

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, AUGUST 15, 2013

President Tabachnick 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 15, 2013.

Board Members Present: Bernie Brady, Leslie Finegold, Christina Frangiosa, Susan Moore, Kathleen Oxberry, Heather Palmer, Beth Suchsland and Alan Tabachnick.

Board Members Absent: Mel Brodsky.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Jeffrey T. Sultanik, 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/Board Treasurer; 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; Joey Nutinsky; Caren Nutinsky; Jack Ruppel; Elizabeth Ruppel Valerio; Gary Johnson; Michele Conner and Joanne Walker.

Mr. Tabachnick led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recognition/Awards: None.

Mr. Tabachnick announced that the board met in executive session prior to the meeting.

Minutes: Mr. Tabachnick asked the Board to consider the minutes of the General Meeting of July 18. See enclosure #1.

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

Financial Reports: Mr. Tabachnick directed the Board to act 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 July 31. See enclosures #2 through #12.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Finegold 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: Dr. Gorodetzer introduced Dr. McKeaney and Mrs. Berk, who summarized the District's summer programs. Dr. McKeaney reported on the Girls in Technology Summer Academy, a two-week program for students in grades five through eight with classes in Digital Photography, Web Design, Photoshop, Robotics, Animation and Gaming and more. Twenty-six students participated. Dr. McKeaney also noted that more than 100 students took part in the Elementary Literacy Program held at Conshohocken Elementary School from June 22 through July 13. She stated that all students maintained or increased the skills they had learned during the school year. Additionally, Dr. McKeaney reported that 78 students in grades one through six took part in the Summer Music Program. She also summarized the Summer Credit Recovery Program at the high school. Mrs. Berk reported on the Extended School Year Program (ESY) for students with disabilities. She stated that student eligibility for the ESY program is determined by their IEP teams based on their IEP goals. She noted that 46 students participated in the elementary ESY program and 16 students took part in the secondary program. Mrs. Berk reported that the program was successful in helping students maintain or show improvement in the skills learned during the school year.

Old Business: Mrs. Suchsland sought Board action on Policy #806, Child/Student Abuse, on a second-read basis. See enclosure #13. Mrs. Suchsland noted that this new policy is in response to legislative changes in the Child Protection Services law.

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

Correspondence: None.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Gorodetzer summarized her report which includes the Personnel Report and Substitute List, the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List, the Enrollment Report, and a listing of instructors for fall Adult Evening School classes. See enclosures #14 through #16 and #23. She reported that the Personnel Report includes three resignations, three leaves of absence, seven appointments, 11 revised assignments, two summer appointments and substitutes for the 2013-2014 school year. She added that the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List includes appointments for fall sports and annual clubs. Dr. Gorodetzer stated that the Enrollment Report reveals that elementary classes vary in size from 17 to 23 students. She added that secondary class sizes are well below contractual agreements. She also stated that the administration continues to review the enrollment to ensure that there is adequate teacher coverage.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Moore 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.

New Business: Mrs. Frangiosa asked Board members to consider two transportation contracts in one motion. The first is with St. Joseph's Preparatory School for \$7.91 per student per day. See enclosure #17. The second is a parent contract to transport a pupil at the rate of .565 per mile or the established IRS rate. See enclosure #18. Mrs. Suchsland received confirmation from Mr. Jackson that the contracts are to transport students within a 10 miles radius of the District's borders.

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

Mrs. Oxberry sought Board approval of a Tri-County Food Service Bid. See enclosure #19. She noted that the bid was conducted by the Eastern States Purchasing Network which consists of approximately 45 school districts.

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

Mrs. Oxberry asked Board members to consider a real estate assessment appeal settlement on parcel #49-00-00000-80-6 in Plymouth Township that was reviewed in executive session. At Mrs. Oxberry's request, Mr. Jackson explained that the assessment has been under appeal since 2009, and the settlement represents a favorable outcome for the District.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mrs. Frangiosa seconded a motion to approve the real estate assessment appeal settlement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mrs. Frangiosa sought Board action on a request to approve a parking license agreement between the Colonial School District and the Whitmarsh Foundation. At Mrs. Frangiosa's request, Mr. Yemm explained that, under the agreement, the Foundation will construct a parking lot next to the District's farm house on Flouertown Road. He added that the Foundation will pay all construction costs as well as maintenance costs for a period of 10 years.

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

Mrs. Suchsland asked Board members to act on a request for the Plymouth Whitemarsh High School (PWHS) Marching Colonials to participate in a competition in North Brunswick, N.J., on October 11 and 12. See enclosure #20.

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

Mr. Tabachnick sought Board action on a request to accept the donation of a software program from two PWHS students. See enclosure #24. At Mr. Tabachnick's request, Mr. Boegly explained that the product created by the students was superior to the current package used by the District to track student discipline. He added that the students have agreed to allow the District to use the program free of charge.

Mr. Tabachnick 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. The Board members thanked the students, Joey Nutinsky, a member of the PWHS Class of 2013, and Jack Ruppel, a member of the PWHS Class of 2014.

Mrs. Moore asked the Board to approve a special education placement agreement that was reviewed in executive session for reasons of student confidentiality.

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

Mrs. Moore sought Board action on two educational services contracts. The first is with Wyncote academy for tuition for one student at a cost of \$27,250 for the 2013-2014 school year. The second is with TALK, Inc., for one student at a cost of \$65,775 for the 2013-2014 school year. See enclosure #25.

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

Solicitor's Report: None.

Committee Reports: MCIU: No Report.

CMTHS: No Report.

Human Resources: No Report.

Finance: No Report.

Curriculum: No Report.

Facilities Management and Transportation: No Report.

Community Relations and Student Life: Mrs. Suchsland noted that the District Activities Calendar was mailed this week.

Legislative: No Report.

Municipal Liaisons: No Report.

Public Comment: Mrs. Joanne Walker introduced Mrs. Michele Conner, the new president of the Band Boosters. She also encouraged Board members to attend the Marching Colonials preview show on Thursday, August 29 at 8 p.m. on Colonial Field. Mrs. Walker added that the band will be collecting school supplies at the event to donate to charity.

There being no further business before the Board, Mr. Tabachnick adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary