

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, JUNE 21, 2012

President Tabachnick convened the general session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 7:04 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on June 21, 2012.

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

Board Members Absent: Beth Suchsland.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Jeffrey T. Sultanik, Solicitor; Andrew Boegly, Chief Information Officer; Richard Hartz, Director of Human Resources; 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; Dave Santorum; Anthony Fioriglio; Beth Miller; Elizabeth Horry and Scott Horry.

Mr. Tabachnick led the Pledge of Allegiance and stated that the Board had met in executive session on May 23, June 13 and June 21.

Minutes: Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to take action on the minutes of the General Session of May 17; the Finance Committee of May 29; the Facilities Management and Transportation Committee of June 1; the Curriculum Committee and the Community Relations and Student Life Committee of June 4 and the Human Resources Committee of June 6. See enclosures #1 through #6.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mr. Brady seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Financial Reports: Mr. Tabachnick directed the Board to consider the financial reports on the list for approval. They include the Budget Transfers, 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 May 31. See enclosures #7 through #17.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve the financial reports. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Staff Report: Dr. McKeaney and Mr. Boegly presented an overview of three technology planning committees formed to evaluate and assess technology in the District. The committees reviewed technology issues and infrastructure, assessed and prioritized needs, crafted a vision statement, and arranged for a third-party audit.

Old Business: Mrs. Oxberry sought Board action on the 2012-2013 Final Budget. See enclosure #18. She noted that budget totals \$95,325,000, which is an increase of \$1,386,240 or 1.48 percent from the 2011-2012 spending plan and includes a 3.4 percent tax increase. Mrs. Oxberry stated that the increase equates to an additional \$62.80 per year for each \$100,000 of taxable assessed value or an increase of \$92.37 on the District's median taxable assessed value of \$147,000. She also reported that the final budget uses \$500,000 of fund balance and \$500,000 of budgetary reserve. Mr. Salanik explained that the reserve was budgeted for emergency use and not used. He also stated that the final budget includes over \$4.5 million in reductions from the preliminary budget.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to adopt the 2012-2013 Final Budget in the

amount of \$95,325,000. On a roll call voted, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0. Mr. Tabachnick reported that Mrs. Suchsland could not be in attendance at the meeting but that she was in favor of the budget.

Mrs. Oxberry also moved and Mr. Brady seconded a motion to establish the 2012-2013 Real Estate Mil Rate of 19.04, an Act 511 Earned Income Tax Rate of one percent, a Real Estate Transfer Tax rate of one percent, an Amusement Tax Rate of 10 percent, a Real Estate Tax Certification Fee of \$25, and a July 1, 2012 billing date for real estate taxes. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mrs. Oxberry asked Board members to take action on a resolution to set the maximum property tax reduction for approved homestead properties at \$255.48 and the maximum property tax reduction for its farmstead properties at \$255.48. See enclosure #19.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the homestead/farmstead resolution. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

At Mr. Tabachnick's request, Mr. Salanik reported that the state legislature is considering a budget with education spending slightly higher than Governor Corbett's proposal. He noted that the Accountability Block Grant has been reinstated, which could mean an additional \$59,000 for the District.

Correspondence: None.

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 stated that actions listed on the Personnel Report include five retirements, seven resignations, six leaves of absence, 20 revised assignments, two appointments, 22 abolished positions, summer program appointments and changes in status of long term substitutes to per diem substitutes. Dr. Gorodetzer stressed that the 22 abolished positions were the result of a review of open positions and there were no staff furloughs. She reported that the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List included one appointment.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mrs. Finegold seconded a motion to approve the Superintendent's Report. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Board Student Representatives Report: None. Mr. Tabachnick took the occasion to congratulate the Plymouth Whitemarsh High School Class of 2012 and the high school and District administration for staging a wonderful graduation ceremony.

New Business: Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to consider a request to approve a Naviance Succeed Contract at a cost of \$6,725 for the 2012-2013 school year. Mr. Boegly explained that Naviance is a web-based product used to assist in the college admission process. He noted it will replace the PrepHQ program the high school had previously used.

Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the contract. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Tabachnick asked Board members to act on three legal contracts in one motion. The first is a retainer agreement for the 2012-2013 school year for solicitor services with Fox Rothschild, LLP at a rate of \$24,823. See enclosure #22. The second is the HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the District and Fox Rothschild, LLP for the handling of cases on behalf of the District. See enclosure #23. The third is a renewal agreement for legal services consultation between the District and Sweet, Stevens, Katz and Williams, LLP. See enclosure #24. Mr. Tabachnick thanked Mr. Sultanik for freezing his firm's retainer fee for the coming year.

Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve the legal contracts. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Salanik recommended that the Board approve a real estate tax assessment appeal settlement with AEW SCT Lafayette LP for the property located at 555 Andorra Glen Court in Whitemarsh Township for assessment amounts of \$14,449,500 for 2008-2009, \$13,716,000 for the year 2009-2010, \$13,500,000 for the year 2010-2011, and \$12,342,000 for 2011-2012 and each year hereafter. Mr. Salanik noted that the District will receive \$200,000 in back taxes and an additional \$30,000 per year moving forward. He stated that he felt this was a fair settlement.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mr. Brodsky seconded a motion to approve the settlement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mrs. Moore sought Board action on the approval of a two-year renewal agreement for dental insurance with Delta Dental effective July 1, 2012. See enclosure number 25.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mr. Brady seconded a motion to renew the agreement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mrs. Moore asked Board members to consider a renewal agreement with AESOP/Frontline Technologies for the coming school year. See enclosure #26. She noted that the product was an automated substitute caller and attendance tracking system for teachers and staff.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mr. Brady seconded a motion to approve the renewal agreement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to act on a series of special education contracts in one motion. They include agreements for general physicals, dental examinations, sports physicals and physician services for home football games (see enclosure #27); a contract with C&K Therapy Associates, LLC to provide occupational/physical therapy services at a rate of \$73 per hour (see enclosure #28); an education services contract with The Academy for \$123 per student per day (see enclosure #29); an education services contract with Comprehensive Learning Center for three students at a cost of \$83,075 each (see enclosure #30); a tuition agreement with The Vanguard School for four students at a cost of \$45,640 each (see enclosure #31); a tuition agreement with Hill Top Preparatory for one student at a cost of \$38,050 (see enclosure #32); a tuition agreement with Quaker School at Horsham for one student at \$31,150 (see enclosure #33); an agreement with Lakeside Educational Network for 10 slots at a cost of \$27,495 each for seven slots, three free slots, and an additional \$72,000 for annual counseling services (see enclosure #34); a tuition agreement with TALK, Inc. for one student at a cost of \$63,860 (see enclosure #35), and a tuition agreement with Milagre Kids for one student at a cost of \$63,326 (see enclosure #36). Dr. Gorodetzer explained that all of the contracts and agreements are renewals. She noted that they are for students with serious disabilities that the District cannot service in house.

Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve all of the contracts and agreements as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Brady asked the Board to establish 2012-2013 Food Service pricing at the same level as the current year. See enclosure #37. Mr. Yemm confirmed for Mrs. Moore that 2012-2013 will be the first year that the Food Services Department will be self-sustaining.

Mr. Brady moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to establish the same Food Service pricing schedule as the current year. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Brady asked the Board to consider a recommended bid for student accident insurance from ACA American Insurance (see enclosure #38) and a recommended three-year trash disposal and recycling services bid from Waste Management in the amount of \$146,606.03 (see enclosure #39). Mr. Yemm noted that the Waste Management bid was \$10,000 per year less than originally budgeted.

Mr. Brady moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the recommended bids. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Brady requested that the Board take action to approve a list of obsolete equipment to discard as part of the summer technology removal plan. See enclosure #40. Mr. Boegly explained that the equipment was no longer useful or being used. He added that the equipment was being both sold and donated.

Mr. Brady moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the obsolete equipment list. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Sultanik asked the Board to approve Student Stipulation #11-137.

Mrs. Brodsky moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve the stipulation. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Committee Reports: Intermediate Unit: No Report.

CMTHS: No Report.

Human Resources: Mrs. Moore reported that the 2012-2013 enrollment report was reviewed at the June 6 committee meeting. She noted that all class sizes are within contracted guidelines.

Finance: Mrs. Oxberry stated that the committee focused on finalizing the 2012-2013 budget at its May 29 meeting.

Curriculum: Mr. Brodsky reported on the June 4 meeting, which focused on student achievement. He stated that Dr. McKeane provided a detailed analysis tracking students each year for a six-year period.

Facilities Management and Transportation: No Report.

Community Relations and Student Life: No Report.

Legislative: Mrs. Frangiosa reported on a hour-long meeting of the Montgomery County School Director's Legislative Committee where about 15 bills were discussed. She highlighted House Bill 1610, now enacted as Act 59, which makes Pennsylvania the first state to set standards for preventing sudden cardiac arrest and death in student athletes. She noted that the bill is considered to be yet another unfunded mandate in that it apparently requires school districts to meet annual compliance obligations. Mrs. Frangiosa also touched on Senate Bill 449 relating to a Child Abuse Recognition and Reporting program that passed through the House. This is another bill with training and compliance obligations imposed on school districts, for which the state is not providing any separate funding. Finally, Mrs. Frangiosa noted that there are several cyber charter school reform program bills, including ones addressing reforms in the way Pennsylvania State Employees' Retirement System fund reimbursements are paid to cyber charter schools. Potential savings, if these bills go through as currently drafted, could save the state some \$365 million in the first year, according to Auditor General Jack Wagner.

Municipal Liaisons: No Report.

Public Comment: None.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary