

Community Relations and Student Life Committee/Safety and Wellness Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors, August 22, 2016

The Community Relations and Student Life /Safety and Wellness Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Monday, August 22, 2016 in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

The meeting was called to order at 4:49 p.m. Present were Committee Chair Bernie Brady; Committee members Leslie Finegold, Cathy Peduzzi and Felix Raimondo; Board Vice President Beth Suchsland; Board member Alan Tabachnick; Superintendent Dr. MaryEllen Gorodetzer; Director of Pupil Services and Special Education Karen Berk; Plymouth Whitemarsh High School (PWHS) Activities Director Charles Forster; Community Relations Coordinator/School Board Secretary David M. Sherman; Assistant Public Relations Coordinator Kim Newell; Business Administrator/School Board Treasurer Trevor Jackson; Linda Doll and Lisa Dresnin.

There was no public comment on the agenda:

Mrs. Berk explained a new Pennsylvania law that requires school districts to notify coaches of their bullying and hazing policies. Mrs. Berk noted that the District does not presently have a hazing policy. She noted several school districts that have older policies which contain a message similar to Colonial Policy #221 Bullying Prevention. Mrs. Berk stated that in the coming months the District will update the wording in that policy to include language regarding hazing. Mr. Forster explained that the high school has forwarded an email to all coaches with links to Policy #221 and the District's online Bully and Harassment Brochure. He noted that all coaches were to respond with confirmation that they had received and read the materials.

Mr. Jackson put forth a proposal to provide admission tickets to sporting events to parents of participating students. He noted that \$42,000 is budgeted in the PWHS athletics budget to cover the cost of hosting events. Mr. Forster stated that \$45,000 is raised through ticket sales each year. There was considerable discussion among members regarding the pros and cons of the proposal. Mr. Forster noted that admission is charged for football games, boys' and girls' basketball and wrestling. He added that many of the athletic facilities are not conducive to selling and collecting tickets. Consensus was reached to table the proposal for further discussion at a later time.

The committee was provided a draft communication plan for the 2016-2017 school year.

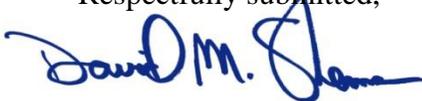
Committee members reviewed a letter to Gold Card members to accompany the District Activities Calendar.

Mrs. Berk reviewed the District's Social Media Guidelines. It was noted that the District was proactive in drafting the document, which was produced with the assistance of legal counsel.

Updates were provided on a groundbreaking ceremony for the PWHS baseball field, a new focus for Parent Council meetings, the Conshohocken Funfest scheduled for September 17 and a community open house to showcase phases II and III of the PWHS renovation scheduled for Friday, October 21. Members suggested promoting the Parent Council change to PTOs and at school open houses.

There being no further business or comment, the meeting was adjourned at 5:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Sherman
Community Relations Coordinator
School Board Secretary