

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, AUGUST 18, 2011

President Johnson convened the general session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 7:01 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on August 18, 2011.

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

Board Members Absent: Alan Tabachnick.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Jeffrey T. Sultanik, Solicitor; 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 McKeane, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; John Quinn, Director of CITV; David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary; Lenora Ciccolone; Kevin Smith; Ken Rovine and Suzie Held.

Mr. Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance and announced that the Board met in executive session on August 3 and August 18.

Minutes: Mr. Johnson asked the Board to act on the minutes of the Work Session of June 13; the General Session of July 21, the Community Relations and Student Life Committee and the Finance Committee of August 1 and the Special Meeting of the Board of August 3. See enclosures #1 through #4.

Mrs. Suchsland 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, 8-0.

Financial Reports: Mr. Johnson asked the Board to consider the financial reports on the list for approval. 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 July 31. See enclosures #5 through #16.

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, 8-0.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence: None.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Gorodetzer reviewed her report that includes the Personnel Report and Substitute List, the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List, a list of Adult Evening School Fall teacher appointments and the Enrollment Report. See enclosures #17 through #20. She noted that the Personnel Report and Substitute List contains six resignations, one leave of absence, 14 returns from leave, 11 appointments, two revised assignments, two transfers and one position elimination. She noted that Board members had a blue page before them that included the reorganization of five administrators. Dr. Gorodetzer reported that the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List included fall appointments. She added that the Enrollment Report was reviewed in executive session and includes average class sizes of 17-21 students in the K-3 buildings and 23 students in Colonial Elementary School. She noted that class sizes in Colonial Middle School and Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) are well within contractual limits.

Mr. Johnson asked the Board to act on the Personnel Report and Substitute List separately. He stated that he would be abstaining since his daughter is on the list.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to approve the Personnel Report and Substitute List. On a roll call vote, all but Mr. Johnson voted in favor. Mr. Johnson abstained. The motion was carried, 7-0-1.

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

New Business: Mr. Johnson asked the Board to consider two transportation contracts in one motion. The first is with St. Joseph's Preparatory School at a rate of \$7.46 per student per day. See enclosure #21. The second is with a parent at \$.55 per mile or the established IRS rate for each day the pupil is transported. See enclosure #22. Mrs. Suchsland received confirmation that the current IRS rate is \$.55 per mile. Mr. Yemm also confirmed that the contract represents a savings to the District.

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

Mr. Johnson sought Board action on a Tri-County Food Service Bid. See enclosure #23. He noted that recommended vendors are the result of a collective bidding process for milk, dairy, juices, ice cream and paper related products.

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

Mr. Johnson directed the Board to act on a special education contract with Austill's Rehabilitation Service, Inc., for physical therapy and occupations therapy services at a rate of \$59.50 per hour, or for \$48 per hour if services are rendered by an assistant. See enclosure #24.

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

Mr. Johnson asked the board to consider a special education placement agreement as reviewed in executive session.

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

Mrs. Suchsland sought Board approval for the PWHS marching Colonials to perform at a competition in Pittsburgh, Pa., from October 21-23. See enclosure #25.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Jowett seconded a motion to approve the trip request. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Solicitor's Report: None.

Committee Reports: Intermediate Unit: Mr. Brodsky stated that the Board last met in July and will meet again next week.

CMTHS: No report.

Human Resources: No report.

Finance: Mrs. Oxberry stated that the committee met on August 1. She touched on preliminary items related to the 2012-2013 budget and noted that the Act 1 index is 1.1 percent. She added that with allowable exceptions the Board may raise taxes as high as 2.4 percent without having to go to referendum.

Curriculum: Dr. McKeane stated that the committee did not meet in August. She noted that induction for new teachers is scheduled for August 23-25 and that professional development for all teachers is

scheduled for August 30 through September 1.

Facilities Management and Transportation: No Report.

Community Relations and Student Life: Mrs. Suchsland noted that the committee met on August 1. She added that the school calendar should be in the mail within the next week and the school supplies lists are online.

Safety and Wellness: Mrs. Jowett stated that the committee did not meet in August. She expects the committee to meet on September 21.

Legislative: No Report.

Municipal Liaisons: No Report.

Public Comment: None.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary