

COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, JULY 16, 2015

President Moore convened the general session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 6:05 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on July 16, 2015.

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

Board Members Absent: Beth Suchsland.

Also Attending: Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer, Superintendent; Marc Davis, 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; Mary O'Neill; Tom Doll; Donald W. Thomas, III; Fran McCusker; Jen Storti; Doug Dresnin; Lisa Dresnin; Robert Slagle; Glenn Quinn; Tom Gale; Dawn Gale; Gary Johnson; Cathy Esslinger and Megan Tropiano.

Mrs. Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance and announced that the Board had met in executive session on July 15 and 16.

Recognition/Awards: None.

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Moore sought Board approval of the minutes of the general meeting of June 18. See enclosure # 1

Mr. Brodsky moved and Mr. Tabachnick 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: 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 June 30. See enclosures #2 through #13.

Mrs. Palmer moved and Mr. Brady 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.

Old Business: None

Correspondence: None.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Gorodetzer reviewed her report which included the Personnel Report and Substitute List. See enclosure #14. She noted that the Personnel Report and Substitute List includes five resignations, four leaves of absence, three appointments, 12 changes in assignment, one addition to the substitute staff list and a number of summer appointments. Dr. Gorodetzer stated that all actions were reviewed in executive session.

Mrs. Frangiosa moved and Mrs. Finegold 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: Mr. Brady sought Board action on a consortium fuel bid coordinated by the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit #23. See enclosure #15.

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

Mr. Brodsky asked the Board to consider an educational services contract renewal with Melmark for the 2015-2016 school year. See enclosure #20.

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

Mr. Tabachnick asked Board members to act on new Board Policy #810.1 Transportation – Video/Audio Recording on a first-read basis. See enclosure #21. At Mr. Tabachnick’s request, Mr. Jackson explained that previous legislation prohibited the use of audio recording on buses. He stated that audio recording is now permitted in addition to video recording. He stated that the availability of audio will assist building principals in addressing student discipline.

Mr. Tabachnick moved and Mrs. Frangiosa 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.

Solicitor’s Report: None

Committee Reports: MCIU: No Report.

CMTHS: No Report.

Human Resources: No Report.

Finance: No Report.

Curriculum: No Report.

Safety and Wellness: Mrs. Finegold stated that the committee met on July 15. Among items addressed were the safety of artificial turf fields proposed for installation on Victory Fields #2 and a new baseball field. She noted that the turf and infill will be tested by the installing company and independently tested by the school district. Other discussed items included an indoor air quality study at Plymouth Elementary School, adjusted traffic flow, safety procedures and increased in-school security personnel related to the Plymouth Whitemarsh High School renovation and suicide awareness training and prevention.

Facilities Management and Transportation: Mr. Tabachnick noted that updates and photos regarding the high school renovations are updated regularly on the District website. It was also noted that the District has received Pennsylvania Department of Education approval of PlanCon Part F related to the high school renovation. Approval notification and all supporting documentation are provided in Attachment A.

Community Relations and Student Life: Mrs. Palmer asked families with children in school to watch for the District Activities Calendar in the mail in early August. She also noted that information packets from individual schools will be mailed the third week in August.

Legislative: No Report.

Municipal/Community Liaisons: No Report.

Public Comment: Mr. Tom Doll of Fairway Road in Lafayette Hill read a statement on behalf of neighbors regarding the proposed upgrades to Victory Fields and a new baseball complex. He expressed concern about increased traffic, noise, trash and cost of installation and maintenance. Apprehension over a related financial agreement with Chestnut Hill College was stressed. Mrs. Moore

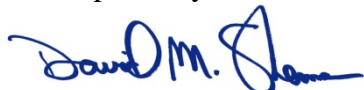
stated that the School Board is happy to work with residents regarding any concerns related to the project.

Mr. Tom Gale of Barren Hill Road in Conshohocken expressed concern over a possible change in the transportation provider for the St. Philip Neri School from the Sage Bus Company to First Student. He also questioned the bidding policy for such contracts.

Mary O'Neill of Lafayette Hill also expressed concern over the possible transition from the Sage Bus Company to First Student. She noted that Sage was a taxpaying business located in the school district. Ms. O'Neill sought clarification regarding the status of the contract. Mr. Jackson stated that the District's contract with Sage expired at the end of recently concluded school year.

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