

South Fayette School District

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Regular Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

7:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the South Fayette High School Conference Center by President Len Fornella with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Teresa Burroughs, Len Fornella, Lena Hannah, Frank Morelli, Bill Newcomer, Chris Niemann, Todd Petrillo, Jeff Smith, and David Bruening (*arrived at 7:01 p.m. after The Pledge of Allegiance*)

Others: Fred Wolfe, Tucker Arensberg, P.C., Dr. Linda Hippert, Superintendent; Dr. Mary Ravita, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Nanci Sullivan, Director of Pupil Personnel; George Safin, Director of Finance; Teachers Bridget Amato, Jeff McGowan, Bob Reasey, Maureen Sirc, David Taylor, Director of Maintenance Dean Stewart, High School Assistant Principal Aaron Skrbn, Deana Carpenter, Pam Sapienza, Dane Sapienza, Beverly Arbore, Lisa Carney, Debra Amelio-Manion, Amy Ramage, and Ruth Bell Superintendent's Assistant/Board Secretary

Dr. Hippert recognized the following teachers who have attained National Board Certification

- o Bridget Amato
- o Jeff McGowan
- o Bob Reasey
- o Maureen Sirc
- o Scott Sundgren
- o David Taylor

All of the teachers with the exception of Scott Sundgren were in attendance and spoke about the process they each went through to attain this certification. Dr. Hippert presented each teacher with a plaque on behalf of the Board of School Directors and the District.

Minutes

Burroughs seconded Petrillo to approve the Minutes from the following Board Meetings:

Committee Meeting of the Board
Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, April 21, 2009
Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Roll Call – All Yes

Financial Reports

The Condensed Expenditure Summary Report as of April 30, 2009, has been provided to the Board.

Newcomer seconded Petrillo to accept the Financial Reports for April 2009, were submitted for Board approval and have been reviewed by the Superintendent and Secondary Administration.

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Earned Income
3. Middle School Activity Report

George Safin
Central Tax
Carol Hunsinger

4. High School Activity report
5. Athletic Report
6. Aquatics Report

Kathy Demnyan
Joe Farkas
Bridget Amato

Roll Call – All Yes

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM VISITORS

There were no comments at this time.

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

Business Office

Informational

At the Committee Meeting on Tuesday, May 19, 2009; Frank Morelli seconded Todd Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Finance George Safin to adopt a Proposed Final Budget for 2009-10 in the amount of \$32,106,517.38 with NO increase in millage.

Roll Call – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent, Athletic Director Joe Farkas, and Cheerleading Coach Alyson Pagano for Board approval to purchase cheerleading uniforms from Varsity for \$10,749.00. This would be for a total of 60 uniforms: 20 Varsity, 20 Junior Varsity, and 20 Middle School. The Cheerleading Boosters have applied for a grant and will not hear until July if the grant has been approved; if approved the grant will pay for the uniforms.

Roll Call – All Yes

Smith seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The School District Solicitor, Superintendent, and Director of Finance George Safin for Board approval to adopt Resolution 09-01, 2008 Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion, for the District to reduce property taxes, for qualified homestead/farmstead properties by \$664,920.87. In accordance with the Homestead Property Exclusion Program Act (part of Act 50 of 1998) and the Taxpayer Relief Act (Act 1 of 2006) the District must reduce property taxes beginning July 1, 2009. The amount is \$170.89 per qualifying homestead/farmstead properties.

Roll Call – All Yes

Petrillo seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Finance George Safin for Board approval to authorize budget transfers resulting from local independent audit reclassifications made subsequent to June 30, 2009, or other closing date. If any transfers are necessary after the fiscal year end, appropriate detail will be supplied to the Board for ratification.

Roll Call – All Yes

Smith seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Finance George Safin for Board approval to appoint the School Depository for the 2009-10 school year as follows:

- ◆ PNC Bank (Main Depository)
- ◆ Invest Program (Investment Account)
- ◆ Pennsylvania School District Liquid Asset Fund (Check Writing Account)
- ◆ Citizens Bank (Construction Fund Account)
- ◆ J. P. Morgan (Construction Fund Account)

Roll Call – All Yes

Burroughs seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval the adoption of policies, procedures, and use of IDEIA funds by the school district per the agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit.

Roll Call – All Yes

Morelli seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval of the Educational Services Agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the 2009-10 school year.

Roll Call – All Yes

Smith seconded Hannah on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Finance George Safin for Board approval for payment of the interim delinquent tax collector fee in the amount of \$927.59 for 2007 delinquent taxes; penalty payment extends from March 18, 2009 through April 28, 2009; and for \$2,299.06 for 2008 delinquent taxes; penalty payment extends from March 16, 2009 through May 11, 2009, as per the statements submitted by Kevin Biber, Township Treasurer.

Roll Call – All Yes

Bruening seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent, Director of Finance George Safin, and Tax Collector Kevin Biber for Board approval of the provided list of Real Estate Refunds due to reduction in assessment and/or overpayment.

Roll Call – All Yes

Burroughs seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Finance for Board approval of the following 2008-09 tuition rates for non-resident students. This amount is determined by the Pennsylvania Department of Education in accordance with the requirements of Section 2561 of the Pennsylvania School Code.

Grades 7 through 12	\$9,923.01
Grades K through 6	\$8,486.95
Kindergarten (1/2 elementary)	\$4,243.48

Roll Call – All Yes

Petrillo seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent, Director of Finance George Safin, and Director of Transportation Donna Harshman for Board approval to award bids to lease/purchase busses. These busses will be purchased through an addendum to our current lease with Laurel Capital.

Company	Type	Amount
Bluebird of Pittsburgh	One - 72 passenger 2010-Vision	\$77,350.00
Bluebird of Pittsburgh	Two – 48 passenger 2010-Vision	\$73,930.00 – each
Wolfington Body Company	One – 12 passenger/3 chair 2010 Lift Bus	\$53,900.00
Myers Equipment	Two – 24 passenger 2009 Minotour	\$47,023.00 – each

Roll Call – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Hannah on the recommendation of The Superintendent for the Board to adopt Resolution 09-03, to encourage the Pennsylvania State Legislature to take immediate action in either amending the Public School Employees' Retirement Code to limit eligibility, funding levels, and/or funding levels, and/or the extent of the benefits so that the employer contribution rate will be substantively reduced, and/or provide other sources of revenue independent of the employer contribution rate.

Roll Call – All Yes

Personnel

Morelli seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval to accept the following resignations:

- George Safin, Director of Finance, effective June 30, 2009
- Deborah Cochran, Paraeducator, effective the end of the 2008-09 school year
- Suzanne Faingnaert, Bus Driver, effective April 29, 2009
- Carol Cardillo, Custodian, effective April 20, 2009
- Karen Fisher, Food Service Employee, effective May 31, 2009
- Bob Carnahan, Maintenance Employee, effective January 18, 2009

Roll Call – All Yes

The Board thanked George Safin for his dedication to the District and appreciated all of his efforts.

The Board will discuss naming an Interim (Acting) Superintendent, Interim Director of Finance, and Interim Board Treasurer in Executive Session following suspension of the Regular Meeting.

Bruening seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval to hire the following personnel:

- (a) Karen McKee, Bus Driver, effective May 15, 2009, at the van rate of \$15.66 per hour and bus rate of \$19.66 per hour. Director of Transportation Donna Harshman recommends probation period be waived since Karen has been a substitute driver for the past 2 years.
- (b) Dr. Bob Badowski, Classrooms For the Future Coach, effective June 15 through June 30, 2009, at the rate of \$30 per hour. Funds for this position will be paid from the Classroom For the Future Grant.

the following substitutes for the 2008-09 school year:

- Walter Schnelbach, Bus Driver, at the rate of \$12.00 per hour
- Lea McElhaney, Custodian, at the rate of \$8.25 per hour; after successfully performing duties for 90 consecutive working days the rate will be \$10.48 per hour
- Heather Morelli, Paraeducator, at the rate of \$8.65 per hour

the following EPR's for the 2008-09 school year:

- Jen Gorton, Director Middle School Musical \$2,800.00
- Marcia Gorton, Asst. Director Middle School Musical \$350.00

- Dave Speidel, Stage Crew, Middle School Musical \$300.00
- Rebecca MagTaggart, Choreographer,
Middle School Musical \$500.00
- Merideth Spotts, Choreographer,
Middle School Musical \$500.00
- Deb Neitsch, Art Director/Set Construction Manager,
Middle School Musical \$1,000.00
- Gene Manzini, Technical Support, Middle School Musical \$680.00

