

# South Fayette School District

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Committee Meeting of the Whole

## **Minutes**

Tuesday, July 15, 2008

7:00 p.m.

The Committee Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:12 p.m. in the South Fayette High School Conference Center by President Bill Newcomer with the Pledge of Allegiance. President Bill Newcomer announced the Board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel.

**Present:** Teresa Burroughs, Frank Morelli, Bill Newcomer, Chris Niemann, Todd Petrillo, Jeff Smith, and Len Fornella (*arrived at 7:25 p.m.*)

**Absent:** Lena Hannah and Alan Wood

**Others:** Dr. Linda B. Hippert, Superintendent; Dr. Mary Ravita, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Nanci Sullivan, Director of Pupil Personnel; George Safin, Director of Finance; Teachers Mark Kuglar, Angela Simms, Diane Lally; Bryan O'Black, Director of Technology, Cindy Geisler, Wendy Williams, Lisa Carney, Natalie Kugler, Gina Duncan, Eric Duncan, Gary Hirsch, and Ruth Bell Superintendent's Assistant/Board Secretary

Superintendent Dr. Linda B. Hippert thanked all of the members of the Steering Committee. As required, a DRAFT copy of the Strategic Plan will be placed in the South Fayette Public Library and in the Central Administration Office of the School District for 30 days for review by the community. The following areas of the Strategic Plan were presented to the Board of School Directors for approval:

- a. Special Education, Dr. Nanci Sullivan, Director of Pupil Personnel
- b. Student Services (chapter 12), Dr. Nanci Sullivan, Director of Pupil Personnel
- c. Curriculum, Dr. Mary Ravita, Assistant Superintendent
- d. Assessment, Dr. Mary Ravita, Assistant Superintendent
- e. Professional Development, Dr. Ravita, Assistant Superintendent
- f. New Teacher Induction, Dr. Ravita, Assistant Superintendent
- g. Graduation Requirements, Mr. Aaron Skrbini, Assistant High School Principal
- h. Technology, Mr. Bryan O'Black, Director of Technology

## **Minutes**

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

Committee Meeting  
Regular Meeting

June 17, 2008  
June 24, 2008

## **Financial Reports**

The Financial Reports for June 2008, are 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 to renew the following insurance policies for 2008-09 as proposed by the PSBA Insurance Trust through the Gleason Agency.

• Package	\$ 82,728
• Umbrella	\$ 10,143
• Workers Compensation	\$113,273
• School Leaders Errors and Omissions	\$ 15,133

Sports and Student Accident Insurance – ACE American Insurance underwritten by Gleason Financial, Ltd., as follows:

• Athletic Plan AAA – Primary	\$7,891.05
• Student Plan – School Time Coverage	\$22.00
• Student Plan – 24-hour coverage	\$88.00

2. The Board discussed the Governor's budget approved by the Pennsylvania legislator. Director of Finance George Safin presented the effects (+/-) on areas of the South Fayette School District budget.
3. Burroughs seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent, Director of Pupil Personnel Dr. Nanci Sullivan, and Director of Technology Bryan O'Black for Board approval to enter into a 3 year agreement, from August 1, 2008 – July 31, 2011, with eSped to provide software applications for the Special Education Department to write IEP's, 504 Plans, etc. This will replace Polaris Suites which has ceased doing business; and the recommendation of The Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mary Ravita, and Director of Technology Bryan O'Black for Board approval to enter into a one year agreement, from July 1, 2008 – June 30, 2009, with The Princeton Review/Homeroom.com. This agreement will be paid for through the Accountability Grant, with the provision that School District Solicitor Ted Brooks review the contracts before they are signed and sent to the respective companies.

Roll Call – All Yes

**Personnel**

1. Hiring, resignations, and all changes regarding personnel were discussed in Executive Session and will appear on the Regular Meeting agenda.

**Education**

1. The Board discussed proposed changes to the Parent-Student, and Faculty Handbooks. Mr. Niemann asked about employee cell phone use during the work day. Dr. Hippert indicated she would check with the building administrators and if this information was not in the faculty handbook, she would ask the building administrators to add information about proper cell phone use to the faculty handbook.

**Transportation**

There were no items to discuss.

### **Athletics**

1. The Board discussed changes to the Student-Athlete/Parent Handbook.

### **Construction**

There were no items to discuss.

### **Miscellaneous**

1. The Board considered appointing delegates to participate in the PSBA Legislative Policy Council meeting to be held on Thursday, October 16, 2008, during the School Leadership Conference in Hershey, PA.
2. The Board discussed student representation to the school board. The Board asked Dr. Hippert to obtain additional information and this item would be revisited at some time in the future.

### **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)

Gary Hirsch – Battery Drive North – Are the recommended changes to the handbook posted on the website?

Dr. Hippert responded not at this time.

Lisa Carney – Greenwood Drive – The Accountability Grant shows a difference of \$1,500 is this from 2007-08 or 2008-09? What budget items would be cut?

Dr. Ravita responded it is \$1,500 less for 2008-09. At this time it has not been determined what would be cut.

- ◆ Online training for Board Members on the Blended Schools.net website was held at this time. We will be using the Blended Schools website to review Board Policy.

Petrillo seconded Smith to adjourn at 9:27 p.m.

Voice Vote – All Yes

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William Newcomer, Board President

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Ruth Bell, Board Secretary