

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, JUNE 18, 2015

President Moore convened the general session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 6:01 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on June 18, 2015.

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

Board Members Absent: None.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; A. Kyle Berman, Solicitor; Karen Berk, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education; Andrew Boegly, Director of Technology; Trevor Jackson, Business Administrator/Board Treasurer; Dr. Leticia Rodríguez, Director of Human Resources; Terry Yemm, Director of Operations; David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary; Kim Newell, Assistant Public Relations Coordinator; Dave Santoro; Glenn Quinn and Gary Johnson.

Mrs. Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance and announced that the Board had met in executive session prior to the meeting.

Recognition/Awards: None.

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Moore sought Board approval of the minutes of the general meeting of May 21; the Human Resources Committee of June 1 and the Facilities Management and Transportation and Finance Committee of June 11. See enclosures #1, #2, #31 and #32.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Finegold seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mr. Sherman noted that Mrs. Frangiosa and Mrs. Palmer were participating via conference call. On a roll call vote, all but Mrs. Palmer voted in favor. There was a problem with Mrs. Palmer's phone connection. Her vote was not recorded. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Financial Reports: Mrs. Moore asked Board members to consider 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, the Bond Fund Report and the Treasurer's Report for the month ending May 31. See enclosures #3 through #14.

Mr. Brady moved and Mr. Tabachnick seconded a motion to approve the financial reports. On a roll call vote, all but Mrs. Palmer voted in favor. There was a problem with Mrs. Palmer's phone connection. Her vote was not recorded. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Public Comments on the Agenda: None.

Old Business: None

Correspondence: None.

New Business: Mrs. Moore broke from the agenda to address items associated with the 2015-2016 Budget.

Mr. Brady noted that the budget presented for consideration totals \$112,360,000 and includes a real estate tax rate of 20.5125 mils. He stated that is an increase of 2.0 percent. Mr. Brady said that the new rate means an additional \$40.22 per year for each \$100,000 of taxable assessed value or an increase of \$59.80 on the District's median taxable assessed value of \$148,690. He stated that the budget uses

* Mrs. Frangiosa and Mrs. Palmer participated in the meeting via conference call.

\$1,370,000 of fund balance. Mr. Brady noted that the budget is available for review in the District office and on the District website.

Mr. Brady moved and Mrs. Oxberry seconded a motion to approve the following resolution. "Be it resolved that the Colonial Board of School Directors adopts the 2015-2016 Budget in the amount of \$112,360,000." See enclosure #16.

Mrs. Suchsland stated that this is the lowest tax increase in 10 years and it is a testament to the hard work of the Board and administration. She also noted that because of approved Act 1 exceptions, the District could have raised taxes as much as 3.5 percent at a time when it is about to embark on the renovation of Plymouth Whitemarsh High School.

On a roll call vote, all voted in favor, the motion was carried, 9-0.

Mr. Brady sought Board action on the following taxation rates, fees and billing date: A 2015-2016 Real Estate Tax Mil Rate of 20.5125, an Act 511 Earned Income Tax Rate of 1.0 percent, a Real Estate Tax Transfer Rate of 1.0 percent, an Amusement Tax Rate of 10.0 percent, a Real Estate Tax Certification Fee of \$25.00 and a Billing Date for 2015-2016 Real Estate Taxes of July 1, 2015.

Mr. Brady moved and Mrs. Oxberry seconded a motion to approve the taxation rates, fees and billing dates. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 9-0.

Mr. Brady asked the Board to consider a resolution to set the maximum property tax reductions for its approved Homestead properties at \$277.70 and the maximum property tax reduction for its approved Farmstead properties at \$277.70. See Enclosure #17.

Mr. Brady moved and Mrs. Suchsland seconded a motion to approve the resolution. On a roll call vote, all but Mrs. Palmer voted in favor. There was a problem with Mrs. Palmer's phone connection. Her vote was not recorded. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Brady asked Board members to act on three resolutions for the prior and future commitment of the District's Fund Balance. The first is reserve funds for healthcare costs. See enclosure #18. The second is for reserve funds for pension costs. See enclosure #19. The third is for reserve funds for capital project costs. See enclosure #20. At the Board's request, Mr. Jackson explained that resolutions are committing funds for future liabilities and ongoing state mandates. He said that, once committed, the funds cannot be used for any other purpose without a future resolution stating otherwise.

