

# South Fayette School District

Committee Meeting of the Whole

## **Minutes**

Tuesday, November 20, 2007  
7:00 p.m.

The Committee Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:02 p.m. in the South Fayette High School Conference Center by President Denise Ford with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Ford announced the Board had met in Executive Session to discuss personnel and construction litigation.

**Present:** Denise Ford, Lena Hannah, Vince Lamberti, Bill Newcomer, Chris Niemann, Todd Petrillo, Tom Welch, Len Fornella (*arrived at 7:07 p.m.*), and Alan Wood (*arrived at 7:30 p.m.*)

**Others:** Dr. Linda B. Hippert, Superintendent; Dr. Mary Ravita, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Nanci Sullivan, Director of Pupil Personnel; Denice Allan, Director of Human Resources; George Safin, Director of Finance; Ann Bisignani High School Principal; Aaron Skrbin, Assistant High School Principal; Karen Labutta, Middle School Principal; Pete Abdulovic, Assistant Middle School Principal; Denise Beverina Moore, Elementary Principal; Laurie Gray, Assistant Elementary School Principal; Gretchen Tucci, School Psychologist; Shelly Belcher, Community Public Relations; Maureen Pedzwater, Secondary Transition Coordinator; Teachers Joe Farkas, Patrick McAndrew; Gene Manzini, Network Systems Administrator; Alan Vezzi, Director of Maintenance; Steve Timmins, Custodial Shift Supervisor; Greg Curl, Director of Transportation; Bryan O'Black, Director of Technology; Frank Morelli, Teresa Burroughs, Jeff Smith, Debra Amelio-Manion, Matt Cochran, Gary W. Hirsch, and Ruth Bell Superintendent's Assistant/Board Secretary

- ◆ Dr. Hippert acknowledged and thanked Mrs. Ford, Mr. Lamberti, and Mr. Welch for their dedication and years of service to the students, the District, and the Board. Each board member was given a gift of appreciation.
- ◆ Maureen Pedzwater, Secondary Transition Coordinator, gave an update on the Alumni Association.
- ◆ Dr. Hippert presented the Proposed Preliminary Budget for 2008-09.

## **Minutes**

The Board considered approval of Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Committee Meeting	October 16, 2007
Regular Meeting	October 23, 2007

## **Financial Reports**

The Financial Reports for July, August, September, and October 2007, were enclosed for Board review and will be included on the Agenda for approval at the Regular Meeting.

## **Superintendent's Monthly Report – Dr. Linda B. Hippert**

### **Business Office**

1. The Board considered approval for payment of the interim delinquent tax collector fee for the following amounts:
  - ◆ \$91.19 for 2005 delinquent taxes, penalty amount extends from November 9, 2007 to November 15, 2007;
  - ◆ \$502.78 for 2006 delinquent taxes; penalty payment extends from October 16, 2007 to November 14, 2007;
  - ◆ \$1,678.70 for 2007 delinquent taxes; penalty payment extends from November 5, 2007 to November 15, 2007; as per the statements submitted by Kevin Biber, Township Treasurer.
2. The Board considered approval for payment for reimbursement for partial office expenses relating to a part time office assistant totaling \$1,136.34 per the School District's tax collector compensation approved in 2005.
3. The Board considered approval to continue participation in the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Board for 2008.
4. Bryan O'Black, Director of Technology, gave an overview of the Pennsylvania Information Management System (PIMS) as mandated by the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

### **Personnel**

1. Personnel items were discussed in Executive Session.

### **Education**

1. The Board considered approval of South Fayette School District's commitment to the "The Pittsburgh Compact" and to being a leader in the region for partnering with businesses to help our students to make informed decisions related to the careers and the skills necessary to attain their career goals.
2. The Board considered approval for the Carnegie Mellon CMites program to utilize a classroom in the elementary School during the weeks of July 7-11 and/or July 14-18, 2008 (8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.) in lieu of rental fees, scholarships would be granted for South Fayette students to attend.
3. The Board considered approval to enter into a Dual Enrollment Program with Robert Morris University, for the period of one year August 15, 2007 through June 30, 2008, in accordance with Article XVI-B of the Public School Code.
4. The Board discussed the 2008 AYP Score and Attribution Map from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.
5. The Board considered approval to add the following courses to the curriculum for the 2008-09 and 2009-2010 school years:

#### **Social Studies**

- Leadership Studies: A Historical, Contemporary, and Comparative Perspective

### **Fine Arts**

- Music! It's Role and Importance in Our Lives

### **Business Technology/Communications – Media**

- Media 2.5: Daktronics Video Scoreboard

### **Math**

- Statistics and Probability (*would require additional math teacher to be hired in the 2008-09 school year as proposed in the high school budget presentation*)

### **World Languages**

- AP French (*implement 2008-09 school year*)
- AP Spanish (*implement 2009-10 school year*)
- AP German (*implement 2009-10 school year*)

### **Transportation**

There were no items to discuss.

### **Athletics**

1. Coaching assignments were discussed in Executive Session.
2. The Board discussed the Wrestling Program.  
Athletic Director Joe Farkas gave a presentation to the Board indicating the cost associated with starting a new varsity wrestling program in the 2008-09 school year.

### **CONSTRUCTION**

1. The Board considered the request from Eckles Architecture to perform a land survey of the district property.

### **Miscellaneous**

There were no items to discuss.

### **Solicitors Report – Mr. W. Theodore Brooks**

Mr. Brooks was not in attendance.

### **Expenditures**

Submitted for Board review to be approved at the Regular Board Meeting.

### **SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM VISITORS**

The Board will hear comments from visitors. The time limit of comments will not exceed three (3) minutes and must relate to items on the Agenda. The Board will not respond to questions during this session, but will only hear public comment. (As per revised Policy 006 – Meetings” adopted May 23, 2006)

Debra Amelio-Manion Apple Blossom Drive – Two years ago you started a wrestling program at the middle school and at that time you indicated you would bring back a varsity wrestling program at the high school. I understand the budget constraints; but without a varsity program there is no program for these students to go on to.

Petrillo seconded Welch to adjourn the meeting at 10:09 p.m.

Roll Call – All Yes

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Denise W. Ford, Board President

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Ruth Bell, Board Secretary