

**COLONIAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA 19462
GENERAL SESSION MINUTES, NOVEMBER 16, 2017**

President Moore convened the general session of the Colonial Board of School Directors at 7:01 p.m. in the District Office General Meeting Room on November 16, 2017.

Board Members Present: Mel Brodsky, Leslie Finegold, Gary Johnson, Susan Moore, Kathleen Oxberry, Cathy Peduzzi, Felix Raimondo and Beth Suchsland.

Board Members Absent: Bernie Brady.

Also Attending: Dr. Michael L. Christian, Superintendent of Schools; Jeffrey T. Sultanik, Solicitor; Karen Berk, Director of Pupil Services and Special Education; Andrew Boegly, Director of Technology; Dr. Liz McKeaney, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment; Dr. Leticia Rodríguez, Director of Human Resources; Terry Yemm, Director of Operations; David M. Sherman, Community Relations Coordinator/Board Secretary; Tom Peeler, Audio Visual Technician; Brandon Cohen and Amanda Nerenberg, Board Student Representatives; Eunice Franklin-Becker; Melissa Daddona; Charles Forster; Marsha Turner; Adam Schupak; Jennifer Dow; Noreen McAleese, Chris Frangiosa; Tonya Ciavarelli; Rosemary Northcutt; Frank Whitehead; Derek Nam; David Garcia; Christine Daniels; Dave Szablowski and students receiving awards, their families and friends.

Mrs. Moore led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Executive Session Announcements: Mrs. Moore announced that the Board met in executive session for approximately 30 minutes on November 13 to discuss an administrative vacancy. She also noted that the Board met in executive session immediately prior to the meeting to discuss the hiring of six new employees and issues related to a union contract. She said that meeting lasted approximately one hour.

Recognition/Awards: Dr. Christian introduced Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS) Volleyball Coach Seely Byler and PWHS Field Hockey Coach Charise Halteman who presented their championship winning teams to the Board for recognition. See Attachment A for a complete list of students honored.

Approval of Minutes: Mrs. Moore asked the Board to act on the minutes of the Curriculum Committee meeting of September 18, The Facilities Management and Transportation (FMT) Committee meeting of September 27; the Curriculum Committee meeting of October 16; the General Session of October 17; the FMT Committee meeting of October 30 and the Community Relations and Student Life/Safety and Wellness Committee meeting of November 13. See enclosures #1 through #5 and #38.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mrs. Finegold seconded a motion to approve the minutes. 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 included 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 October 31. See enclosures #6 through #17.

Mr. Brodsky moved and Mrs. Oxberry 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. Christian presented a PowerPoint highlighting Veterans Day activities in the District's schools.

Correspondence: Mrs. Moore noted that the Board is requested to accept a \$1,000 check from the Pennsylvania Library Association for the 2017 Best Practices Award for STEM Programming for the Open Minds Competition. See enclosure #18.

Mrs. Suchsland moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to accept the check. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Superintendent's Report: Dr. Christian stated that his report includes the Personnel Report and Substitute List (see enclosure #19) and the Extra Duty/Extra Pay List (see enclosure #20). He noted that all appointments for promotion, employment or transfer are subject to the presentation of valid credentials, employment verification documentation and state mandated requirements.

Mr. Raimondo moved and Mrs. Oxberry 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: Ms. Nerenberg reported on Homecoming Week activities including Wing Bowl, the Homecoming Court and the dance. She also noted that the Interact Club is working with the Salvation Army on a project in Norristown. Mr. Cohen reported on the National Honor Society Induction and that several student-athletes had signed letters of intent to participate in sports in college.

New Business: Mrs. Peduzzi asked Board members to consider a number of student trip requests in one motion. They include: The PWSHS baseball team's spring break trip to Vero Beach, Fla. from March 24-29, 2018 (see enclosure #21); the PWSHS girls' lacrosse team's spring break trip to Cocoa, Fla. from March 24-29, 2018 (see enclosure #22); the PWSHS Ski and Snow Boarding Club traveling to Stratton, Vermont from January 5-7, 2018 and to Killington, Vermont from February 23-25, 2018 (see enclosure #23); the PWSHS cheerleaders taking part in competitions in Hershey from January 18-21, 2018 and Orlando, Fla. from February 9-13, 2018 (see enclosure #24); AVID students visiting Penn State University, Elmira College and Mansfield University from November 9-10 (see enclosure #25) and PWSHS astronomy class students visiting the Hayden Planetarium in New York City on January 5, 2018 (see enclosure #26). Mrs. Peduzzi stated that there is no cost to the District for most of the trips.

Mrs. Peduzzi moved and Mr. Brodsky seconded a motion to approve all of the student trip requests. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mrs. Peduzzi directed the Board to act on Board Policy #220 – Student Wellness on a second-read basis. See enclosure #27.

Mrs. Peduzzi moved and Mr. Johnson 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.

Mrs. Peduzzi asked Board members to act on Board Policy #808.1 – School Lunch/Breakfast Program Charged Meal on a second-read basis. See enclosure #28. She stated that a change needed to occur. Dr. Christian explained that recent legislation known as the shaming policy prohibits cashiers from informing students of low balances. Instead that notification has to go to the parents. Dr. Christian recommended that the Board approve the policy contingent on the reference of cashiers notifying secondary students of low balances be removed.

