

**SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT**

760 Lower Road  
Souderton, PA 18964

President Eric R. MacDougall called the meeting of the Souderton Area School Board to order on Thursday evening, February 9, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room.

The roll call was as follows:

PRESENT:	William J. Brong	Eric R. MacDougall
	Tracy G. Cole	R. Bud Miller
	Bernard S. Currie	Dr. Jack A. Parry
	Mark D. Leer	Victor M. Verbeke

ABSENT: Sharon J. Gehret

SOLICITOR: Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

Also present at the meeting were: Karen Berk, Brenda J. Bray, R. Bradley Clemens, Frank Gallagher, Ellen Jamison, Steve Pollack, Laurie Reynolds, Gail Ryan, Jack Silva, Sam Varano, and Teresa Washam, representatives from The Reporter, The Morning Call, Radio Station WNPV and the public.

**REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT**

Charles D. Amuso, Ed.D.

On behalf of the Souderton Area School District, Mr. Clemens expressed his condolences to the Amuso Family upon the death of Mrs. Amuso's father.

**STUDENT/SCHOOL RECOGNITION**

**Souderton Area High School District Chorus Members**

Mr. Clemens introduced Teresa Washam, who spoke about the achievements of the chorus members and introduced those students in attendance. The chorus members then performed a song for the Board. Seven members of the Souderton Area High School choral program were selected by audition to participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association (PMEA) District Choral Festival. Also, five of the seven students who attended District Chorus will be moving on to Regional Chorus. Choral director is Teresa Washam.

**BENJAMIN BRUEN** – District Chorus Bass I

**CAROLINE CRESS** – District Chorus Alto II – Regional Chorus 6<sup>th</sup> on Alto II

**JESSICA GREISER** – District Chorus Soprano II – Regional Chorus 1<sup>st</sup> on Soprano II

**BENJAMIN HALLOWELL** – District Chorus Bass I – Regional Chorus 1<sup>st</sup> on Bass I

**DANIEL MOYER** – District Chorus Tenor II – Regional Chorus 1<sup>st</sup> on Tenor II

**STEVEN NOLEN** – District Chorus Tenor I – Regional Chorus 1<sup>st</sup> on Tenor I

**ARAM PILIGIAN** – District Chorus Bass II

Report of the Superintendent

STUDENT/SCHOOL RECOGNITION (continued)

Souderton Area High School District Chorus Members (continued)

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

**RESOLVED**, That the Board acknowledge the chorus members and their director for this accomplishment. **EXHIBIT A**

Requests for Conferences/Workshops

Mr. Clemens presented the requests for conferences and workshops, stating that they all comply with administrative policies. He mentioned that the conference request for Kathrine Doll should be withdrawn from the list.

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

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the conferences and workshops as listed:

**ALISON MORAN**  
Speech, West Broad Street Elem.

Vocabulary for Students with Communication  
Devices  
Norristown, PA  
February 9, 2006 (Thurs.)  
Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00  
Sub. Expenses: 0.00  
Total Expenses: \$ 0.00

**VICTORIA BALL**  
Student Support Teacher, Oak Ridge Elem.

Designing Effective Math Instruction for  
Struggling Students  
Norristown, PA  
February 24, 2006 (Fri.)

**KAREN HEISEY**

Student Support Teacher, Salford Hills Elem

**LINDA S. MOYER**

Student Support Teacher, Vernfield Elem.

**DEBORAH SCHULTZ**

Student Support Teacher, Franconia Elem.

**CARYL WATERS**

Student Support Teacher, West Broad Street Elem.

Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00 (combined)  
Sub. Expenses: 0.00 (combined)  
Total Expenses: \$ 0.00 (combined)

**JESSICA LANDIS**

Third Grade, E. M. Crouthamel Elem.

**KATELYN SEESTEDT**

Fifth Grade, E. M. Crouthamel Elem.

Paid through Title I funds.

Writing About Mathematics Workshop  
Philadelphia, PA  
March 2, 2006 (Thurs.)

Est. Expenses: \$358.00 (combined)  
Sub. Expenses: 200.00 (combined)  
Total Expenses: \$558.00 (combined)

Report of the Superintendent

Requests for Conferences/Workshops (continued)

<b>LINDA S. MOYER</b> Student Support Teacher, Vernfield Elem.	Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills Norristown, PA March 3, 2006 (Fri.) Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$ 0.00
<b>KAREN PLANINSHEK</b> CARS, Vernfield Elem.	
<b>ELLEN JAMISON</b> Coordinator of Community Relations	Pennsylvania Schools Public Relations Association Symposium Hershey, PA March 7-8, 2006 (Tues.-Wed.) Est. Expenses: \$531.75 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$531.75
<b>BRENDA J. BRAY</b> Director of Business Affairs	Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials Conference Hershey, PA March 7-10, 2006 (Tues.-Fri.) Est. Expenses: \$732.13 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$732.13
<b>SKIP DERRO</b> Special Education, Senior High School	Make and Take for the PSAS Training Norristown, PA March 14, 2006 (Tues.) Est. Expenses: \$ 13.35 Sub. Expenses: <u>100.00</u> Total Expenses: \$113.35
<b>ALYSSA PICARD</b> Social Studies, Indian Valley M. S.	Co-Teaching That Works – Effective Strategies for Working Together in Today’s Inclusive Classrooms Frazer, PA March 17, 2006 (Fri.) Est. Expenses: \$205.02 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$205.02
Paid through IDEA funds.	

Report of the Superintendent

Requests for Conferences/Workshops (continued)

<b>JOHN HANDERHAN</b> Social Studies/Athletic Director Indian Valley Middle School	Pennsylvania State Athletic Directors Association Conference Hershey, PA March 22-23, 2006 (Wed.-Thurs.) Est. Expenses: \$462.10 Sub. Expenses: <u>200.00</u> Total Expenses: \$662.10
<b>PRISCILLA LANDIS</b> Vocal Music and Strings, Salford Hills Elem	Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Conference Valley Forge, PA March 30, 2006 (Thurs.) Est. Expenses: \$ 50.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$ 50.00
<b>ALISON MORAN</b> Speech, West Broad Street Elem.	Assistive Technology Core Team Update Norristown, PA April 18, 2006 (Tues.) Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$ 0.00
<b>DAVE RAMAGE</b> Coordinator of Technology-Staff Development Funding from 2006-2007 budget.	National Educational Computing Conference San Diego, CA July 4-7, 2006 (Tues.-Fri.) Est. Expenses: \$996.71 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Expenses: \$996.71

Mr. Clemens announced that the Souderton Area School District would be holding a meeting on air quality at the West Broad Street Elementary School on Monday, February 13, 2006 beginning at 7:00 PM in the school's multi-purpose room. Reports from the various agencies that have been called in to test the air quality will be shared with parents and the media.

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY**

Brenda J. Bray

School Board Minutes

Mrs. Bray presented the School Board Meeting Minutes of January 26, 2006 for approval.

Report of the Secretary

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

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the School Board Minutes of January 26, 2006 as presented.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT**

Eric R. MacDougall

An Executive Session was held January 26, 2006 to discuss personnel issues. The meeting lasted thirty minutes.

An Executive Session was held on February 1, 2006 to discuss a personnel issues. The meeting lasted forty-five minutes.

Mr. MacDougall announced that there would be an Executive Session of the Board following tonight's Board meeting to discuss legal issues pertaining to the high school.

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER**

Grace Eves

In the absence of Mrs. Eves, Mrs. Bray presented the Financial Statements for January 2006 as an information item.

**EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

Mark D. Leer, Chairperson

Mr. Leer reviewed several items from the February 1, 2006 Education-Personnel Committee meeting:

- ⌘ A new program for the implementation of Language Arts and Math Coaches at the secondary level, to begin in the 2006-2007 school year.
- ⌘ The 2006-2007 Eighth Grade Program of Studies.
- ⌘ The general district procedures for implementing new courses, programs, and textbooks.
- ⌘ The work and timeline of the Middle Level Transition Steering Committee.

CURRICULUM ITEMS

Second Reading of Program of Studies – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Mr. Currie addressed the Board by reading a prepared statement, which is included as an exhibit to the minutes. **EXHIBIT B**

Mr. Currie indicated that “intervention” is a solution to a problem that was presented without detailed discussion of cause for the problem. He also asked the administration for answers to how many Courses are aligned with state standards, how many courses are yet to be aligned, and how long will it take to align the remaining courses.

Education-Personnel Committee

CURRICULUM ITEMS

Second Reading of Program of Studies – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade (continued)

Mr. Currie also asked the administration to report back on the motivation factor and the passing or failing of the PSSA tests for advancing to the next grade. He also asked the administration to report back on the cost involved in the intervention program and how long these programs would be necessary. Mr. Currie indicated that the programs were presented without targets or benchmarks for success and accountability standards. He would like the program questions addressed.

Mr. Leer recommended that the administration report back to the Board next year on the data analysis received this year.

Mr. Miller questioned if the district currently has a lower level course. He asked if the intervention could be added as a course instead of an additional program in the curriculum.

Mrs. Cole asked for clarification.

Mr. Clemens clarified that two-half time positions would be needed, but as we go through budget discussions, we will determine if we have staff already in place or if we need to add staff.

Mr. Silva addressed the question regarding adjustments and requirements to the standards.

Mr. Brong commented that this is just an intervention program.

Mr. Leer indicated that this program would target specific students who could stay in their current courses but need some help and would have a better change of success.

Recommendation to Approve Request for Out-of-State Field Trip

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

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the out-of-state field trip as listed:

Souderton Area High School – United Nations Club – Grades 10-12

Date: March 30-April 2, 2006 (Thursday-Sunday)

Destination: George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

Purpose of Trip: To compete in a United Nations Conference sponsored by George Washington University.

Number of Students: 6

Number of Chaperones – 1 or 2

Teachers Involved: Karen Manno, Amanda Miller

Financing of Trip: By students and fund raising activities.

Education-Personnel Committee

OTHER ITEMS

Request to Add a Classroom Aide Position at E. M. Crouthamel Elementary, Fourth Grade Class, Due to Increased Enrollment. Three hours per day, \$9.08 per hour, through the end of the 2005-2006 school year.

Mr. Clemens explained the need for the additional classroom aide position as per Board policy. He indicated that classroom sizes are watched very carefully, both weekly and monthly.

There was a motion by Mr. Leer, second by Mrs. Cole.

Mr. Miller asked for clarification of the need for an aide. He questioned if an aide could help in more than one classroom.

Mr. Clemens responded that he felt we needed to adhere to the guidelines that are in place at the present time.

Mr. Miller asked if some classrooms could take on more students instead of hiring an additional aide.

Mr. Clemens indicated that we try to keep all classroom enrollments balanced.

Dr. Parry questioned what would happen if student numbers fall within a classroom after an aide is added.

Mr. Clemens reiterated that classroom enrollments are watched very carefully. The district rarely loses that many students that would cause an aide to be pulled away from a classroom.

Mr. Sultanik indicated that there is no policy in place at the present time that addresses when an aide is pulled from a classroom.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the request to add a classroom aide position at E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School, fourth grade class, due to increased enrollment, for three hours per day, at \$9.08 per hour, through the end of the 2005-2006 school year.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

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

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the Professional Staff retirement, Support Staff retirement, transfers, recommendations for employment, supplemental contracts and contracted services for 2005-2006, and additions to the substitute teacher listing for 2005-2006 as listed:

Education-Personnel Committee

PERSONNEL ITEMS

PROFESSIONAL STAFF (continued)

Retirement

**MICHAEL AHERN**

English Teacher, Senior High School  
Effective: June 30, 2006  
Employed by SASD: 31 years

SUPPORT STAFF

Retirement

**GERTRUDE (DOLLY) GROFF**

Custodian, Indian Crest Jr. High  
Effective: February 10, 2006  
Employed by SASD: 19 years

Transfers

**JANE DITULLIO**

Extension of hours.

From: Cafeteria/Playground Aide  
Franconia Elem. – 2 days/week  
To: Cafeteria/Playground Aide  
Franconia Elem. – 5 days/week  
Beginning: February 2, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$9.55 per hour  
Hours: 1 per day/5 days per week

**VICKI FREED**

Replacement for  
Susan Claus (transfer)

From: Substitute Cafeteria Aide  
Franconia Elem.  
To: Cafeteria/Playground Aide  
Franconia Elem. – 5 days/week  
Beginning: February 2, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$9.05 per hour  
Hours: 1 per day/5 days per week

Recommendations for Employment

**ROSEMARIE BULL**

District Food Service Substitute  
Beginning: February 6, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$8.51  
Hours: as needed

**KRISTIN MILOSEK**

District Food Service Substitute  
Beginning: February 13, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$8.51  
Hours: as needed



Education-Personnel Committee

PERSONNEL ITEMS

SUPPORT STAFF (continued)

Recommendations for Employment (continued)

**SONYA TALBOT** Special Education Autistic Support Aide  
Replacement for Vernfield Elementary School  
Nada Rifai (resigned) Beginning: February 10, 2006  
Hourly Rate: \$9.83  
Hours: 6.5 hours per day

Supplemental Contracts for 2005-2006 Coaching Positions

<b>STEPHEN NOGAMI</b>	Head Baseball Coach (IV)	\$2,242.00
<b>THOMAS JERNIGAN</b>	Head Baseball Coach (IV)	2,176.00
<b>MARK MAZUREK</b>	Head Softball Coach (IV)	2,637.00
<b>ADAM KAYSER</b>	Head Softball Coach (IV)	2,242.00
<b>COREY CLEMMER</b>	Head Girls Lacrosse Coach (IV)	2,012.00
<b>DOUGLAS P. HENNING</b>	Head Girls Track Coach (IV)-Grades 7 & 8	2,012.00
<b>LAURA POLISH</b>	Head Girls Track Coach (IV)-Grades 7 & 8	2,012.00
<b>KEITH BUSSOM</b>	Head Boys Track Coach (IV)-Grades 7 & 8	\$2,176.00
<b>JONATHAN BLAIR</b>	Head Boys Track Coach (IV)-Grades 7 & 8	2,072.00
<b>DREW SCHEELER</b>	Boys Developmental Coach (IV) 6 hour/week-5 weeks-\$23.00/hour	
<b>JONATHAN BLAIR</b>	Boys Developmental Coach (IV) 6 hour/week-5 weeks-\$23.00/hour	
<b>PETER SPIZZIRRI</b>	Head Boys Lacrosse Coach (HS)	3,256.00

Contracted Services for 2005-2006 Coaching Positions

<b>JANE PALMERINI ^</b>	Assist. Varsity Coach Girls Lacrosse (HS)	\$2,864.00
<b>TARA WAGNER ^</b>	Assist. JV Coach Girls Lacrosse (HS)	2,496.00
<b>AMY ALWINE</b>	Asst. Freshman Coach Girls Lacrosse (HS)	3,286.00
<b>STEPHANIE GOOD ^</b>	Assistant Boys Tennis Coach (HS)	1,574.00

*^ Indicates new to coaching at SASD*

Recommendation to Approve Additions to the Substitute Teacher Listing for 2005-2006.

**EXHIBIT C**

The next Education-Personnel Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

**NORTH MONTCO TECHNICAL CAREER CENTER**

Sharon Gehret and William Brong, Representatives

No report.

North Montco Technical Career Center

The next Joint Operating Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 22, 2006 at 7:30 PM at the North Montco Technical Career Center, Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA.

**OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Ralph “Bud” Miller, Chairperson

Mr. Miller shared a few items that will be discussed at the next Operations Committee meeting:

- €# begin reviewing the 2006-2007 Operations/Maintenance and Transportation budgets.
- €# continue to review the timeline of the new high school project.

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for Use of School Facilities

Mr. Miller indicated that the requests met prevailing rates and conform to present policy.

E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School Home & School Association

E.M.C. – All Purpose Room

Friday, March 31, 2006 - 6:30–9:30pm

Entertainment Night

Insurance Certificate on file

E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School Home & School Association

E.M.C. – All Purpose Room

Friday, April 7, 2006 - 6:00pm–9:00pm

Auditions; Talent Show

Insurance Certificate on file

E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School Home & School Association

E.M.C. – All Purpose Room

Friday, April 28, 2006 – 5:30pm–9:30pm

Talent Show

Insurance Certificate on file

Women’s Club of Indian Valley

High School – Cafeteria

Friday, November 17, 2006 - 6:00pm–10:00pm

Saturday, November 18, 2006 - 9:00am–3:00pm

Insurance Certificate on file

Operations Committee

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for Use of School Facilities

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy.

Souderton Area Girls Lacrosse Association

Indian Crest Jr. High School

Lacrosse & hockey fields

Parking lots at fields

Tuesdays – March 28 – June 13, 2006 - 5:00pm-8:00pm

Thursdays – March 30 – June 15, 2006 - 5:00pm-8:00pm

Sundays – April 2 – June 18, 2006 - 11:00pm-5:00pm

Insurance Certificate on file

Summer Sports Camps

Indian Crest Jr. High School

Gym, Cafeteria, Auditorium, Weight & Wrestling Rooms

Football, soccer & field hockey fields

Monday – July 24–28, 2006 – 9:00am-3:00pm

Indian Crest Parent Child Book Club

Indian Crest Jr. High School

Library

Wednesday, March 1, 2006 – 7:00pm–9:00pm

Monday, April 24, 2006 – 7:00pm–9:00pm

Harleysville Baseball

Lower Salford Elementary - All Purpose Room

Thursday, February 2, 2006 – 6:00pm–9:00pm

Pending Insurance Certificate

New High School Update

Mr. Miller indicated that bids for the new high school would be going out February 14, 2006.

Mr. MacDougall indicated that last evening there were approximately 25 people who came out for the high school neighbors meeting. D'Huy Engineering representatives were present at the meeting to explain to the neighbors what they could expect and how to handle problems and questions. Mr. MacDougall shared that berms and trees will be given first priority to help camouflage the project.

TRANSPORTATION

No report.

FOOD SERVICE

No report.

Operations Committee

The next Operations Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15, 2006 at 7:30 PM in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Dr. Jack A. Parry, Chairperson

Dr. Parry reviewed the issues discussed at the February 1, 2006 Finance Committee meeting:

- €# Budgetary transfers, totaling \$3,108.46, that have been proposed by building principals.
- €# Increasing the maximum annual income for per capita tax exoneration for residents who are over 65 years, or under 65 and disabled, from \$5,000 to \$10,000 annually.
- €# Bids for general, art-paint, art-general, and custodial supplies. The total amount for the four bids increased \$11,314, or 7.04%, when compared with 2005-2006.
- €# SWAP agreement options for financing \$46 million of debt for the new high school. The benefits and risks of choosing fixed rates utilizing either the LIBOR or BMA index were compared.

Recommendation to Approve 2005-2006 Budgetary Transfers

There was a motion by Dr. Parry, and a second by Mr. Brong to take the recommendation to approve the 2005-2006 budgetary transfers, recommendation to approve the Per Capita Tax exonerations and recommendation to award the 2006-2007 supply bids all as one motion.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 8-0, it was

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the: 2005-2006 Budgetary Transfers as presented;

**EXHIBIT D**

recommendation to approve Per Capita Tax Exonerations as presented;

**EXHIBIT E**

recommendation to award 2006-2007 supply bids as presented:

- a. General Bid - \$64,132.81
- b. Art Paint Bid - \$13,364.70
- c. Art General Bid - \$20,713.56
- d. Custodial Bid - \$73,621.78

**EXHIBIT F**

Discussion of Swap Agreement

Dr. Parry reviewed the risks that are involved with the swap. Public Financial Management (PFM) provided a chart with the LIBOR model. The conclusion is that if we go with a LIBOR product, it will be influenced by federal income tax rates. We could realize a savings of \$2.3 million over the life of the swap. However, if the income tax rate drops, we would lose money, but still be OK for four years. Variable rates are now 3.6% and the LIBOR rate is 3.7%. Dr. Parry questioned if the money should be put into one account. The rates are about the same right now. We will have to adjust the budget to take care of any funding deficits. Dr. Parry recommended that the Board act on this soon.

Finance Committee

Discussion of Swap Agreement (continued)

Mr. Miller asked if the Board was waiting to act until bids were opened for the new high school.

Dr. Parry indicated that the Board had not discussed that issue.

Mr. Miller indicated that he thought the Board should wait to make sure that a new high school was going to be built.

Mr. MacDougall indicated that he felt we are close enough now to get things going. The Board would not sign the document until everything was ready to go.

Discussion followed on which option should be chosen.

Mr. Currie indicated that he wanted to make sure the Board knew the magnitude of the option. The time frame to execute is relatively short.

Wolf Lackler, from Upper Salford, asked what LIBOR meant.

Mr. Miller responded that LIBOR, the London Interbank Offer Rate, is a variable interest rate similar to prime.

Ernie Rosato, from Upper Salford, asked about the risk involved.

Mr. Miller explained that this vehicle has been used by financial agencies for a long time.

Dr. Parry recommended that the Swap Agreement be discussed at the next School Board meeting on February 23rd.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 1, 2006 at 6:30 PM in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

**POLICY COMMITTEE**

Tracy Cole, Chairperson

Mrs. Cole indicated that the Policy Committee is reviewing the following policies:

## Commercialism in Schools (913.1)

## Gifts, Grants, and Donations (702)

Mrs. Cole thanked Mr. Verbeke for sharing his suggestions on the policies being reviewed and encouraged other Board members to forward information to her if they could not be at the meeting.

The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 15, 2006 at 6:30 PM in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT**

Tracy G. Cole, Representative

Mrs. Cole shared that Dr. Shively is in the process of coordinating a New Board Member Orientation on February 13, 2006, as well as a Board Retreat sometime in May.

The next public meeting of the MCIU Board is February 22, 2006 at 7:45 PM in Norristown.

**INDIAN VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Victor M. Verbeke, Representative

No report.

**FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Tracy Cole, Representative

Mrs. Cole highlighted several events from the recent NSBA Federal Relations Network Conference held on February 5-7 in Washington, D.C. She shared with the Board about meeting with congressional members and staff, and reported on the speakers and presentations that were made at the conference. Some of the issues addressed were: how to close the achievement gap, data analysis, funding issues, NCLB issues, and hurricane relief. Mrs. Cole encouraged the Board to establish a relationship with local legislators and get their support for public schools.

Mrs. Cole further suggested that money be kept in the Board budget for conferences, and that some type of procedure is established regarding who can attend conferences and how much money is budgeted for each conference.

**STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Sharon J. Gehret, Representative

No report.

**FEDERAL PROJECTS**

Dr. John Eells, Coordinator

No report.

**REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR**

No report.

**UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS**

Mrs. Mohr, from Lederach, asked several questions about the Intervention Program and how it will address the non-proficient student.

Mr. Silva responded by explaining the program.

Mr. Rosato questioned the status of televising Board meetings.

Mr. MacDougall indicated that the issue would be discussed at both the Finance Committee and Policy Committee at a future meeting.

Mr. Mohr, from Lederach, asked if community fields were ever used when the high school football field is not available for use.

Mr. Clemens indicated that the high school football field is going through reconditioning in the spring and he will talk to Mr. Quintois about the use of community fields.

Mr. Brong added that until we have the fields at the new high school, we are bussing students all over the community for games.

Kelly Murphy, from Souderton, indicated that the district could host various events in the buildings to raise money.

David Lord, from Telford, asked the Board to carefully monitor the proficiency program.

Mrs. Cole indicated that proficiency was discussed at the Federal Conference.

Mr. Miller questioned if our students were on grade level.

Wolf Lackler asked if our teachers are accountable for student achievement.

Mrs. Cole responded that there will be data analysis from the PSSA's that will show if there is a need to make changes in curriculum or a teacher.

Kelly Murphy asked how Souderton students ranked in the PSSA results.

Mr. Silva responded that Souderton students ranked higher than average.

Mr. Miller indicated that there was an important boys basketball game scheduled for Friday evening at 7:00 PM in the high school gym.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

**RESOLVED**, That the Board approve the adjournment of the meeting at 9:12 PM.

SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Brenda Jones Bray  
Secretary