

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, FEBRUARY 9, 2012

President Tabachnick convened the general session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 7:02 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on February 9, 2012.

Board Members Present: Bernie Brady, Mel Brodsky, Leslie Finegold, Christina Frangiosa, Julie Knudsen, Susan Moore, Kathleen Oxberry, Beth Suchsland and Alan Tabachnick.

Board Members Absent: None.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Jeffrey T. Sultanik, Solicitor; Andrew Boegly, Chief Information Officer; Dr. Elizabeth McKeaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Bob Salanik, Financial Consultant; Terry Yemm, Director of Operations; John Quinn, Director of CITV; David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary; Michael Ciesielka and Jessica Knudsen, Board Student Representatives; Gary Johnson; students receiving awards and their families.

Mr. Tabachnick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition/Awards: Dr. Gorodetzer introduced Mr. Sherman who presented the students whose artwork and poetry was selected for publication in the District's annual holiday card. Receiving a framed copy of the card along with their original work were cover artist Ali Friedberg, inside artist Justin Ruggiero and poet Alexa Augustine.

Mr. Tabachnick announced that the Board met in executive session on January 19, January 25 and February 9 to discuss legal and personnel issues.

Minutes: Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to act on the minutes of the General Session of January 19; the Human Resources Committee and the Finance Committee of February 1; the Facilities Management and Transportation Committee of February 3; and the Curriculum Committee and the Community Relations and Student Life Committee of February 6. See enclosures #1 through #4, #46 and #47.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Financial Reports: Mr. Tabachnick sought Board action on the financial reports on the list for approval. They include the Budget Transfers, 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 January 31. See enclosures #5 through #17.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mr. Brodsky seconded a motion to approve the financial reports. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Staff Report: Dr. Gorodetzer introduced Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) Principal Heather Nuneviller who, along with Assistant Principals Joe Carracappa and Dan Balek and Associate Principal Jason Bacani, shared a Prezi Internet video presentation featuring the many ways in which the schools athletic teams, student groups and clubs give back to the community.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence: Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to consider two donations in one motion. The first

is a \$2,500 gift in accordance with the Deed of Trust of Joshua Morris. See enclosure #18. The second is a \$2,000 anonymous gift to Conshohocken Elementary School to support the school's instructional program. See enclosure #19.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the donations. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Gorodetzer reviewed her report that includes the Personnel Report and Substitute List and the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List. See enclosures #20 and #21. She informed Board members they also have a blue page in front of them. Dr. Gorodetzer reported that the Personnel Report and the blue page include 18 transactions, including three retirements, two resignations, five leaves of absence, one return from leave and seven changes of assignment. She noted there are a number of additions to the substitute list. Dr. Gorodetzer stated that the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List includes appointments for winter and spring positions.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mr. Brady seconded a motion to approve the Superintendent's Report. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Board Student Representatives Report: Ms. Knudsen reported on Best Buddies Bingo Night and the second semester open house at PWHS. Mr. Ciesielka reported on winter sports, rehearsals for the spring musical and the Science Olympiad team.

New Business: Mrs. Suchsland asked Board members to act on revisions to Policy #004, Board Committee Functions, on a first-read basis. See enclosure #22. She noted that the revisions reflect the consolidation of committees and several committee name changes.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mr. Brady seconded a motion to approve the policy revisions on a first-read basis. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Mr. Brodsky asked the Board to consider a series of summer programs in one motion. First are the primary and intermediate grade summer reading programs. See enclosure #23. Second are a series of fee-based instrumental music programs. See enclosure #23. The final program is the Girls in Technology Summer Academy. See enclosure #25. Mr. Brodsky noted that all of the programs are self sustaining and there is no cost to the District.

Mr. Brodsky moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve the summer programs. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Mr. Tabachnick sought Board action on a placement agreement with the Academy in Manayunk for the 2012-2013 school year in the amount of \$30,490 with an additional \$4,800 for Speech and Language Therapy. See enclosure #26

Mrs. Moore moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the placement agreement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Mrs. Moore directed the Board to act on an employee dental agreement with United Concordia effective July 1. See enclosure #27. Mr. Salanik reported that the cost of the program reflects an increase of \$700 for the year.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mr. Brady seconded a motion to approve the agreement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Mr. Brodsky asked the Board to consider two professional conference requests in one motion. The first is for PWHS Art Teacher Candance Maggioncalda to attend the National Art Education Association Convention in New York City from March 1-4. See enclosure #28. The second is for Whitmarsh Elementary School Special Education Teacher Laura Oxman to attend the AEP Connections Conference in Voorhees, N.J. from February 9-10. See enclosure #29.

Mr. Brodsky moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve the conference requests. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Mrs. Suchsland asked the Board to consider 10 student field trips in one motion. They include a request for PWHS students to attend the Pennsylvania DECA State Career Development Conference in Hershey from February 22-24 (see enclosure #30), a PWHS student to attend the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) Region VI Band Festival at Octorara High School from February 16-19 (see enclosure #31), the PWHS Indoor Drumline to participate in competitions in Pennsauken, N.J. on February 25 and New Castle, Del., on March 31 (see enclosure #32), PWHS students to attend the Future Business Leaders of America State Leadership Conference in Hershey from April 16-18 (see enclosure #33), PWHS Advanced Placement Literature students to travel to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City on May 16 (see enclosure #34), PWHS students to attend the PIAA Indoor Track and Field Championships on February 24 (see enclosure #48), two PWHS students to attend the PMEA Region IV Chorus at Upper Perkiomen High School from March 8-10 (see enclosure #49), Colonial Middle School (CMS) students to attend the Technology Student Association State Competition in Champion, Pa., from April 18-21 (see enclosure #35), CMS students to travel to the Grounds for Sculpture in Hamilton, N.J., on April 26 (see enclosure #36) and CMS students to visit the Marine Science Consortium on Wallops Island, Va., from May 2-5 (see enclosure #37).

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve all student trip requests. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Sultanik asked the Board to consider a resolution to terminate a professional employee (see enclosure #38) and charges asking for the termination of the employee. He noted that both documents were reviewed in executive session.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Finegold seconded a motion to approve the resolution and charges. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Committee Reports: Intermediate Unit: Mrs. Knudsen reported that she was one of nine new members of the IU Board to attend the January meeting. She noted that the IU's Second Annual Autism Resource Fair is on February 16 at North Penn High School. Mrs. Knudsen also stated that the Board was updated on legislation that seeks greater reporting requirements regarding sex offenders. She added that The Anderson School was featured in the Division Spotlight.

CMTHS: Mr. Brady reported that the home schools were beginning to share services related to the tech school. He noted that Colonial employees will be cutting the turf at the school this year.

Human Resources: Mrs. Moore stated that the committee met on February 1. She was pleased to announce changes in the operating hours of the PWHS library, noting that the library will be open until 5:00 p.m. each regular school day. She added that there is no additional cost to the District. Mrs. Moore stated that the extended hours were requested by students at the Board's student town meeting in December.

Finance: Mrs. Oxberry noted that the committee reviewed the Governor's proposed budget numbers and did not anticipate taking any major hits. She added that the committee received an update on the District's budget development and consented to a new banking agreement. She reminded the community that the next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for March 7 and encourage the public to take part in the budget process.

Curriculum: Mr. Brodsky stated that the committee met on February 6 and heard a presentation on the student-run writing center at PWHS. He stated that the center is one of the first of its kind in the country and that it has served more than 500 students. He noted that the students may be invited to present at the Shippensburg University Research Conference later this year. Mr. Brodsky encouraged community members to view the CITV video about the writing center on the District website.

Facilities Management and Transportation: Mr. Brady reported that the Whitemarsh Township Police Department will be conducting routine traffic checks on Colonial Drive to enforce the Teen Driver Seat Belt law. He noted warnings may be given but no citations will be issued. Mr. Brady also stated that the District has agreed to have a conversation with Germantown Academy about an evacuation agreement. Responding to a question from Mr. Tabachnick, Mr. Yemm reported that Aqua Pennsylvania's construction of the water main on Germantown Pike is ahead of schedule because of the mild winter. Mr. Yemm stated that the project may be completed before April.

Community Relations and Student Life: Mrs. Suchsland stated that the District is now in the process of registering kindergarten students for the 2012-2013 school year. She also promoted ticket sales for the PWHS and CMS spring musicals and reminded community members that the District will host Ecofest on March 1.

Legislative: No Report.

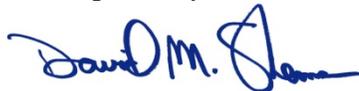
Municipal Liaisons: Mrs. Finegold noted that the Whitemarsh Township Parks and Recreation Department did not address any issues impacting the District at its last meeting.

Public Comment: None.

Mr. Brodsky stated that he wanted to commend PWHS teacher Kim Geiger's work with the student writing center.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary