

Community Relations and Student Life /Safety and Wellness Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors, September 18, 2017

The Community Relations and Student Life/Safety and Wellness Committee of the Colonial Board of School Directors met on Monday, September 18, 2017 in the Superintendent's Conference Room.

The meeting was called to order at 5:40 p.m. by Committee Chair Cathy Peduzzi. Also present was committee member Leslie Finegold; Board members Mel Brodsky, Felix Raimondo and Gary Johnson; Superintendent Dr. Michael Christian; Director of Pupil Services and Special Education Karen Berk; Trevor Jackson, Business Administrator/Board Treasurer; Community Relations Coordinator/School Board Secretary David M. Sherman; Assistant Public Relations Coordinator Kim Newell; Director of Food Services Lori McCoy; Director of Development and Curriculum Supervisor of Career Readiness Denise Marks and Linda Doll.

There was no public comment on the agenda.

Mrs. Berk and Mrs. McCoy presented a state-mandated update to District policy #220 – Student Wellness. It was noted that the update was based on a template provided by the Pennsylvania School Boards Association. Mrs. McCoy highlighted changes to the policy in three main areas, including nutrition promotion and marketing, smart snacks and fundraising. She noted that the District is already implementing many of the recommendations such as:

- incorporating local produce into menus;
- using digital menu boards to display nutritional messages;
- changing the appearance of menu lines and the way food is presented;
- serving snacks that meet the USDA's Smart Snacks in School nutrition standards
- and limiting access only to those vending machines containing Smart Snacks compliant products during the school day.

Responding to a question from Mrs. Peduzzi, Mrs. Berk explained that the District follows state recommendations for gym classes. Dr. Christian stated that the revised policy will be on the October Board meeting for review on a first-read basis.

Mrs. Marks provided an update on Advertising and Sponsorships and sought consensus from Board members to move forward with a 5-foot by 10-foot advertisement for John Kennedy Subaru to be placed on the utility garage near the snack stand at the south end of Colonial Field. The cost for the advertisement is \$3,500 for 12 months with an option for renewal. Following considerable discussion it was recommended to move forward with the advertisement, but Board members requested a site visit to view additional advertising locations on the Plymouth Whitmarsh High School (PWHS)/Colonial Elementary School campus.

Mrs. Marks also provided an update on activities of the Colonial School District Education Foundation, including Foundation Day scheduled for Saturday, October 7 from noon to 6 p.m. at the high school.

Board members were reminded that the Board has traditionally established the start day for the ensuing school year in October so that parents have ample time to schedule vacations. There was considerable discussion regarding whether to start school before or after the Labor Day holiday. It was recommended that the administration consult the teachers' union and survey other county school districts to see how many begin before Labor Day.

The committee reviewed student trip requests for the PWHS cheerleaders to attend two competitions in New Jersey and the Yearbook and Newspaper Club to attend the annual Colonial University Publications Seminar in New York.

The committee agreed to again purchase unused tickets reserved by senior citizens for the annual matinee performance of the Colonial Players spring musical.

Ms. Newell discussed plans for the October 24 Colonial Community Coffee Hour. It was noted that three Coffee Hours are planned for the school year.

Ms. Newell noted that the District website must be ADA compliant by November and summarized changes that need to occur.

The committee was informed that the District would staff a table at the Conshohocken Funfest on Saturday, September 23.

There being no further business or comment, the meeting was adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



David M. Sherman
Community Relations Coordinator
School Board Secretary