Roll Call – Yes – Burroughs, Petrillo, Hannah, Newcomer,
Bruening, Niemann, Smith, Fornella
Abstain - Morelli

Morelli seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval of the following appointment and/or reappointments:

- (a) Reappoint Ruth Bell as Board Secretary for a period of 4 years, as per School Code 404 and Board Policy 005 at the stipend of \$3,500 per year for each of the next 4 years
- (b) Reappoint Tucker Arensberg, P. C. as School District Solicitor, with W. Theodore Brooks being lead attorney as per enclosed letter. The recommended fee structure for 2009-10 is listed below:

Rates for 2008-09		Rates for 2009-10	
Partners	\$130.00 per hour	Partners	\$130.00 per hour
Associates	\$120.00 per hour	Associates	\$120.00 per hour
Paralegals	\$ 75.00 per hour	Paralegals	\$ 75.00 per hour

The recommended monthly retainer for 2009-10 is \$400.00. The retainer fee has remained the same as in 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, 2007-08, and 2008-09 school years. For litigation services, the proposed fee structure is listed as follows:

Rates for 2008-09		Rates for 2009-10	
Partners	\$140.00 per hour	Partners	\$140.00 per hour
Associates	\$130.00 per hour	Associates	\$130.00 per hour

- (c) Reappoint Dr. Wayne DiBartolo as School District Dentist for the 2009-10 school year at the rate of \$2.75 per student. This is the same rate since 2004-05, 2005-06, 2006-07, and 2007-08 school years
- (d) Appoint Dr. Michael Specca and Preferred Primary Care Physicians, as School District Physician for the 2009-10 school year at the rate of \$130.00 per hour.

Roll Call – Yes – Burroughs, Morelli, Petrillo, Newcomer,
Bruening, Niemann, Smith, Fornella
Abstain – Hannah

Newcomer seconded Smith on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Aquatic Director Bridget Amato for Board approval to adjust the rates for instructing and lifeguarding as follows:

- Beginning Instructors/Lifeguards, Year 1 \$8.00 per hour
- Junior Instructors, Year 2 \$8.25 per hour
- Senior Instructors, Year 3 \$8.50 per hour

and to approve the following raises. All expenses are paid through the aquatic fund. If approved, the rates would be effective July 1, 2009.

- Megan Rooney, \$9.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Elizabeth Bonnaure, \$8.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Gretchen Carr, \$8.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Nathaniel Carr, \$8.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Owen Bonnaure, \$8.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Matthew Curl, \$8.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Noah Sahady, \$8.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Emily Bellissimo, \$8.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Justin Fink, \$8.50 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Catherine Scanlon, \$8.25 per hour for Aquacise Instructor/Instructor
- Andrew Poglein, \$8.25 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Jonathan Bernhardt, \$8.25 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Alexander Daniels, \$8.25 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Victoria Graham, \$8.25 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Shannon Potts, \$8.25 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Hilary Ford, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Maria Yalch, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Katie Black, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Caitlyn Rastetter, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Steven Torre, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Maria Cardillo, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Jordan Beck, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Christiana Graham, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Daria Olszewski, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Richard Klimek, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing
- Logan Brown, \$8.00 per hour for lifeguarding and instructing

Roll Call – All Yes

Education

Morelli seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval to enter into a 2 year Institutional Articulation Agreement with Penn Commercial, Inc.

Roll Call – All Yes

Hannah seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval to adopt Resolution 09-02 opposing the proposed Keystone Exams.

Roll Call – All Yes

Burroughs seconded Hannah on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mary Ravita for Board approval to purchase the following textbooks, which will be paid from the Accountability Grant:

Biggs, Hagins, Holiday, Kapicka, and others. *Biology*. New York: Glencoe-McGraw Hill. 2009.

Buthelezi, Dingrando, Hainen, Wistrom, and Zike. *Chemistry: Matter and Change*. New York: Glencoe-McGraw Hill. 2008.

Roll Call – All Yes

Transportation

There were no items to discuss.

Athletics

Burroughs seconded Morelli on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Athletic Director Joe Farkas for Board approval to accept the following resignations:

- Joe Cochran, Head Golf Coach
- David Schoppe, Assistant Varsity Football Coach

Roll Call – All Yes

The Board will discuss the coaches in Executive Session following suspension of the Regular Meeting.

Construction

The Board continues to discuss options for future construction to accommodate elementary school overcrowding along with dates required for decision making. Options discussed/proposed include:

- a. Make the decision to proceed with construction planning with the intent to borrow for construction in March 2010 with occupancy 2013-14 school year.
- b. Make the decision to delay construction planning and utilize trailers for future growth. Consider options for placement of additional trailers.
- c. Leasing space off campus in the area
- d. Purchase/build metal buildings
- e. Utilizing the Army barracks building for classrooms
- f. Converting the middle school auditorium to classrooms
- g. Lease space at Alpine Point
- h. Space that may be available at the new South Fayette Township Community Center (Star City)
- i. Other options not yet identified.

Director of Maintenance Dean Stewart provided the Board with an update on the conversion of the 3 locker rooms at the elementary school into classrooms and with costs of adding modular classrooms. Mr. Stewart will continue to gather information and will present updates to the Board at the next month's board meeting.

II. MISCELLANEOUS

Petrillo seconded Newcomer on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval of the second reading of Board Policy 915 Booster Organizations.

Roll Call – All Yes

Hannah seconded Smith on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval of the first reading of the following Board Policies:

Policy Number	Title	Policy Number	Title
127	Assessments	130	Homework
137	Home Education Programs	137.1	Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
138	English as a Second Language	200	Enrollment in the District
201	Admission of Students	202	Eligibility of Nonresident Students
203	Communicable Diseases and Immunization	203.1	Management of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) in a School Setting
203.2	Management of Bloodborne Pathogens in the School Setting	204	Attendance
205	Postgraduate Students	206	Assignment within District
207	Confidential Communications of Students	208	Withdrawal from School
209	Health Examinations/Screenings	210	Use of Medications
210.1	Possession/Use of Asthma Inhalers	211	Student Accident Insurance
212	Reporting Student Progress	213	Assessment of Student Progress
214	Class Rank	215	Promotion and Retention
216	Student Records	216.1	Supplemental Discipline Records
217	Graduation Requirements	217	Attachment Diploma for Veterans
218	Student Discipline	218.1	Weapons
218.2	Terroristic Threats/Acts	219	Student Complaint Process
220	Student Express/Distribution and Posting of Materials	221	Dress and Grooming
222	Tobacco Use	223	Use of Motor Vehicles
224	Care of School Property	225	Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies
226	Searches	227	Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia
228	Student Government	229	Student Fundraising
230	Public Performances by Students	231	Social Events and Class Trips
238	Rights of Noncustodial Parents/Guardians	239	Foreign Exchange Students
241	Early Student Withdrawal	246	Student Wellness
246AR	Nutritional Education	246AR1	Physical Activity

246AR2	Physical Activity	246AR3	Fundraisers
246AR3	Parent Letters for Birthdays	246AR3	School Based Activities
246AR4	Safe Routes to School	246AR5	Healthy School Environment
246AR6	Marketing Plan for Student Wellness	246AR7	Food and Beverages
246AR7	Nutrition Standards	247	Hazing
248	Unlawful Harassment	248	Attachment Report
250	Student Recruitment	251	Homeless Students
311	Suspensions/Furloughs	312	Evaluation of Superintendent
313	Evaluation of Employees	314	Physical Examination
314.1	Management of Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) in the School Setting	314.2	Management of Bloodborne Pathogens in the School Setting
316	Nontenured Employees	317	Conduct/Disciplinary Procedures
318	Penalites of Tardiness	319	Outside Activities
320	Freedom of Speech in Nonschool Setting	321	Political Activities
322	Gifts	323	Tobacco Use
324	Personnel Files	325	Dress and Grooming
326	Complaint Process	327	Management Team
328	Compensation Plans/Salary Schedules	330	Overtime
331	Job Related Expenses	332	Working Periods
333	Professional Development	334	Sick Leave
335	Family and Medical Leave	335AR	Family and Medical Leave
335AR1	Family and Medical Leave Poster	335AR2	Family and Medical Leave Request and Response
335AR3	Family and Medical Leave Certification Form	336	Personal Necessity Leave
337	Vacation	338	Sabbatical Leave
338.1	Compensated Professional Leaves	339	Uncompensated Leave
340	Responsibility for Student Welfare	341	Benefits for Part Time Employees
342	Jury Duty	343	Paid Holidays
348	Unlawful Harassment	348	Attachment Report of Harassment
351	Drug and Substance Abuse	353	Employee Assistance Program
601	Fiscal Objectives	602	Budget Planning
603	Budget Preparation	604	Budget Adoption
605	Tax Levy	705	Safety
705.1	Safety Committee	706	Property Records
706.1	Disposal of Surplus and Obsolete Property	707	Use of School Facilities
708	Lending of Equipment and Books	709	Building Security
710	Use of Facilities by Staff	715	Use of FAX Machines
716	Integrated Pest Management	717	Cell Telephones
806	Child/Student Abuse	808	Food Services
810	Transportation	810.1	Drug and Alcohol Testing –

