

## **Community Relations and Student Life Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors, February 6, 2012**

The Community Relations and Student Life (CRSL) Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Monday, February 6, 2012 in the Superintendent's Conference Room. The meeting was called to order at 5:48 p.m. Present were committee chair Beth Suchsland; committee members Bernie Brady, Leslie Finegold and Christina Frangiosa; Board President Alan Tabachnick; Board members Mel Brodsky and Kathleen Oxberry; Superintendent Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer; Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) Activities Coordinator Charles Forster; Assistant Public Relations Coordinator Kim Newell; Community Relations Coordinator/School Board Secretary David M. Sherman; Board Student Representative Tom Elvin and Linda Doll.

There was no public comment on the agenda.

The committee reviewed proposals for summer band instrumental lessons, a new summer program for music competition and a new summer string camp.

The committee reviewed a number of student trip requests, including separate requests for Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Region Band and Chorus Festivals, the PIAA Indoor Track Championships, DECA, FBLA and TSA state conferences, Indoor Drumline competitions, a Colonial Middle School (CMS) trip to the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, N.J., the CMS Oceanography Club trip to Wallops Island, Va., a Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) AP Literature trip to New York City and a PWHS Boys' Basketball trip to a tournament in Atlantic City, N.J. Given the timing of the basketball trip, the Board gave its approval.

Mr. Sherman shared results of a parent communication survey. He noted there were 310 responses for a response rate of about 10 percent. Feedback was mostly positive.

The committee discussed Friday Folders and inquired about the use of online parent permission forms for field trips. There was considerable discussion about duplication of paperwork. Dr. Gorodetzer stated that the issue will be discussed with principals and the administration will report back to the committee in a subsequent meeting.

The committee reviewed changes to board Policy #004 Board Committees/Functions. The policy will be on the February Board agenda for review on a first-read basis.

Ms. Newell provided an update on the *Reading Adventures* promotion and noted that she received 25 entries from the Word of the Week contest. She also shared some positive feedback from viewers. Ms. Newell added that some CITV programming is being aired using new digital VCR decks.

The committee was provided an updated schedule for Board visits to buildings. Members commented that the first visit to Colonial Elementary School went well.

Members were reminded of the Advertising Sub-Committee meeting on Feb. 15.

Mr. Sherman stated that he is still trying to reschedule the Legislative Forum but is having a difficult time coordinating a date with the District's four legislators.

Members were reminded of the EcoFest on March 1, the senior citizen luncheon and matinee on March 17 and informed of a Private School Orientation planned for March 5.

Mr. Sherman reported that 700 letters were mailed to District residents who the 2010 U.S. Census showed had children between the ages of four and six. The letter encourages parents to register their child or children for kindergarten. He also noted nearly 500 flyers and registration forms are being sent to area preschools and daycare centers.

The committee was informed that the theme for the District's 2012-2013 Activities Calendar is music and the arts.

Committee members were advised that PWHS television production students will show a video at the March Board meeting.

Mrs. Suchsland announced that the next committee meeting will be held on March 5 at 5:30 p.m.

A question arose if the unbeaten CMS Field Hockey team would be invited to a meeting to be recognized by the Board. Dr. Gorodetzer stated that the team will be invited to the March meeting and coaches will be reminded to forward information on students to be recognized to the District Office.

Mrs. Doll inquired if Board funding of the Post Prom will continue. Dr. Gorodetzer explained that all funding is being reviewed but no decisions have been made at this point.

Mr. Brodsky stated that he would like to see student performances at Board meetings.

Mr. Elvins noted that he was asked to clear up a rumor that Advanced Placement classes at PWHS were being cut from a full year to a half year. He was informed that there were no current plans to change course offerings.

Mr. Forster noted that PWHS graduate Da'Rel Scott was a member of the New York Giants Super Bowl winning team.

There being no further business or public comment, Mrs. Suchsland adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Sherman  
Community Relations Coordinator  
School Board Secretary