

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, NOVEMBER 17, 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 November 17, 2011.

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

Board Members Absent: Kathleen Oxberry.

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 McKeaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Bob Salanik, Financial Consultant; John Quinn, Director of CITV; David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary; Michael Ciesielka, Board Student Representative; George Wolfinger; Denise Marks; Hope Garfinkle; Nina Pratowski; Robert Fahler; Katy Giovanisci; Maico Azcona; Mary Thiess; Shannon Jones; Shana Genkin; Kathy Ciesielka; Liz Malantonio; Christina Frangiosa; Matt Minetola; Madi Levin; Monica McLenigan; Nicole Bilodeau; Lynn Bilodeau; Anna Waltz; Tom Yunker; Monica Casey; Joy Miernicki; Rachel Miller; Julie Horwitz and Michelle Stingle.

Mr. Johnson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition/Awards: Dr. Gorodetzer introduced Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) Girls' Tennis Coach Al Collins who presented Cristina Kaiser, state runner-up, for Board recognition. Dr. Gorodetzer then welcomed PWHS Girls' Soccer Coach Steve Slack who introduced his league-championship team. Dr. Gorodetzer then called Dan Shoup to the podium. He presented his conference-champion 8th grade football team to the Board. Dr. Gorodetzer then invited Steve Price to present his undefeated 7th grade girls' volleyball team to Board members. For a complete list of students honored, see Attachment A.

Dr. Gorodetzer then took the time to thank Mr. Johnson for his leadership and service to the District, noting that he is retiring after 16 years on the Board, including four and a half years as vice president and the past three years as president. Other speakers included PWHS Associate Principal Jason Bacani on behalf of the Colonial Administrators and Supervisor's Education Association, Shana Genkin on behalf of the Colonial Education Association, Mary Thiess on behalf of the Colonial Support Staff and Mrs. Moore on behalf of the Board. Mr. Johnson thanked his wife, family, parents, the District staff and the entire Colonial Community. He stated that it was his privilege and honor to serve the students and the community. He also thanked the Board for their professionalism and support.

Mr. Johnson announced that the Board met in executive session on October 20, October 26 and November 14 to discuss legal and personnel issues.

Minutes: Mr. Johnson asked the Board to act on the minutes of the Work Session of October 17; the General Session of October 20; the Human Resources Committee, the Special Meeting and the Finance Committee of November 2; the Curriculum Committee of November 3 and the Facilities Management and Transportation Committee of November 4. See enclosures #1 through #7.

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. Johnson asked the Board to consider 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 October 31. See enclosures #8 through #20.

Mrs. Suchsland 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, 8-0.

Mr. Johnson invited Mrs. Monica Casey to the podium. Mrs. Casey stated that she has had communication with the Facilities Management and Transportation Committee in discussing bus runs for her son and hopes to continue discussing the evening run at the next committee meeting.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Staff Report: Conshohocken Elementary School Principal Denise Marks, along with teachers Hope Garfinkle and Nina Pratowski presented a PowerPoint on MyON, a digital online library and reading aid for students. They explained the service is tailored to a student's reading level and is differentiated for both students and teachers. There is also a benchmark exam given after every fifth book a student reads. The teachers noted that the product was successfully reviewed with parents at a school technology night this fall.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence: Mr. Johnson sought Board action on a request to accept a \$1,000 donation from "Special Kids Special Care" to help fund the cost of the Best Buddies Ball at PWHs. See enclosure #21.

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

Mr. Johnson directed the Board to act on a request to approve a \$1,500 donation from the Quaker Chemical Foundation to support production of the Science Annual. See enclosure #22. Dr. McKeaney explained for Mr. Johnson that the publication was a compilation of high-end, extra-curricular science projects completed by PWHs students under the guidance of teacher Eric Scheidly.

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

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 #23 and #24. She stated that in addition to the Substitute List, the Personnel Report includes 16 actions. They consist of two resignations, three leaves of absence, one unpaid suspension, seven revised assignments, one return from leave, one appointment and the appointment of Dr. Michael McKenna as principal of Ridge Park Elementary School. Dr. Gorodetzer noted Dr. McKenna had served as acting principal since prior to the start of the school year. She added that the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List includes 30 appointments related to winter and spring sports.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Jowett 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: Mr. Ciesielka reported on parent/teacher conferences, the marching band's trip to Pittsburgh and its fall festival, Homecoming Week activities, picture make-ups, the non-public open house, college counseling night and the Colonial Players fall production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

New Business: Mr. Johnson sought Board action on payments to the PWHs Student Council (\$1,857.50) and the Colonial Middle School (CMS) Student Council (1,377.50) in accordance with the Colonial School District Anti-Vandalism Program. See enclosure #25. Mr. Johnson explained that these

amounts represent one-half of the unspent funds from the 2010-2011 Anti-Vandalism Program. He further asked the Board to consider re-establishing program funding for the 2012-2013 school year in the amounts of \$5,000 at PWS and \$3,000 at CMS, provided evidence of an Anti-Vandalism Program is submitted by each student council to the principal in their respective schools.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mrs. Suchsland seconded a motion to approve the current payments and the funding for the 2012-2013 school year. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Johnson asked the Board to act on a Fund Balance Policy, Policy #620, on a first-read basis. See enclosure #26. At Mr. Johnson's request, Mr. Salanik explained that the Policy is a result of Government Accounting Standards Board pronouncement #54, the purpose of which is to standardize fund balance numbers, fund balance terminology and board actions. He noted that the item regarding fund balance numbers has already been addressed. Mr. Salanik added that the policy establishes procedures for how a board may use its fund balance.

Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Jowett seconded a motion to approve the policy on a first-read basis. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Tabachnick sought Board action on a professional conference request for Curriculum Supervisor Sergio Anaya and four social studies teachers to attend the National Council for Social Studies in Washington, D.C. from December 2-4. See enclosure #27. He noted that the request was reviewed by the Board's Curriculum Committee.

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

Mrs. Suchsland asked the Board to consider authorization for the PWS Ski Club to take its annual trips to Stratton, Vermont from January 20-22, 2012 and Killington, Vermont from February 24-26, 2012. See enclosure #28. She added that there is no cost to the District for the trips.

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

Mr. Tabachnick sought Board approval to purchase textbooks for Advanced Placement Biology. See enclosure #29. At Mr. Tabachnick's request, Dr. McKeane explained that textbooks and resources are needed to meet the new course guidelines established by the College Board.

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

Mr. Johnson asked the Board to act on a parent transportation contract at the established IRS rate of \$0.555 per mile for each day that the parent transports the student. See enclosure #37.

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

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Sultanik asked the Board to act on a resolution, reviewed in executive session, authorizing the receipt of charges to dismiss employee #102069 as a professional employee.

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

Mr. Sultanik asked the Board to approve Disciplinary Stipulation #1014946 as presented.

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

Committee Reports: Intermediate Unit: Mr. Brodsky stated that the IU had a three-hour meeting and voted 9-7 to get appraisals on its current building. Mr. Brodsky stated that he voted against.

CMTHS: No report.

Human Resources: No report.

Finance: No report.

Curriculum: Mr. Tabachnick stated that the committee met on November 3 and viewed a presentation on MyON, proposed upgrades to the PWHS Language Lab, possible expansion of MyChinese360, and the ESL budget. Mr. Tabachnick encouraged the public to attend the Curriculum Committee meetings.

Facilities Management and Transportation: Mr. Brady reported that the committee is now in the design phase for a new electronic sign in the front of PWHS. He also stated that there was a successful launch of mySchoolBucks, an online payment option for student meals.

Community Relations and Student Life: Mrs. Suchsland noted that the District's Annual Report will be in the mail after Thanksgiving.

Safety and Wellness: Mrs. Jowett stated that the committee will meet on December 2. Agenda topics include an addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding with local authorities, the crosswalk at Germantown and Mayflower and hot breakfasts for students.

Legislative: Mrs. Suchsland encouraged the public to attend the December 15 public forum on education with local legislators. She stated the forum will be at 7:00 p.m. in Colonial Elementary School.

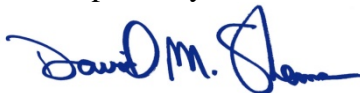
Municipal Liaisons: No Report.

Mr. Johnson noted that this was the last meeting for outgoing Board members Kelly Jowett and Jodi Miscannon. He thanked them both for their service and presented them with gifts. He also congratulated Sue Moore, Mel Brodsky, Leslie Finegold, Christina Frangiosa and Julie Knudsen on their election to the Board.

Public Comment: None.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary

Girls' Tennis

Cristina Kaiser

Girls' Soccer

Carly Abbott
Nicole Abbott
Ani Greenspan
Cristina Terraces
Jenna Kalman
Amanda Cranney
Haley Quinn
Danielle Leace
Kelly McCreesh
Jana Pudles
Jessica Knudsen
Jennifer Lurty
Kerri-Anne Ciesielka
Alison Schoppe
Leigh Brosof
Sarah Asman
Kelsey Plona
Alison Jones
Jessica Paziora

Coaches – Steve Slack & Margie Sawyer

8th Grade Football

Benjamin Billings
Xavier Bowers
Jacob Boyer
John Brody
Brett Brown
Terron Brown
Kareem Celestine
Adam Center
Dillon Famous
David Gianitsos
Mike Gravinese
James Han
Justin Hartshaw
Raymond Hoy
Christian Jones
Joshua Kurman

Emmanuel Jones
Joseph Jowett
Zachary Magill
Steven Malason
Colin McEleney
Jake Panah
William Hank Pratt
Dominic Procaccino
Kaedon Sandercroft

Alice Davis- Student Manager

Head Coach- Dan Shoup Assistant
Coaches- Edward Sturm, Sam Swetkowski

7th Grade Volleyball (Unbeaten, 10-0)

Gabby Artillio
Carlin Ash
Olivia Carbo
Lauren Coscia
Raquel Dunoff
Caraline Fleming
Maddy Haney
Claudia Petka
Gia Piazza
Molly Raimondo
Danielle Rippert
Dari Shore
Nicole Somers
Samantha Ward