C. Legislative Committee Report

Lena Hannah

Mrs. Hannah provided the Board with 2 handouts. One handout was information on the Governor's plan for school consolidation and the other handout was from the EPLC Education Notebook.

D. Parks and Recreation

Bill Newcomer

Mr. Newcomer was unable to attend the last meeting.

E. Parkway West

Frank Morelli

Mr. Morelli was unable to attend the last meeting.

F. SHASDA

Todd Petrillo

Mr. Petrillo had no report.

Petrillo seconded Morelli to suspend the Regular Meeting and enter into Executive Session at 8:27 p.m. Mr. Fornella announced the Board may reconvene and vote on matters when they return from Executive Session.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Petrillo to reconvene the Regular Meeting at 9:49 p.m.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Athletic Director Joe Farkas for Board approval to hire the following coach for the 2009-10 school year:

Varsity Football

- Marques Parks, Assistant Varsity Football Coach

Roll Call – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Morelli on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Athletic Director Joe Farkas for Board approval to hire the following coaches for the 2009-10 school year:

Boys Basketball

- Rich Bonnaure, Head Coach \$6,890.00
- Dwayne Canton, Assistant Coach
- Mark Keener, Assistant Coach
- Rich Zewe, Assistant Coach
- Rich Mack, 8th Grade Head coach
- Joe DiDonato, Jr., 8th Grade Assistant Coach
- Alex Hobbs, 7th Grade Head Coach

Roll Call – Yes – Burroughs, Morelli, Petrillo, Hannah,
Newcomer, Bruening, Niemann, Fornella
Abstain – Smith

Newcomer seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Athletic Director Joe Farkas for Board approval to hire the following coaches for the 2009-10 school year:

Girls Basketball

- Matt Bacco, Head Coach \$6,890.00
- Colleen Hough, Assistant Coach
- Steve Maiolo, Assistant Coach
- Colleen Hough, 7th/8th Grade Coach
- Marie Ford, 7th/8th Grade Coach

Roll Call – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Morelli on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Athletic Director Joe Farkas for Board approval to hire the following coaches for the 2009-10 school year:

Wrestling

- Michael Ladick, Head Coach \$5,796.00
- Richard Pattinato, Assistant Coach
- Robert Reasey, Head Junior High Coach

Roll Call – All Yes

Morelli seconded Hannah to hire Dr. James Manley as the Acting Superintendent effective July 1, 2009, at the rate of \$450 per day, for days worked as needed, in compliance with PSERS Act 36, until no longer needed.

Roll Call – All Yes

Newcomer seconded Smith to hire George Safin as Interim Director of Finance as needed pursuant to the agreement at \$35 per hour plus IRS mileage rate, currently at 55 cents per mile.

Roll Call – Yes – Morelli, Petrillo, Hannah, Newcomer
Bruening, Niemann, Smith, Fornella
No – Burroughs

Bruening seconded Petrillo to hire George Safin as Board Treasurer at the per diem of \$1500.

Roll Call – All Yes

Petrillo seconded Smith to post a Temporary Summer Receptionist position. The position would be for 21 days, 8 ½ hours per day, at the rate of \$10 per hour.

Roll Call – All Yes

Niemann seconded Newcomer to post 2 Temporary Elementary Positions due to the retirement of Elementary Intermediate Principal Denise Beverina Moore. The goal of the positions is to help prepare for the 2009-10 school year.

Roll Call – All Yes

Burroughs seconded Newcomer to adjourn at 10:01 p.m.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Len Fornella, Board President

Ruth Bell, Board Secretary