

Colonial School District
District Operations
Facilities Management/Transportation Committee
Meeting Minutes
12/4/2009

Committee Chair Sue Moore called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.

Other Committee Members Present: None

Other Board Members Present: Gary Johnson

Also Attending: Dr. Vincent Cotter, Superintendent; Dr. Maryellen Gorodetzer, Assistant Superintendent; Terry R. Yemm, Director of Operations; Tom Davis, Community Resident

Public Comment on the Agenda: None

The Committee reviewed specifications for a new gas-fired convection oven for the Food Service Department at the Ridge Park Elementary School. The oven will replace an existing unit. The existing oven is original equipment and is no longer functioning properly. Additionally, a repair contractor has indicated that some of the parts required for repairs are no longer available. The cost of the replacement oven is \$12,525.00 and is available through the Pennsylvania State Buying program. The Committee agreed to the replacement and arrangements will be made with Finance to purchase the new unit.

A list of technology equipment no longer used by the District was presented to the Committee. The equipment is currently in storage at the Ridge Park Elementary School. The equipment no longer has value to the District and the Information Technology Department is requesting consideration for disposal of the equipment. Several methods of disposal were discussed including contacting the local Vo-tech school to determine if they could use the equipment or if there is any salvage value. Additionally, the possibility of donating the equipment to a local charity was discussed. Mr. Davis offered to investigate if there was any value for the acceptance of the equipment by the Montgomery County Vo-Tech School.

Mr. Yemm provided information to the Committee on a program designed to test the radon levels in our schools. Several years ago our School District made the decision to partner with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) with a program called "Tools for Schools." The "Tools for Schools" program provides our District with information, guidelines and specific recommendations regarding indoor air quality. One component of maintaining proper indoor air quality is periodic testing for radon. The EPA has recently provided that they have deemed January 2010 as National Radon Action Month in an effort to bring awareness to radon. The Facilities Management Department will be performing radon testing in all of our schools over the next two months. The testing is a proactive measure in our ongoing efforts to ensure proper air quality for the benefit of all

of our students, staff and visitors and there is no reason to believe that we have any problems with levels of radon in any of our schools. The test is simple and requires no operational involvement from any staff members other than certain members of the Facilities Management Department. A small canister, about the size of a large hockey puck, will be placed in certain classrooms in an inconspicuous location on a Monday morning and will be removed five (5) days later on a Friday afternoon. The canisters will then be sent to the EPA and the results of the testing will be provided to the District within a few weeks of their receipt of the canisters. These results will then be provided to the Principal of your school. Another benefit of our partnership with the EPA is that this testing procedure is funded 100% by the EPA,

The Committee was asked to approve a plan for the disposal of a van that was previously used as the District's PONY vehicle. The vehicle is a 1994 Dodge Ram Van B150 with 205,458 miles on the odometer. It is out of inspection and needs a new transmission and radiator. The cost of the repairs is more than the value of the van. It is the recommendation of members of the Facilities Management Department to dispose of the vehicle with a local salvage yard. The Committee agreed and directed that we try to get as much salvage value as possible.

Mr. Yemm provided an update on the approval process for the proposed installation of the athletic field lighting planned for Victory Fields. On Wednesday June 3, 2009, the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) of Whitemarsh Township voted in favor of our request for a special exception to the zoning ordinance to allow the installation of athletic field lighting on Victory Fields #1 and #3. Based on testimony presented at the hearing and the request for conditions by the BOS, the ZHB did recommend that certain conditions be included with the recommendation. The most significant condition was the request for the installation of a permanent restroom facility for the Victory Fields complex. Accordingly, the District will now move forward with attempting to obtain the necessary approvals and permits to install the lights. An application for land development was submitted to Whitemarsh Township in late July. The District appeared in front of the Whitemarsh Township Planning Commission (WTPC) in early October. The WTPC reviewed the project and did not make any recommendation requesting that the District consider alternate locations for a proposed comfort station. An alternate location was reviewed by the Committee. The District will move forward with the approval process and attempt to get on the agenda of the WTPC as soon as possible.

Additional Public Comment on the Agenda: None.

There being no further business before the committee, Mrs. Moore adjourned the meeting at approximately 9:10 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry R. Yemm
Director of Operations