an agreement with the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit (MCIU) involving Internet and Internet 2 Services. See enclosure #24. Mr. Boegly confirmed for Mr. Johnson that this is a renewal agreement. He added that the service connects the Internet to all District schools.

Mr. Johnson reported that in accordance with the Colonial Administrators and Supervisors Education Association three conferences are submitted for Board review. They include the MCIU Psychologist Series in Norristown, The Temple University School Psychologist Conference in Philadelphia and the Lehigh University Special Education law Conference in Bethlehem.

Mr. Tabachnick reported that the Board is asked to approve the attendance of two Plymouth Whitmarsh High School World Language teachers at the Pennsylvania State Modern Language Association Conference in Erie on October 15 and 16. See enclosure #25

Mr. Zimmer stated that the Board will take action on Thursday on two student field trip requests. The first is for the Marching Colonials to attend a competition in the Washington, D.C. area from November 5-7. See enclosure #26. The second request is for fifth graders to travel to the Hagley Museum in Wilmington, Delaware from September 28 through October 1. See enclosure #27.

Mr. Tabachnick noted a correction to the agenda regarding the PWHS conference request. He stated that the month should be changed from September to October.

**Solicitor's Report:** None.

**Committee Reports:** Intermediate Unit: Mr. Zimmer reported that the IU Board met at the end of August and approved a new contract, or commission, for the Executive Director, Dr. Shively.

Community Relations and Student Life: Mr. Zimmer reported on the meeting of Sept. 9. He noted that the committee welcomed two new student representatives, heard that more than 100 students were signed up for television production classes, reviewed a proposal for a Post Prom fundraiser, was provided a report on a Whole Foods Market salad bar campaign, and was in favor of the administration's proposed public relations campaign to highlight the Board's responsiveness to community concerns.

**Public Comment:** None.

Mr. Johnson stated that noon on Wednesday, September 15 was the deadline for interested persons to submit an application for the vacant Board seat.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman  
Board Secretary