

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, JULY 21, 2011

President Johnson convened the general session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on July 21, 2011.

Board Members Present: Bernie Brady, Mel Brodsky, Gary Johnson, Kelly Jowett, Jodi Miscannon, Kathleen Oxberry and Beth Suchsland.

Board Members Absent: Susan Moore and Alan Tabachnick.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Mark Fitzgerald, Solicitor; 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; Dr. Elizabeth McKeaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; John Quinn, Director of CITV; David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary; Lenora Ciccolone; Ken Rovine; Marsha Schuerz; Elisa Redican; Mary Thiess; and Christine Frangiosa.

Mr. Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Johnson welcomed Dr. Gorodetzer to her first official meeting as superintendent, and Dr. McKeaney to her first meeting as a member of the superintendent's cabinet.

Mr. Johnson announced that the Board met in executive session on July 6 and July 21.

Minutes: Mr. Johnson directed the Board to act on the minutes of the Work Session of June 13; the General Session of June 16 and the Special Meeting of the Board and the Facilities Management and Transportation Committee of July 6. See enclosures #1 through #4.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Jowett seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Financial Reports: Mr. Johnson 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 June 30. See enclosures #5 through #17.

Mr. Brodsky moved and Mrs. Suchsland seconded a motion to approve the financial reports. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence: Mr. Johnson asked the Board to consider a request from Colonial Elementary School (CES) Principal Terese Boegly to accept a \$500 award from Target and First Book to be used to purchase books for the CES library. See enclosure #18.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mr. Brady seconded a motion to accept the award. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mr. Johnson sought Board action on a donation of \$1,850 from the Outreachers of Whitemarsh to Conshohocken Elementary School. See enclosure #19.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Jowett seconded a motion to accept the donation. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mr. Johnson asked the Board to act on a request from Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) Activities Director Charles Forster to accept a donation of \$500 from the Eastern Pennsylvania Lacrosse Association. See enclosure #20.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Jowett seconded a motion to accept the donation. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Gorodetzer stated that her report includes the Personnel Report and Substitute List. See enclosure #21. She noted that the Personnel Report and Substitute List contains nine actions, including one end of assignment, five leaves of absence, one change of assignment and two appointments. Dr. Gorodetzer also recognized Mr. Joe Turchi with a moment of silence. Mr. Turchi was employed as a bus driver for the district and recently passed away while in service.

Mrs. Jowett moved and Mrs. Suchsland seconded a motion to approve the Superintendent's Report. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

New Business: Mrs. Suchsland explained that one of the ways in which the Board is attempting to secure additional revenue is through advertising. She asked the Board to consider an agreement with School Sports Media (SSM) to enable SSM to serve as a non-exclusive independent sales representative for the District with respect to national brand advertising and sponsorship opportunities. See enclosure #22. She stressed that this was a non-exclusive agreement and that the advertising would be displayed at sporting events.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Jowett seconded a motion to approve the non-exclusive agreement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mr. Johnson asked the Board to consider three insurance provider agreements in one motion. He noted all agreements are subject to solicitor review. See enclosure #23. Mr. Johnson noted that the first agreement is for life insurance with Symetra Life Insurance Company. The second agreement is with National Union Fire Insurance Company/Chartis for accidental death and dismemberment insurance. The third agreement is with Madison National Life Insurance Company for disability insurance.

Mrs. Jowett moved and Mr. Brodsky seconded a motion to approve the insurance provider agreements. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mr. Johnson sought Board action on a Montgomery County Intermediate Unit consortium fuel purchasing agreement. See enclosure #24. At Mr. Johnson's request, Mr. Bickleman explained that the county schools used their combined purchasing power to acquire the best price on fuel for the coming year. He added that costs to Colonial are well within the budgeted amounts for the year.

Mrs. Jowett moved and Mrs. Miscannon seconded a motion to approve the agreement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mr. Johnson asked the Board to consider four special education placement agreements, in lieu of a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE), in one motion. He noted that the agreements were reviewed in executive session. The first agreement is with The Hilltop School for tuition of \$36,850 for one student for the coming school year. The second is with TALK, Inc. – Magnolia School for tuition for one student at not more than five percent more than the amount paid during the 2010-2011 school year. The third is with Preparing Adolescents for Adult Life for tuition for one student at not more than five percent more than the amount paid during the 2010-2011 school year. The final agreement is with Wyncote Academy for tuition of \$26,600 for one student for the 2011-2012 school year.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Jowett seconded a motion to approve the placement agreements in lieu of FAPE. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Solicitor's Report: None.

Committee Reports: Intermediate Unit: No report.

CMTHS: No report.

Human Resources: No report.

Finance: No Report.

Curriculum: Dr. McKeane announced that all Colonial School District schools met all 95 of their Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets for the 2010-2011 school year. She noted that AYP targets were in the areas of attendance, graduation rate, and student achievement.

Facilities Management and Transportation: Mr. Brady moved and Mrs. Suchsland seconded a motion to allow the administration to explore donation opportunities for 189 computers of more than 10 years of age. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Community Relations and Student Life: Mrs. Suchsland alerted families to look for the Superintendent's summer mailing in the mail during August. She stated that the packet includes important items to help families prepare for the upcoming school year.

Safety and Wellness: Mrs. Jowett stated that the committee did not meet in July. She said she expects the committee to meet prior to the school year to review internal security audits and nutritional requirements.

Legislative: No Report.

Municipal Liaisons: No Report.

Public Comment: None.

Mr. Johnson announced that the Board will not hold a work session in August.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary