

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, JULY 19, 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 July 19, 2012.

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

Board Members Absent: Leslie Finegold.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Mark Fitzgerald, Solicitor; Karen Berk, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education; Andrew Boegly, Director of Technology; Richard Hartz, Director of Human Resources; Trevor Jackson, Business Administrator; Dr. Elizabeth McKeaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Terry Yemm, Director of Operations; John Quinn, Director of CITV; David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary; Mr. Charles Forster, Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) Activities Director; Dave Santoro; Anthony Fioriglio; Mary Thiess and Gary Johnson.

Mr. Tabachnick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Gorodetzer introduced PWHS Boys' Lacrosse Coach Phil Chang. Mr. Chang spoke of his team's success during the 2012-2013 season and introduced three of his four captains. He thanked the School Board and administration for their support.

Mr. Tabachnick announced that the Board met in executive session on July 17 and July 19.

Minutes: Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to take action on the minutes of the General Session of June 21. See enclosure #1.

Mr. Tabachnick 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, 8-0.

Financial Reports: Mr. Tabachnick sought Board action on 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 June 30. See enclosures #2 through #12.

Mr. Tabachnick 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.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Staff Report: Mrs. Berk and Mr. Forster presented an overview of a new state mandate regarding testing for and care of concussions. They explained the process of notifying parents, training coaches, and the schedules and frequency for conducting preliminary baseline tests. Responding to a question from Mr. Brodsky, Mr. Forster explained that there are basic exercises or tests that trainers can administer to ascertain the extent of concussions incurred during game action. He also noted that officials and referees may have the authority to ban a player from returning to game action without a doctor's approval. Dr. Gorodetzer explained that this was another unfunded state mandate.

Old Business: None.

Correspondence: Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to consider a donation of tables and chairs to the District by ITT Technical Institute. See enclosure #30. He sought clarification on what a “Theory Table” was. Mr. Boegly explained that it was the name provided by ITT because the tables are from their “Theory” room. Dr. Gorodetzer added that the District will also explore the possibility of expanding the relationship with ITT to perhaps include the providing of tutors as well as other opportunities.

Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Moore 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. See enclosure #31. She stated that there are 25 actions listed on the Personnel Report, including two resignations, three leaves of absence, one appointment, 16 changes in assignment, one return from leave and two summer program appointments. She noted that the report includes the appointment of Mr. Jason Bacani as principal of PWHS, as well as a number of other building level appointments.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mrs. Frangiosa 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.

Note: Mrs. Suchsland left the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

New Business: Mrs. Oxberry sought Board action on a consortium fuel bid coordinated by the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. See enclosure #13. Mr. Jackson explained that this was an annual bid for heating oil, gas, and diesel fuel. He noted that the bid total is \$100,000 under the budgeted amount.

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

Mr. Tabachnick asked Board members to consider a negotiated special education placement agreement in lieu of a Free and Appropriate Public Education. He stated that the agreement is a renewal agreement with The Crefeld School for one-half tuition for one student not to exceed \$13,525 for the 2012-2013 school year. Mr. Tabachnick noted that for confidentiality reasons, the agreement was reviewed in executive session.

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

Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to act on five special education contract renewals in one motion. He noted that all contracts are for the 2012-2013 school year. The first is with Child Guidance Resource Centers for tuition of \$40,200 for one student. See enclosure #14. The second is with Preparing Adolescents and Adults for Life for tuition of \$90,933.48 for one student and \$79,425.12 for a second student. See enclosure #15. The third is with Lifeworks for tuition of \$172 per day for three students. See enclosure #16. The fourth agreement is with The Vanguard School for tuition of \$45,640 for two newly placed students. See enclosure #17. The final agreement is with Wyncote Academy for tuition of \$26,600 for one student.

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

Mrs. Oxberry sought board approval of recommended assessment appeal documents with BPG Office VI River Park, I, II LP (see enclosure #19) and 7251 Beech Road (see enclosure #20).

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the assessment appeals. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mrs. Moore asked Board members to consider two student trip requests in one motion. The first is for the PWHS Marching Colonials to perform at a regional competition from October 12-15 in Williamsburg, Va. See enclosure #21. The second is for the PWHS Habitat for Humanity Club to participate in a Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge in New Castle, Del., from August 6-11. See enclosure #22.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the student trips. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mr. Brady sought Board action on a paving bid for the replacement of the bus lane and 420 square feet of the parking area at PWHS, as well as the exit drive at Plymouth Elementary School. See enclosure #33.

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

Mr. Tabachnick thanked the administration and the PWHS Class of 2012 for the new electronic sign in front of the high school.

Solicitor's Report: None.

Committee Reports: Intermediate Unit: No Report.

CMTHS: No Report.

Human Resources: No Report.

Finance: Mrs. Oxberry welcomed Mr. Jackson to his first official School Board meeting as a member of the District administration.

Curriculum: No Report.

Facilities Management and Transportation: No Report.

Community Relations and Student Life: No Report.

Legislative: No Report.

Municipal Liaisons: No Report.

Public Comment: None.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary