

Souderton Area School District

760 Lower Road
Souderton, PA 18964

A meeting of the Souderton Area School Board was held Thursday, March 23, 2006 at 7:35 PM at the District Administrative Office in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room. The meeting was called to order by President Eric MacDougall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll call was as follows:

PRESENT:	William J. Brong	Mark D. Leer
	Tracy G. Cole	Eric R. MacDougall
	Bernard S. Currie	Dr. Jack A. Parry
	Sharon J. Gehret	Victor M. Verbeke
ABSENT:	R. Bud Miller	
SOLICITOR:	Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.	

Also present at the meeting were: Dr. Charles Amuso, Karen Berk, Brenda J. Bray, Donna Brown, Michael Cahill, Brad Clemens, Perry Engard, Grace Eves, Frank Gallagher, Ken Hamilton, Ellen Jamison, Meghan McAllister, Leslie Reyburn-Shisler, Laurie Reynolds, Kyle Robertson, Jack Silva, Sam Varano, representatives from The Intelligencer, The Reporter, Radio Station WNPV, and the public.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Charles D. Amuso, Ed.D.

SCHOOL/STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

Souderton Area High School – Boys Basketball Team

Dr. Amuso called upon Coach Perry Engard, who introduced the members of the Souderton Area High School Boys Basketball team who were present at the meeting and spoke about the team's season and achievements. Mr. Engard thanked the players, team manager, assistant coaches and parents for their support throughout the season.

The members of the High School Boys Basketball team finished the season by winning the Suburban One Championship with a 13-3 league record and a 20-6 overall record. This was the first Suburban One title in school history (second league title overall when Souderton won the Bux-Mont title in 1986). Their season also closed with their second District Playoff win.

The following players made the 2006 Suburban One League Continental All-League Team:

DEVIN BURKE – Senior – Third Team
JEFFREY DiDOMENICO – Senior – Honorable Mention
MICHAEL KENNEDY – Senior – First Team
ROBERT PINES – Senior – First Team

Report of the Superintendent

SCHOOL/STUDENT RECOGNITIONS (continued)

Souderton Area High School – Boys Basketball Team (continued)

Upon a motion by Mr. Verbeke, second by Mr. Brong, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Senior High School Boys Basketball Team and their coaches for their achievement. **EXHIBIT A**

Dr. Amuso also thanked the parents for supporting the team.

Souderton Area High School - Cheerleaders

Dr. Amuso called upon Coach Leslie Reyburn-Shisler, who introduced the cheerleaders in attendance and spoke about their season and accomplishments.

Both the JV and Varsity Cheerleading squads from the high school won their divisions at the Suburban One League Cheerleading Competition on Saturday, February 18, 2006 at Abington High School. The league was well represented with 20 schools in attendance at the competition.

Mr. Leer indicated that his daughter was one of the cheerleaders and that he had attended one of the competitions.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Gehret, second by Mrs. Cole, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board recognized the Senior High School Cheerleading squads for their accomplishments. **EXHIBIT B & C**

Dr. Amuso also thanked the parents for their support.

Souderton Area High School – S.A.V.E. Organization

Dr. Amuso called upon Ken Hamilton, advisor for the S.A.V.E. organization, who introduced the representatives from the S.A.V.E. group. Mr. Hamilton indicated that there are over 200 students involved in the S.A.V.E. organization at the high school.

The Souderton Area High School Students Against Violating the Earth (S.A.V.E.) club has been selected as the winner of the 2005 Presidential Environmental Youth Award (PEYA), representing the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency EPA, Region III. The organization is recognized for their community programs and S.A.V.E. House Project. S.A.V.E. members and advisor, Ken Hamilton, will be recognized at the EPA National Awards Ceremony to be held April 18-21, 2006 in Washington, D.C at the White House.

Mr. Hamilton also shared that he had received the “Outstanding Science Teacher Award” for Montgomery County.

Mr. MacDougall commended Mr. Hamilton and the organization for their fine work to raise the community’s environmental awareness.

Report of the Superintendent

SCHOOL/STUDENT RECOGNITIONS (continued)

Souderton Area High School – S.A.V.E. Organization (continued)

Mrs. Cole indicated that Congressman Dent was very impressed by the work of the S.A.V.E. organization. He had visited the district a few weeks ago and toured the S.A.V.E. facilities.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Brong, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the S.A.V.E. organization for their achievements.

EXHIBIT D

Dr. Amuso thanked the parents of these students for their support.

Souderton Area High School – Academic Bowl Winners

Dr. Amuso introduced Mike Cahill, who then introduced the members of the Academic team who were in attendance. The two teams representing Souderton Area High School were first place winners in a recent Academic Bowl Competition involving six area high schools. The SAHS teams are now eligible to compete in a national Academic Bowl event in June in Washington, D.C. The teams came out on top winning the majority of the 36 competitions (Souderton Area teams won 28 out of the 36 competitions). Faculty advisors are Peter Spizzirri and Mike Cahill. Team members are as follows:

**NICHOLAS BARONE
PETER BRICE
DANIEL CURZON
ROBERT DAVIDE
SCOTT FLORIDA**

**ZACHARY HUSSONG
DAVID KRATZ
NATHAN LANAN
ARAM PILIGIAN
ERIC STROM**

Upon a motion by Mr. Currie, second by Mr. Verbeke and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Senior High School Academic Team for their achievements.

EXHIBIT E

Dr. Amuso thanked the parents of these students for their support.

Requests to Attend Conferences/Workshops

Dr. Amuso presented the requests to attend conferences and workshops, stating that they conform to district administrative policy. Dr. Amuso asked that the conference request on the addendum also be included in the motion.

There was a motion by Mrs. Gehret, second by Mr. Brong, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the requests to attend conferences and workshops, including the request on the addendum, as listed:

Report of the Superintendent

Requests to Attend Conferences/Workshops (continued)

LISA SNEDAKER District Office Bookkeeper-Payroll	Elements of State Subsidies Conference Harrisburg, PA March 28, 2006 (Tues.) Est. Expenses: \$150.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$150.00
DANIEL KUJALA Instrumental Music, Senior High	Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Conference Valley Forge, PA March 30-31, 2006 (Thurs.-Fri.) Est. Expenses: \$100.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>200.00</u> Total Expenses: \$300.00
TERESA WASHAM Vocal Music, Senior High School	Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Conference Valley Forge, PA March 30-April 1, 2006 (Thurs.-Sat.) Est. Expenses: \$205.60 Sub. Expenses: <u>200.00</u> Total Expenses: \$405.60
SUZANNE WRIGHT Art, Senior High School	Drawing Workshop Norristown, PA April 8-9, 2006 (Sat.-Sun.) Est. Expenses: \$448.40 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$448.40
MATT HAINES Assistant Principal, Senior High	Influencing Student Behavior in the Classroom Norristown, PA April 19, 2006 (Wed.) Est. Expenses: \$82.80 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$82.80
GREG CARAMENICO Science, Indian Valley M. S.	Competent Teachers, Competent Students: Reading Strategies for Mastering Academic Content
CAROLE GRAHAM Special Education, Indian Valley	King of Prussia, PA April 20, 2006 (Thurs.)
JOHN HANDERHAN Social Studies, Indian Valley M. S.	Est. Expenses: \$ 44.05 (combined)
NANCY KARKOSKA Science, Indian Valley M. S.	Sub. Expenses: <u>400.00</u> (combined) Total Expenses: \$444.05 (combined)

Report of the Superintendent

Requests to Attend Conferences/Workshops (continued)

FRANK GALLAGHER Director of Pupil Services	Introduction to Restorative Practices Seminar Norristown, PA April 28, 2006 (Fri. AM)
B. SUSAN McFADDEN Counselor, Oak Ridge Elem.	Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00 (Combined)
LINDA H. MOYER Counselor, Lower Salford Elem.	Sub. Expenses: <u>100.00</u> (Moyer & Siegfried ½ AM)
KELLY SIEGFRIED Counselor, Vernfield Elem.	Total Expenses: \$100.00 (Combined)
LOUISE J. SMITH Counselor, West Broad Street Elem.	
SHERRI WILLENBECHER Counselor, Salford Hills Elem.	
MELINDA GROSSO Speech and Language Clinician Lower Salford Elem.	New Jersey Speech-Language-Hearing Association Atlantic City, NJ May 5, 2006 (Fri.)
	Est. Expenses: \$286.00
	Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u>
	Total Expenses: \$286.00
BARBARA SCOTT CARS, E. M. Crouthamel Elem.	Reciprocal Teaching for Grades 2-8 Workshop Downingtown, PA\ May 31, 2006 (Wed.)
	Est. Expenses: \$80.00
Paid with Title I funds.	Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u>
	Total Expenses: \$80.00

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Brenda Jones Bray

Action on School Board Meeting Minutes of March 9, 2006

Mrs. Bray presented the Minutes of the March 9, 2006 Board meeting for approval.

Mr. Currie indicated that a correction was needed on page 288 under “Second Reading of Planned Courses.”

He had responded that the Family and Consumer Science Department offers twelve courses at the present time, not two courses.

Upon a motion by Mr. Leer, second by Dr. Parry, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2006 Board meeting as corrected.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Eric R. MacDougall

An Executive Session of the Board was held on March 9, 2006 to discuss real estate and personnel issues. The meeting lasted 60 minutes.

An Executive Session of the Board was held this evening, prior to the Board meeting, to discuss personnel issues. The meeting lasted 30 minutes.

Report of the Student Representatives to the Board

Meghan McAllister, Senior Class Rep. and Kyle Robertson, Junior Class Rep. reported on the current events and activities of the high school. Kyle indicated that the students of the high school want to thank Brigitte Bagocius for the job she does on the District's Website. He indicated that the students at the high school enjoy the Website and find it very useful.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Grace Eves

Approval of the Financial Statements and Check Listings for February 2006.

Upon a motion by Mr. Brong, second by Mr. Leer, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the financial statements and check listings for February 2006 as presented by Mrs. Eves.

EXHIBIT F

EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mark D. Leer, Chairperson

Mr. Leer indicated that the preliminary agenda to be discussed, but not limited to at the March 1, 2006 Education-Personnel Committee meeting will include:

- Update on Handheld Program in Grade 5
- Revisions of Planned Courses for English 9, English 11 and English 12
- Overview of the Three-Year Transition Plan for Grades 6-8

CURRICULUM ITEMS

Request for Third Reading and Final Approval of Planned Course

Mr. Leer presented the *Multicultural Foods Planned Course* (new course for 2006-2007) for a third reading and adoption.

Mr. Currie indicated that he felt there were several open issues from the last Education-Personnel Committee meeting regarding the *Multicultural Foods Planned Course*. He asked who would be teaching the course when the current teachers already have a full load. Mr. Currie also questioned the process used when selecting courses to offer the students.

Education-Personnel Committee

CURRICULUM ITEMS

Request for Third Reading and Final Approval of Planned Course (continued)

Mr. Silva responded that the process used to select courses would be discussed at the next Education-Personnel Committee meeting.

Dr. Amuso recommended the planned course for approval.

Upon a motion by Mr. Leer, second by Mrs. Cole, and on a vote of 7-1, with Mr. Currie voting no, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the third reading and grant final approval to the *Multicultural Foods Planned Course* (new course for 2006-2007 as presented).

Mr. Silva clarified how the Family and Consumer Science teachers were selected for each particular course and explained their backgrounds in food.

Dr. Amuso indicated that this planned course meets state requirements.

Mrs. Cole indicated that she was glad to see an integration of cultural diversity in a variety of courses.

Mr. Silva indicated that Souderton is following national trends in this subject area. We are trying to have a new perspective about food.

Requests for Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trips

Upon a motion by Mr. Leer, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the out-of-state/overnight field trips as presented:

- a. Souderton Area High School – Arrowhead/Unaliyi Publications
Date: April 19-23, 2006 (Wednesday-Sunday)
Destination: National Scholastic Press Association Spring Convention
and tourist attractions in San Francisco, CA
Purpose of Trip: The yearbook has been nominated for a national award from NSPA. The convention is a national high school journalism convention.
Both the newspaper and yearbook will benefit from this learning experience.
Number of Students: 4
Number of Chaperones – 1
Teacher Involved: Mrs. Aronow
Financing of Trip: Funding by yearbook and newspaper accounts and students.

Education-Personnel Committee

CURRICULUM ITEMS

Requests for Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trips (continued)

- b. Vernfield Elementary School – Fourth Grade Trip
Date: May 25, 2006 (Thursday)
Destination: The Camden Aquarium in Camden, NJ.
Purpose of Trip: An extension and culminating activity of the fourth grade ocean unit.
Number of Students: 81
Number of Chaperones – 5–Teachers/23–Parents
Teachers Involved: Mrs. Yoder, Mrs. Rosenberger, Mrs. Ditlow, Mrs. Kazatsky
Financing of Trip: By students and parents.
- c. Souderton Area High School – All-State Chorus
Date: March 30 – April 1, 2006 (Thursday – Saturday)
Destination: Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Chorus
Springfield, PA
Purpose of Trip: Three Souderton Area High School students have been selected to participate in the All-State Chorus.
Number of Students: 3
Number of Chaperones: 1 Teacher
Teacher Involved: Mrs. Washam
Financing of Trip: By students and parents.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

Upon a motion by Mr. Leer, second by Mr. Brong, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the professional staff request for childrearing leave, support staff resignations, recommendations for employment, requests for supplemental contract and contracted service for coaching positions for 2005-2006, and the additions to the substitute teacher listing for 2005-2006 as listed:

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Request for Childrearing Leave

BERTINA HSU-MILLER Third Grade Teacher, Vernfield Elementary
Leave to begin November 21, 2006 through the first semester of the 2006-2007 school year. Mrs. Hsu-Miller is planning to return to work for the second semester of the 2006-2007 school year.

Education-Personnel Committee

PERSONNEL ITEMS

SUPPORT STAFF

Resignations

JAMES MOFFETT

Part-Time Custodial Substitute
Effective: March 15, 2006

DANIELLE PETTIT

Part-Time Custodian, Vernfield Elem.
Effective: March 31, 2006

Recommendations for Employment

JANINE CAPECI

Replacement for
Barbara Batten (transfer)

Cafeteria/Playground Aide, Oak Ridge Elem.
Beginning: March 24, 2006
Hourly Rate: \$9.05
Hours: 1 per day

JOSHUA HART

Replacement for
James Moffett (resigned)

Part-Time Custodial Substitute
Beginning: March 24, 2006
Hourly Rate: \$8.96
Hours: 4 per day

BRENDA MOYER

New position approved
by School Board on
February 9, 2006

Classroom Aide, E. M. Crouthamel Elem.
Beginning: March 24, 2006 through the end of
the 2005-2006 school year
Hourly Rate: \$9.05
Hours: 3 per day

LINDA THOMPSON

Replacement for
Bonnie Schatz (resigned)

Cafeteria/Playground Aide, West Broad Elem.
Beginning: March 9, 2006
Hourly Rate: \$9.05
Hours: 1.0 per day/Tuesday and Thursdays
1.5 per day/Monday, Wednesdays, Fridays

Supplemental Contract for Coaching Position – 2005-2006

DANIEL ROBBINS Developmental Boys Basketball Coach (IC) \$23.00 per hour
Approximately 6 hours per week for 9 weeks.

Contracted Services for Coaching Position – 2005-2006

ALLISON WALBRANDT ^ Head 8th Grade Girls Lacrosse Coach (IC) \$1,954.00
^ *New coach for SASD.*

Additions to the Substitute Teacher Listing for 2005-2006.

EXHIBIT G

Education-Personnel Committee

The next Education-Personnel Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 5, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

NORTH MONTCO TECHNICAL CAREER CENTER

Sharon Gehret and William Brong, Representatives

Mrs. Gehret reported that at last night's North Montco Technical Career Center Board Meeting, the Board discussed the budget. At this point in time, the 2006-2007 budget shows an increase of 8.53% which is made up by increases in salaries, benefits, equipment costs and repairs. Souderton's share would increase by \$169,000. The Board will continue to work on the budget at their next meeting.

Mrs. Gehret invited the public to attend the next meeting of the Joint Operating Committee to be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Administrative Conference Room at the North Montco Technical Career Center, 1265 Sunneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA.

Mr. MacDougall called an Executive Session of the Board at this point in the meeting to seek advice from the solicitor regarding an agreement. The session lasted six minutes.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

R. "Bud" Miller, Chairperson

Mr. Brong presented the Operations Committee report in the absence of Mr. Miller.

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Mr. Brong indicated that items discussed at the March 15, 2006 Operations Committee meeting were as follows:

- High School Project Update
- Proposed Capital Improvements Plan

Requests for Use of School Facilities

Mr. Brong indicated that the requests listed met prevailing rates and conformed to present policy.

E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School

Souderton Area Youth Football Association
Cafeteria/Gym
September thru November 2006
Monday & Thursday Evenings – 6:15-8:30 pm
Cheer Practice
Certificate of Insurance on file

Operations Committee

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for Use of School Facilities (continued)

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy.

Franconia Elementary School

Harleysville Girls Softball Association
Gym
Wednesday, March 22nd 6:00pm – 9:00pm
Coaches Clinic
Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton Area Baseball League, Inc.
Cafeteria & Gym
Saturday, April 29th – 7:00am – 12:00pm
Saturday, May 13th - 8:00am - 11:00pm
League Pictures
Certificate of Insurance on file

Indian Crest Junior High School

Souderton Area Youth Football Association
Football Fields
August 1 thru September 4, 2006
Mon – Tues – Wed – Thurs – 6:00 – 9:00pm
Football Practice
Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton Area Youth Wrestling Boosters
Gym, Boys Locker Rooms
July 11 – 15, 2006 – 8:45am – 12:00pm
Wrestling Clinics
Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton-Telford Rotary
Football Field & Locker Rooms
May 22 thru June 2, 2006
6:00 – 8:00pm
Montgomery County All-Star Football Practice and Game
Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton Area Girls Lacrosse (S.A.G.L.A.)
Lacrosse Field
Saturdays – March 25 thru June 10, 2006
11:00am – 3:00pm
Youth Lacrosse Practice and Games
Certificate of Insurance on file

Operations Committee

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for Use of School Facilities (continued)

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy.

Indian Valley Middle School

Indian Valley Family YMCA

Soccer Field/Tennis Courts

June 26 thru 30, 2006

July 17 thru 21, 2006

9:00am – 12:00pm

Summer Camps

Certificate of Insurance on file

Indian Valley Family YMCA

Soccer Field

Friday Evenings 5:30 – 7:30pm

April 21 thru June 2, 2006

Soccer Clinics

Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton Area Youth Football Association

Football Fields

August 1m thru September 4, 2006

Mon – Tues – Wed – Thurs – 6:00 – 9:00pm

Football Practice

Certificate of Insurance on file

Harleysville Soccer Association

Soccer Fields

July 1 thru September 9, 2006

Mon – Tues – Wed – Thurs – 5:30 – 7:00pm

Saturdays - 9:30 am – 12:00pm

Intramural League

Certificate of Insurance on file

Harleysville Soccer Association

Soccer Fields

August 11 thru 13, 2006

8:00am – 8:00pm

Soccer Tournament

Certificate of Insurance on file

Operations Committee

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for Use of School Facilities (continued)

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy.

Indian Valley Middle School (continued)

Harleysville Soccer Association

Soccer Fields

April 22-23, 2006

June 3-4, 10-11, 13, 2006

October 15, 2006

All Dates – 9:00am – 6:00pm

Coaches Clinics

Certificate of Insurance on file

Harleysville Soccer Association

All School Athletic Fields

September 16, 2006

8:00am – 8:00pm

Intramural Soccer Day Tournament

Certificate of Insurance on file

St. Maria Goretti CYO

Track & Field Area

Tuesday and Thursdays – April and May, 2006

Saturdays – March 18 – 25, 2006

Practice for Track Meets

Certificate of Insurance on file

Pennsylvania State Police

Track

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

7:00am – 8:00am

March 27 thru June 30, 2006

Officers Fitness Run

Commonwealth of PA Self-Insurance

Lower Salford Elementary School

Lower Salford Home & School Association

Cafeteria

Monthly Dates in 2006-2007 School Year

4:00pm – 6:15pm

Market Pick-Up Day

Certificate of Insurance on file

Operations Committee

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for Use of School Facilities (continued)

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy.

Salford Hills Elementary School

The Montgomery Defenders

Gym

March 14, 21, 28, 2006 6:30 – 8:30pm

Basketball Practice

Certificate of Insurance **Pending**

Souderton Area Youth Football Association

Cafeteria

September thru November 2006

Tuesday and Thursdays 6:15pm – 8:30pm

Cheer Practice

Certificate of Insurance on file

Vernfield Elementary School

The Montgomery Defenders

Gym

March 24 and March 31, 2006

Friday Evening – 6:30 – 8:30pm

Basketball Practice

Certificate of Insurance **Pending**

Franconia Township

Auditorium

Wednesday, April 5

6:00pm – 9:00pm

Open House for Resident Meeting

Certificate of Insurance on file

West Broad Street Elementary School

The Montgomery Defenders

Gym

Monday and Friday

March 20, 24, 27, 31, 2006

6:30 – 8:30pm

Basketball Practice

Certificate of Insurance **Pending**

Operations Committee

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

High School Project Update

Mr. Brong indicated that bids for the new high school were received and opened on March 22nd. The bids are now in the hands of the architect and construction management firm to digest the facts and figures.

There will be a special Operations Committee meeting on Tuesday, April 4, 2006 at 6:30 PM to review the bids received on March 22, 2006 for the new high school project. The meeting will be held in the Tinner Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

Approval of Franconia Township Land Development Resolution

Dr. Amuso indicated that this resolution to grant conditional, final land development for the new high school project was approved by the Franconia Township Board of Supervisors on March 20, 2006. The administration is recommending approval of the resolution.

Mr. Sultanik indicated that this resolution would be approved pending administration and solicitor approval.

Upon a motion by Mr. Brong, second by Mr. Leer, and on a vote of 7-1, with Dr. Parry voting no, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the Resolution below as corrected:

RESOLUTION:

Granting conditional, final land development approval for the “New Souderton Area Senior High School” and the property located along Lower Road, Halteman Road, and Moyer Road, Franconia Township, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania pending approval by the Souderton Area School District administration and solicitor.

TRANSPORTATION

No report

FOOD SERVICE

No report

The next scheduled Operations Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 at **5:30 PM** in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

FINANCE COMMITTEE
Dr. Jack A. Parry, Chairperson

Committee Chairperson Report

Dr. Parry indicated that at their March 15, 2006 meeting, the Finance Committee discussed the following:

- 2006-2007 Budget:
 - Function 2800 – Central Support Services
 - Function 2900 – Other Support Services
 - Function 3200 – Student Activities
 - Function 3300 – Community Services
 - Function 5000 – Other Financing Uses
 - Revenue

Authorization to Begin Work on Swap Agreement

Dr. Parry briefly reviewed events that have lead to this authorization.

Mrs. Bray indicated that this resolution will allow all three parties to get together to discuss the agreement.

Mr. Sultanik indicated that wording should be included in the resolution that would dictate that the proposed agreement would be subject to further Board approval.

Upon a motion by Dr. Parry, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board authorizes the administration, PFM and Fox Rothschild to begin formulating the SWAP agreement as worded in the resolution:

RESOLUTION:

The Board of School Directors of the Souderton Area School District (the “School District”) does hereby authorize the Administration to work with PFM Asset Management LLC, as Independent Financial Advisor/Swap Advisor and Fox Rothschild, LLP, as Swap Counsel in conjunction with the swap agreement on the General Obligation Bonds, Capital Project Completion Series, based on the LIBOR index to swap \$46,920,000 for the life of the variable rate issue and subject to further Board approval.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 5, 2006 at 6:30 PM in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

POLICY COMMITTEE
Tracy G. Cole, Chairperson

Committee Chairperson Report

At their March 15, 2006 Policy Committee meeting the committee discussed the following:

- Student Wellness Policy

Mrs. Cole indicated that the committee was introduced to the Wellness Policy as mandated by Federal guidelines. A committee of parents, teachers, administrators, the Supervisor of Nursing for the District, a representative from our Food Service staff, representatives from community businesses and organizations all worked together to draft this policy. The Policy Committee still has some work to do on the policy before it is submitted for a first reading. This policy needs to be approved by the end of June 2006.

Third Reading and Approval of Policies

Policy #011 – Board Governance Standards/Code of Conduct

Mrs. Cole indicated that this policy was not discussed very much by the Policy Committee. It is mostly a board-based policy with the template coming from PSBA.

Mr. Verbeke indicated that we have several policies that govern the Board as directed by Pennsylvania School Code. He suggested that a statement should be added to the policy that indicates how the Board conducts business. He explained his reasoning for the suggestion. Mr. Verbeke suggested adding...”The above Standards/Code of Conduct are not intended, or otherwise meant, to overrule or be a substitute for the authority and powers of the Souderton Area School Board adopted previously, enumerated in Policy Nos. 002, 003, or 004, or as otherwise provided for in law.”

Mr. Lord, resident of Telford, shared his concern regarding the definition of terms included in the policy.

Mr. MacDougall explained the Board’s position on the definition of terms.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Verbeke, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve Policy #011 – Board Governance Standards/Code of Conduct with the addition of the statement from Mr. Verbeke. **EXHIBIT H**

Mrs. Cole added that the administration needs to complete the adoption form that is posted on PSBA’s Website and submit the new policy.

Policy #702 – Gifts, Grants, Donations

Mrs. Cole indicated that Policy #702 was being read for the third time and recommended for approval.

Mr. Verbeke suggested that any person/organization who gives the school district a gift or donation of over \$1,000 be publicly recognized in some way.

Policy Committee

Policy #702 – Gifts, Grants, Donations (continued)

Upon a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mrs. Gehret, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve Policy #702 – Gifts, Grants, Donations with the addition of wording that would include public recognition. **EXHIBIT I**

The next Policy Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 19, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT

Tracy G. Cole, Representative

Mrs. Cole reported that the Intermediate Unit has purchased their present building.

Mrs. Cole reviewed proposed legislation, HB 2465 and HB 2491 that would affect the schools in Montgomery County. HB 2465 deals with permitting home schooled students and their supervisors access to district libraries for purposes of borrowing scholastic material. HB 2491 would establish a Senior Citizen Volunteer Incentive Program authorizing participating districts to accept senior citizens as volunteers in district schools and then the senior citizen would receive a real property tax credit in exchange for their services.

Mrs. Cole also reviewed the discussions that are taking place in the Conference Committee on SS HB 39 – Taxpayer Relief Act. The committee is charged with developing a compromise reflective of both the House and Senate versions of SS HB 39. She indicated that when the committee does meet, it will be “in the sunshine.” Mrs. Cole then explained the process involved once a version of the Taxpayer Relief Act is agreed upon.

Another issue discussed at the Intermediate Unit Board meeting was the birth of the Southeastern Pennsylvania School Districts’ Education Coalition and their letter to Governor Rendell opposing Back-End Referenda. Souderton is not a member at this time. Mrs. Cole shared information on how to join the coalition.

Mrs. Cole shared that Dr. James Duffy, Director of PaTTAN (Pennsylvania Training and Technical Assistance Network) will be retiring, effective June 30, 2006.

The highlighted department at this month’s meeting was the Human Resources Division. Other topics discussed were Special Education, Elementary/Early Childhood, and “The Bridge”/Highly Qualified certification. Mrs. Cole indicated that PDE was recently notified that the Bridge certification has not been approved by the U. S. Department of Education. PDE is appealing.

Mrs. Cole updated the Board on the early intervention issues at the Intermediate Unit. The Pennsylvania Department of Education has agreed to completely fund the remaining deficit (\$453,000)

Montgomery County Intermediate Unit

for the 2005-2006 school year. Revenue for the 2006-2007 school year appears to be sufficient. This is also based on anticipated program reductions achieved through closer monitoring of the appropriateness of provided services. The IU is still in negotiations with PDE to determine next year's student rate.

Mrs. Cole also shared that the IU has published a booklet that lists all of their services. Copies will be distributed to the Board.

INDIAN VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Victor M. Verbeke, Representative

No report.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Tracy G. Cole, Representative

Mrs. Cole indicated that she had received information that the U. S. Senate passed an amendment to the 2007 fiscal year budget, co-sponsored by Senators Arlen Specter and Tom Harkin, to add \$7 billion to the budget for education and healthcare, and will restore the cuts in programs, such as Title I and IDEA.

STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dr. Jack Parry, Representative

No report.

FEDERAL PROJECTS

No report.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

No report.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Cole mentioned that she had attended the kick-off of the "Bullying" program at Indian Crest and was very impressed. This has highlighted the awareness of bullying and was well worth the money spent for the program.

Unfinished/New Business

Mr. Verbeke indicated that his son also talked about his perception of the program. Mr. Verbeke mentioned that the program really impacted the students.

Wolf Lackler, from Upper Salford Township, asked what the intent was of the special meeting on April 4th.

Mr. MacDougall responded that the meeting will involved the architect and construction management firm to review and discuss the bids and alternates that came in on March 22nd.

Wolf Lackler also asked what was happening with the old high school.

Mr. MacDougall responded that if bids are awarded on April 11th, then discussions will begin on selling the old high school. We can't sell a building that we currently use.

Mr. MacDougall announced that there would be an Executive Session following tonight's Board meeting to discuss potential litigation and personnel items.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, there was a motion by Dr. Parry, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM.

SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brenda Jones Bray
Board Secretary