

South Fayette School District

Regular Meeting **Minutes**

Tuesday, April 22, 2008
7:00 p.m.

The Regular Meeting of the South Fayette Township Board of School Directors was called to order at 7:04 p.m. in the South Fayette High School Conference Center by Vice President Chris Niemann with the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Niemann announced prior to the beginning of the Board Meeting the Board had met in Executive Session to discuss personnel.

Present: Teresa Burroughs Lena Hannah, Frank Morelli, Chris Niemann, Todd Petrillo, Jeff Smith, and Alan Wood

Absent: Len Fornella, Bill Newcomer

Others: W. Theodore Brooks, Tucker Arensberg, P.C.; Dr. Linda B. Hippert, Superintendent; Dr. Mary Ravita, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. Nanci Sullivan, Director of Pupil Personnel; George Safin, Director of Finance; Denice Allan, Director of Human; Cassie Renninger and Dan Engan, Eckles Architecture; High School Principal Ann Bisignani, Assistant High School Principal Aaron Skrbn; Teachers Donna Michalowsky, Bridget Kotar; Deana Carpenter, Andrea Iglar, Debra Amelio-Manion, Natalie Kugler, Lisa Carney, Dave Mayernick, and Ruth Bell Superintendent's Assistant/Board Secretary

- Presentation by Eckles Architecture
Cassie Renninger and Dan Engan provided the Board with an update on a timeline for the implementation impact analysis for the feasibility study. A list of data needed from the District was provided to the Board. The anticipated schedule is to receive the information from the District by May 9, 2008. Cassie suggested the District organize a committee from the community and staff to provide input on the renovation/construction project. Eckles Architecture anticipates they will be completed with the study by June 24, 2008, and will provide an update to the Board at the Regular Meeting scheduled for June 24, 2008.

The public was invited to comment at this time on the presentation.
There were no comments at this time.

Minutes

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

Committee Meeting of the Board
Regular Board Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 2008
Tuesday, March 25, 2008

Voice Vote – All Yes

Financial Reports

The Condensed Expenditure Summary Report as of March 31 2008, was provided to the Board.

Hannah seconded Petrillo to accept the following financial reports:

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Earned Income (<i>March 2008</i>) | Central Tax Bureau |
| 2. Treasurer's Report | George Safin |
| 3. Aquatic Report | Bridget Amato |
| 4. Middle School Activity Fund | Carol Hunsinger |
| 5. High School Activity Fund | Kathy Demnyan |
| 6. Athletic Fund | Joe Farkas |

Roll Call – All Yes

SUSPENSION OF BUSINESS TO HEAR FROM VISITORS

Natalie Kugler – Meadow Drive – What will happen to any additional money that may be available from the Algebra I summer school program? Is there a comprehensive list of the questions that were sent to the email regarding the budget? Were any of the suggestions acted on?

Dr. Hippert commented any additional money from the online course would go into fund balance. As for the emails that were sent regarding the budget; there is not a comprehensive list. Some of the suggestions have already been implemented such as turning off the lights when rooms are not in use and turning off the computers at night.

Debra Amelio-Manion – Apple Blossom Drive – Was the \$9,000.00 for the feasibility study discussed last week? Has Eckles Architecture been instructed to include middle grade products instead of top of the line items for everything?

Dr. Hippert commented the \$9,000.00 for the feasibility study was discussed previously and they are looking at options 2A and 2F. Eckles has been instructed to keep the costs reasonable. Dan Engan from Eckles had commented at an earlier presentation that the products that were used at the high school were middle grade quality products.

Natalie Kugler – Meadow Drive – From the March meeting the study mentioned electronic flush toilets, kitchen facilities with washer and dryer, Corey tile floor, etc. are these some of the items you are looking into?

Vice President Chris Niemann commented the feasibility study is to provide us with a broad idea. When we get into the actual process then we will look at the smaller details like toilets, flooring, etc.

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

Business Office

Informational

At the committee meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, the Board authorized Director of Maintenance Alan Vezzi to work with Director of Finance George Safin to purchase 2 vehicles, not to exceed \$10,000.

The Board discussed the 2008-09 budget.

Mrs. Bisignani and Mr. Skrbin provided the Board with letters of support from the teachers and from Mrs. Bisignani regarding the Dean positions. They also provided rationale on keeping the student center.

Mr. Wood stated for the record - I did not say I wanted to eliminate the Deans position. My request was for cost information to restructure the student center, not eliminate the Deans. My request is purely financial to create a more cost effective department. So, please if you are referring to my request do not state elimination of the Deans.

Dr. Hippert thanked Mr. Wood for the clarification of his request and indicated the Board was given financial information regarding the cost of operating the student center.

Mr. Wood also stated for the record - that when I started questioning the two particular teachers that happen to be Deans were teaching 2 classes each. Is that correct or not? That left 3/5 of their position at cost for filling in at the student center each, that is 6/10 of a teaching position and I tallied it up and that is where I based my questioning on the cost of the student center. Now the Deans are teaching 3 classes each and that is a step in the right direction, but you can not tell me that student center is operating on \$7,000, it doesn't. It operates in the neighborhood of \$87,000-\$90,000 plus a secretary and whoever else is assigned to that department. That is what I am saying when I started questioning, we were losing 6/5 of a teacher.

Hannah seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Technology Bryan O'Black for Board approval to hire a part time temporary position for the summer of 2008, to assist the technology team in hardware and software upgrades to the 500+ district computers. The cost of this position is not to exceed \$2,500.00.

Roll Call – All Yes

Smith seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Finance George Safin for Board approval to authorize the administration to advertise for custodial/janitorial supplies and general school supplies for the 2008-09 school year.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Petrillo seconded Hannah on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Finance George Safin for Board approval for the request received from Allegheny Realty & Development Group, LLC for LERTA Tax Exemptions. The South Fayette Township has approved the LERTA exemption.

Roll Call – All Yes

The Board discussed possible gambling revenue distribution to homeowners who applied for Homestead/Farmstead exemption by March 1, 2008.

Director of Finance George Safin informed the Board The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) has until May 1, 2008, to notify the District of the allocation. PASBO has estimated that relief would come when the gambling revenue reaches \$500 million, if this is the guideline the PDE is going to use our allocation would be \$532,288 which is based on the current number of 3,675 homestead exemptions that were filed. Each homestead/farmstead would see a reduction of \$141.38 as a line item on their tax bill. Mr. Safin indicated he is waiting to hear from the state regarding the amount.

Mr. Newcomer asked Mr. Niemann to call him on his cell phone so he could vote on the following items. Mr. Newcomer was reached by telephone and did participate in the ACT 93 agreement and the contract for the Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mary Ravita.

Wood seconded Morelli on the recommendation of Board President Bill Newcomer and Lena Hannah, representatives of the ACT 93 Meet and Discuss Team, for Board approval of the ACT 93 agreement for a term of five (5) years effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013.

Roll Call – All Yes

As per school code, Superintendent Dr. Linda B. Hippert recommended the Board approve the contract for Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, Assessment, and Instruction Dr. Mary D. Ravita, for a term of five (5) years effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013. Petrillo seconded Smith on the motion.

Roll Call – All Yes

At this time the phone call to Mr. Newcomer was terminated.

Personnel

Informational

At the Committee Meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, the Board approved the hiring of Donna Harshman as Director of Transportation at the rate of \$55,000, prorated. Effective date will be upon release from current employer.

Hannah seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Director of Technology Bryan O'Black for the Board to accept the following resignation:

- Rob Weiss, South Fayette District Webmaster, effective March 14, 2008

Voice Vote – All Yes

Morelli seconded Hannah on the recommendation of The Superintendent and Administrators for Board approval to hire the following personnel:

- Karen Coyne, Registered Nurse, effective April 23, 2008, at the rate of \$24,000 prorated
- Adam Gavlak, Summer Technology Assistant, the program operates Monday through Thursday from 9:45 a.m. until 1:15 p.m., from June 16 through August 7, 2008. The total cost for the program will not exceed \$1,300. The PTA contributes \$650 to the program
- Matt Dugas, to provide homebound instruction beginning March 26 through April 21, 2008, rate of pay \$26.78 per hour, per contract

a) The following EPR's:

- | | |
|---|------------|
| • Jill Machen, Choreographer of the Middle School Musical | \$660.00 |
| • Mariann Mackey, Director of Fall Drama Production | \$2,200.00 |
| • Alivia Vereb-Owen, Choreographer of Fall Drama | \$800.00 |
| • Gene Manzini, Sound and Lighting for Fall Drama | \$940.00 |
| • Marie Ireland, Costume Design Manager for Fall Drama | \$640.00 |
| • Donna Meehan, House/Ticket Manager for Fall Drama | \$375.00 |
| • Dean Stewart, Set Construction Manager for Fall Drama | \$640.00 |
| • Donna Meehan, House/Ticket Manager for Spring Drama | \$540.00 |
| • Dave Speidel, Stage Crew Manager of the Middle School Musical | \$375.00 |

- b) The following list of instructors for the Little Lions' Academy Summer 2008. Instructors will be paid \$275 for a one-week class. The Academy will operate for two weeks during the summer the weeks of July 21 and July 28, 2008. This program is at no cost to the district and is supported through the \$40 registration fee.

Instructors:

Alana Gibbs	Michelle Giacomino	Melissa Hart	Nicole Herrmann	Lauren Hirsch
Allison Iannuzzi	Leslie Kotloski	J. C. Lauso	Amy Lunn	Jodi Lutz
Arlene DiFiore	Judy Dobies	Colleen English	Sandy Fiumara	Angela Getty
Daysi Boal,	Tracy Brandtner	Rich Briggs	Cindy Cox	Kristin DeGiovanni
Gina Mondì	David Pope	Nicole Schutt	Janelle Steigerwald	Sherri Verner Sulkowski
Stephanie Maszkiewicz	Rita McGinnis	Smita Menon	Katie Messinger	Allyson Miller
Tim Tracy	Tiffany Vetter			

Roll Call – All Yes

Education

Petrillo seconded Hannah on the recommendation of The Superintendent for Board approval for the Administration to submit all federal and state grants for Title I, Title II, Title III, Title V, Safe Schools Initiative, Drug Free, Schools, Classrooms For the Future, Project 720, Dual Enrollment, and Pennsylvania Accountability Grants for the 2008-09 school year.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Hannah seconded Petrillo on the recommendation The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mary Ravita for Board approval per Board Policy 706.1 to dispose of the following books as obsolete:

- Copyright date 1992 Algebra II with Trigonometry – qty 65

Roll Call – All Yes

Petrillo seconded Hannah on the recommendation of The Assistant Superintendent Dr. Mary Ravita for Board approval, as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, to appoint Steve Iszauk, Pam McKenzie, and Cindy Geisler to participate as community members on the ACT 48 Professional Development Team.

Voice Vote – All Yes

Transportation

There were no items to discuss.

Athletics

Informational

At the Committee Meeting on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, the Board approved the hiring of Michael Ladick as Head Varsity Wrestling Coach for the 2008-09 school year.

Congratulations to the following student athletes and coach:

Wrestling

- Tyler Manion - won the Division IV/100 Pound Class at the 11th Annual Cliff Keen Reno World Class Wrestling Championship in Reno, NV
- Nick Carr – Honorable Mention Almanac Wrestling All Star 135 Pound Weight Classification

Boys Tennis

- Cameron Carlock – 3rd place in the WPIAL Boys Tennis Class AA Section 5 Single Qualifier

Boys Basketball

- Patrick Zedreck – Almanac – Players to Watch
- Joe Silko – Post Gazette All Section Team
- Joe Silko – Almanac Honorable Mention
- Zach Patterson – Almanac Elite Eleven – Second Team
- Michael Lamberti – Almanac Elite Eleven – Rookie of the Year
- Michael Lamberti – Post Gazette All Section Team
- Rich Bonnaure – Almanac Coach of the Year

Girls Basketball

- Paige Uram – Post Gazette All Section Team
- Paige Uram – Almanac All Star Honorable Mention Award

Track and Field – New records set or tied

- Julia Denison, Sarah Lander, Sarah Casserly, Christa Fornella - 4 x 800m Relay
- Jessica Greenwald, Amy Murrer, Jessica Segeleon, Chelsy Geisler - 4 x 100m Relay
- Christa Fornella - 800m
- Chelsy Geisler - 100m
- Chelsy Geisler -200m
- John Cochran - 400m
- Greg Goldbach - High Jump

Morelli seconded Petrillo on the recommendation of The Superintendent, Athletic Director Joe Farkas, and Head Coaches for Board approval to hire the following coaches and/or make changes in compensation:

- | | | |
|---------------------|--|------------|
| • Walter Phillips | Assistant Softball Coach | \$1,000.00 |
| • Joe Winans | Assistant Track Coach | \$4,758.75 |
| • Antonio Powell | Assistant Track Coach | \$3,623.75 |
| • Elizabeth Scanlon | Assistant Track Coach | \$3,518.75 |
| • David Iannetti | Assistant Track Coach | \$3,623.75 |
| • James Spicer | from a paid Assistant Varsity Track Coach to a Volunteer Coach | |

Roll Call – All Yes

D. Parkway West

Jeff Smith

Mr. Smith asked to relinquish his appointment as the Parkway West Representative for a few months. The Board will consider having another member fill in for Mr. Smith.

E. SHASDA

Todd Petrillo

Mr. Petrillo had previously mentioned the spring conference is May 9 and 10, at the Southpointe Hilton Garden Inn. This is the conference where students are recognized.

F. South Fayette Foundation

Len Fornella

No report- Mr. Fornella was not in attendance.

Petrillo seconded Morelli to adjourn the meeting at 9:13 p.m. to enter into Executive Session to discuss litigation.

Voice Vote – All Yes

William Newcomer, Board President

Ruth Bell, Board Secretary