Mrs. Peduzzi moved and Mrs. Suchsland seconded a motion to approve the policy on a second-read basis with the understanding that the reference to cashiers notifying secondary students of low balances will be removed. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Raimondo requested Board members act on three contract approvals in one motion. The first is with School Dude for calendar management. See enclosure #29. The second is with Pearson Realize for online student digital resources. See enclosure #30. And the third is for the Pennsylvania School Boards Association (PSBA) to provide policy development services. See enclosure #31. Responding to a question from Mrs. Oxberry, Mr. Boegly explained that School Dude is an online calendar manager that will enable the District to manage facilities usage in a centralized location. Responding to another question from Mrs. Oxberry, Dr. Christian explained that the PSBA agreement will provide a consistent framework for updating and maintaining the District's policies.

Mr. Raimondo moved and Mrs. Peduzzi seconded a motion to approve the three contracts. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Raimondo sought Board action on a list of contracted bus drivers employed by First Student and Philly Trans for the current school year. See enclosure #32.

Mr. Raimondo moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to approve the list of drivers. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mrs. Moore noted that she had failed to recognize Mr. Dave Szablowksi in the audience. Mr. Szablowksi was approved to be the District's new Business Administrator as part of the Personnel Report earlier in the meeting.

Mrs. Oxberry noted that Board authorization is requested to pay November bills during December. She reported that the November financial reports will be provided for Board action at the January business meeting.

Mrs. Oxberry moved and Mr. Johnson seconded a motion to authorize the payment of November bills during December. On a roll call vote, all voted in favor. The motion was carried, 8-0.

Mr. Brodsky asked Board members to ratify the agreement between the Colonial School Board of Directors and Teamsters Local Union No. 384 effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2022. Mr. Brodsky stated that negotiations with the union were good and amicable. Mrs. Moore thanked the union for the productive discussions.

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

Solicitor's Report: Mr. Sultanik reported that his partner Wendy Rothstein was recently elected as a Judge on the Court of Common Pleas. He noted that Mrs. Rothstein is a lifelong Plymouth Township resident and former council for the school district. It was also noted that Mrs. Rothstein is a PWHS graduate and a member of the PWHS Distinguished Graduates Organization.

Committee Reports: MCIU: Mrs. Finegold stated that the IU Board met the previous evening at its old facility on West Main Street in Norristown. She noted that the building is now a thriving early learning academy. She stated that the building is in need of renovations, however, and the IU will be addressing that moving forward. Mrs. Finegold also noted that there will be 40 percent turnover of the IU Board after the recent election.

CMTHS: Mr. Brodsky reported that the District will receive a \$300,000 reimbursement for the 2018-2019 budget based upon enrollment.

Human Resources: No report.

Finance: No report.

Curriculum: Mrs. Finegold recapped the November 13 meeting that focused on the Pennsylvania School Performance Profile. She noted this was the final year for the profile as it was considered to be an inadequate tool to measure school performance. She added that next year the Future Ready PA Index will debut and will focus on career readiness. Mrs. Finegold stated that the District is planning to increase apprenticeships and internships for students and increase partnerships with area businesses.

Facilities Management and Transportation: Mrs. Suchsland stated that the enrollment growth the District is anticipating is happening sooner than expected. She reported that the committee has had discussions of possible changes to Colonial Elementary School and Colonial Middle School in order to accommodate the enrollment increase. Mrs. Suchsland said that much work lies ahead.

Community Relations and Student Life/Safety and Wellness: Mrs. Peduzzi noted that the District and its schools are now social media savvy and are communicating via Instagram, Twitter and Facebook. She also noted that the high school's fall theater production begins this evening.

Legislative: No Report.

Municipal/Community Liaisons: No report.

Public Comment: Tonya Ciavarelli and Noreen McAleese questioned what is happening with the administration at Conshohocken Elementary School specifically as it related to the principal's FMLA leave. Mrs. Moore stated that it was premature to speculate how long the leave would last. She said the District would keep the community informed as information becomes available. In the meantime, former Principal Denise Marks has transitioned back to the school from the District Office and is available to remain as long as needed. Mrs Ciavarelli also inquired about teacher turnover. Her concern was appreciated and noted.

Mrs. Moore noted that this was the final meeting for Bernie Brady, Gary Johnson, Kathleen Oxberry and Beth Suchsland. The outgoing board members were lauded for their service and presented with a token of appreciation from the District.

There being no other comment or business before the Board, Mrs. Moore adjourned the meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



David M. Sherman
Board Secretary

2017 PWHs Field Hockey Team

Jessica Bendl
Ava Borkowski
Jennifer Byrne
Meghan DiGiacomo
Jessica Dixon
Alice English
Julia Fiddler
Jess Frangiosa
Lilly Hanlon
Katherine Houghton
Callie Kolkka
Sophie Kolkka
Kayla Link
Autumn Luptak
Michelle McGrath
Caitlyn Miller
Darcy Miller
Alexis Minor
Kaleigh Missimer
Shelley Price
Kennedy Reardon
Julia Roehm
Gia Schweitzer
Casey Sharpe
Samantha Spera
Emma Stanley
Emily Trask
Sarah Trask
Livia Truong

2017 PWHs Volleyball Team

Lily Acquaviva
Kaleigh Branagh
Gillian Conner
Allison Helferty
Annie Mascio
Bridget McTamney
Sydney Melillo
Bree Middleton
Taylor O'Brien
Megan Peuser
Aja Smith
Zydrei Tancinco
Julia Walker Julia
Emilee Waltz