Mr. Brady moved and Mrs. Finegold seconded a motion to approve the three resolutions. On a roll call vote, all but Mrs. Palmer voted in favor. There was a problem with Mrs. Palmer's phone connection. Her vote was not recorded. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mrs. Frangiosa and Mrs. Palmer left the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

Mrs. Moore informed Board members that they would now hear the Superintendent's Report.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Gorodetzer reviewed her report which was comprised of the Personnel Report and Substitute List. See enclosures #15. She stated that the Personnel Report and Substitute List includes four retirements, four resignations, four leaves of absence, eight replacements and additional extended school year and summer program appointments. Dr. Gorodetzer noted that all actions were reviewed in executive session.

Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Suchsland seconded a motion to approve the Superintendent's Report. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Board Student Representatives Report: None.

New Business: Mrs. Moore directed Board members to return to New Business on the agenda.

Mr. Brodsky sought Board authorization of an Education Services Contract with the Vanguard School for nine students at a cost of \$51,575.00 per student. See enclosure #21.

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

Mr. Brodsky asked the Board to consider a placement agreement in lieu of a Free and Public Education. He noted that the agreement was reviewed in executive session for reasons of confidentiality.

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

Mrs. Finegold directed Board members to act on a Subscription License Agreement with CareFlow to replace the existing nurse database. See enclosure #22.

Mrs. Finegold moved and Mrs. Oxberry seconded a motion to approve the Subscription License Agreement. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 7-0.

Mr. Tabachnick sought Board approval of the following bids recommended by the administration as the lowest responsible bid in each instance.

1. UV Filtration System for the PWHS pool awarded to Main Line Commercial Pools, Inc. See enclosure #23.
2. Student Accident Insurance to AXIS Insurance Company. See enclosure #24.
3. Electrical Construction for the PWHS Renovation Project to Farfield Company. See enclosure #33.
4. A list of alternates for Prime Contractors for the PWHS Renovation Project. See enclosure #34.
5. General Construction for the PWHS Renovation Project to S.B. Conrad. See enclosure #35.
6. HVAC Construction for the PWHS Renovation Project to Myco Mechanical. See enclosure #36.
7. Plumbing Construction for the PWHS Renovation Project to Jay R. Reynolds. See enclosure #37.

At Mr. Tabachnick's request, Mr. Yemm explained that the PWHS Renovation Project went out to bid in April. He explained the bidding process to include the four primary trades. He noted that the bids were opened on June 4 and there were 22 different bids.

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

Mrs. Suchsland recommended to the Board that they ratify the Professional Negotiations Agreement: Addendum "C" Salary Guide for Supplemental Pay for Extracurricular Activities between the School Board and the Colonial Education Association effective August 15, 2015 through August 14, 2017.

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

Mr. Tabachnick asked Board members to act on the proposed breakfast and lunch rates for the 2015-2016 school year. See enclosure #38. He noted that meal prices have not increased in a number of years.

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

Solicitor's Report: None

Committee Reports: MCIU: Mrs. Finegold stated that the IU Board met on May 27. She highlighted a grant, contingent on approval of the state budget, to fund a pre-K program. Mrs. Finegold also stated that the IU was considering using its old facility as an early learning center campus. Dr. Gorodetzer added that the District houses a pre-K program at Conshohocken Elementary School.

CMTHS: No Report.

Human Resources: No Report.

Finance: No Report.

Curriculum: No Report.

Facilities Management and Transportation: Mr. Tabachnick provided an update on the status of the PWHS Renovation Project. He also noted that the tennis courts were closed for a few weeks for resurfacing. Mr. Tabachnick also reported that the District continues to work with Whitemarsh Township on approvals for the Victory Fields turf project.

Community Relations and Student Life: It was noted that the Community Newsletter will be in the mail next week.

Safety and Wellness: Mrs. Finegold stated that the committee will meet following the Facilities Committee meeting on July 9.

Legislative: No Report.

Municipal/Community Liaisons: No Report.

Public Comment: None.

There being no further business before the Board, Mrs. Moore adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary