

**COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES, DECEMBER 4, 2012**

President Tabachnick convened the special meeting of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 7:11 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on December 4, 2012.

Board Members Present: Bernie Brady, Mel Brodsky, Leslie Finegold, Christina Frangiosa, Susan Moore, Beth Suchsland and Alan Tabachnick.

Board Members Absent: Kathleen Oxberry.

Note: One seat is currently vacant.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Kyle Berman, Solicitor; Karen Berk, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education; Andrew Boegly, Director of Technology; 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; Jen Fitzgerald; Nina Pratowski; Kaylin Butler and Bob Slagle.

Mr. Tabachnick noted that the Board had met in executive session on November 20 and December 4 to discuss legal and personnel issues.

Financial Reports: Mr. Tabachnick stated that the financial reports and the treasurer's report had been previously approved through October 31, 2012. He added that the administration is requesting authorization to pay the November bills during December and approval of the presented budget transfers. See enclosure #1. He noted that both the November and December financial reports will be provided for formal Board action in January.

Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to authorize the payment of the November bills during December and approve the budget transfers. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Old Business: At Mr. Tabachnick's request, Dr. Gorodetzer reviewed the calendar for the 2013-2014 school year recommended for Board consideration. See enclosure #2.

She noted that the start date is September 3, 2013 and the end date is June 13, 2014. She stated that the calendar includes 183 student days, 191 teacher days, and three half day early dismissals. She added that the recommended version of the calendar is the first choice of the Colonial Education Association.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to adopt the 2013-2014 calendar as presented. 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 and the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List. See enclosures #3 and #4. She stated that the Personnel Report includes six leaves of absence, one return from leave, one appointment, and 11 replacements. She added that the Substitute List included additional teachers and instructional aides. Dr. Gorodetzer noted that several appointments and changes are included on the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List.

Mrs. Moore moved and Mr. Brodsky 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: Mr. Tabachnick noted that there was an item of business to address that was not on the agenda. He asked Board members to consider the resignation of Board member Julie Knudsen. Mr. Tabachnick noted that Mrs. Knudsen stepped down for personal reasons and thanked her for her service. He noted that the Board was accepting applications for the vacant seat through noon on Friday, December 7.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Moore seconded a motion to accept Mrs. Knudsen's resignation. On roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mr. Tabachnick returned to the agenda and sought Board action on a list of recommended Board meeting dates for the 2013 calendar year. Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Suchsland seconded a motion to approve the meeting dates as printed in the agenda. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0

Mr. Tabachnick asked that the appointment of representatives, listed as item B, be removed from the agenda. He stated the Board will take action in January.

At Mr. Tabachnick's request, Mr. Yemm explained the revised First Student transportation contract that he submitted for Board approval. Mr. Yemm explained that the current contract calls for annual increases in the three to five-percent range. He noted that the revised contract calls for fixed two-percent increases through 2016, plus a three-year extension through 2019 with increases equivalent to the Act I index for each year. He added that increases during the extended period are not to exceed three percent. Mr. Yemm also added that the District is happy with the service provided by First Student. Responding to a question from Mr. Brodsky, Mr. Yemm stated that the District expected to save \$48,000 in the coming budget year and possibly a quarter of a million dollars over the life of the contract.

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

Solicitor's Report: None.

Committee Reports: None.

Public Comment: None.

Mrs. Suchsland stated that the Board will hold a town meeting on Thursday, January 31 at 7 p.m. in Colonial Elementary School. She said the meeting will focus on the 2013-2014 Budget and the financial state of the District. She encouraged community members to send other topics for discussion to Mr. Sherman.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary