

Souderton Area School District

760 Lower Road
Souderton, PA 18964

A meeting of the Souderton Area Board of School Directors was held Thursday, January 11, 2007 at the District Administrative Office in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:38PM by President Eric MacDougall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll call was as follows:

PRESENT:	Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner	Mark D. Leer
	William J. Brong	R. Bud Miller
	Tracy G. Cole	Eric R. MacDougall
	Bernard S. Currie	Victor M. Verbeke
ABSENT:	Dr. Jack A. Parry (arrived at 7:41PM)	
SOLICITOR:	Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.	

Also present at the meeting were: Dr. Charles Amuso, Karen Berk, Brenda J. Bray, Donna Brown, Dr. Dale Burkhard, Brad Clemens, Grace Eves, Frank Gallagher, Karen Giannini, Steve Pollack, Laurie Reynolds, Gail Ryan, Jack Silva, representatives from The Arrowhead, The Souderton Independent, The Reporter, Radio Station WNPV, and the public.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Charles D. Amuso, Ed.D.

School Organization Recognition

Dr. Amuso introduced Dr. Dale Burkhard, principal of Indian Valley Middle School, who talked about the Student Council members from the last three years and their efforts to raise money to replace the original 1964 backboards in the Indian Valley Middle School gymnasium. Three years ago, the Student Council decided to focus fundraising efforts towards replacing the existing equipment with new, glass backboards. Working through the fall and spring building-wide fundraisers over these years, the Indian Valley student body was able to raise the necessary funds. This project was a cumulative effort of all the students who attended Indian Valley over this three-year period. This donation is a long-term improvement to the facilities for future students who will attend Indian Valley.

2003-2004
CHEYANE COPE
MORGAN DELAWARE
ANGELA HESS
JULIA KUDLA
KEVIN WASSON
RYAN WELBY
PAIGE WHITMIER

2004-2005
BRUCE CASTOR
SARAH FARMER-SMITH
TOM KRAJEWSKI
BRANDON REICHART
MADELEINE RUTH
DAN WATTS

2005-2006
TREVOR BISHOP
MICHAEL BORRELLI
JON-PATRICK CARROLL
JEANETTE KAKAREKA
JASON SKYRM
JOSEPH STOLFI

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

School Organization Recognition (continued)

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, second by Mr. Currie to recognize these students for their accomplishment.

(NOTE: Dr. Parry arrived at this point in the meeting.)

Dr. Burkhard also mentioned that a plaque will be placed at Indian Valley with the names of the students who were involved in this project.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Indian Valley Middle School Student Council members for their accomplishment. **EXHIBIT A**

Dr. Amuso called on the parents of these students and thanked them for their support.

School Director Recognition Month – January 2007

Dr. Amuso read a proclamation from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association in recognition of School Director Recognition Month. The Souderton Area School District would like to recognize the members of the Board of School Directors during the month of January 2007 for their many hours of dedicated service. This year's theme is:

“School Directors – “Creating Opportunity & Inspiring Dreams.”

Board Members

Eric R. MacDougall – President	
Dr. Jack A Parry – Vice President	
Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner	Mark D. Leer
William J. Brong	Ralph “Bud” Miller
Tracy G. Cole	Victor M. Verbeke
Bernard S. Currie	

EXHIBIT B

Requests for Conferences/Workshops

Dr. Amuso presented the requests to attend conferences/workshops, stating that they conform to District administrative policies and procedures.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Verbeke, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

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

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Requests for Conferences/Workshops (continued)

Requests comply with District administrative policies and procedures.

MEGAN DAWES

Guidance, Salford Hills Elem.

Restorative Practices: Differentiating Your Discipline

King of Prussia, PA

January 12, 2007 (Fri.)

Est. Expenses: \$90.00

Sub. Expenses: 0.00

Total Expenses: \$90.00

LYNN FOX

Title I, Oak Ridge Elem.

JOHN PAUL FRANZEN

Fifth Grade, Oak Ridge Elem.

STACIE YANEZ

Title I, Oak Ridge Elem.

Paid by Title I Funds.

Teaching Comprehension – Seven Strategies Proficient Readers Use

Drexel Hill, PA

February 8, 2007 (Thurs.)

Est. Expenses: \$555.00 (Combined)

Sub. Expenses: 103.00 (Franzen only)

Total Expenses: \$658.00 (Combined)

MELINDA GROSSO

Speech/Language, Lower Salford Elem.

Current Best Strategies to Help Speech-Language Pathologists Better Meet Students' Needs

Drexel Hill, PA

February 9, 2007 (Fri.)

Est. Expenses: \$185.50

Sub. Expenses: 0.00

Total Expenses: \$185.00

CHRISTOPHER HEY

Assistant Principal, Senior High School

Building a Master Schedule Training

Wyomissing, PA

February 12, 13, 2007 (Mon., Tues.)

Est. Expenses: \$527.60

Sub. Expenses: 0.00

Total Expenses: \$527.60

COLLEEN WEGIMONT

Physical Education, Oak Ridge Elem.

American Alliance of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance

Baltimore, MD

March 14, 15, 16, 2007 (Wed., Thurs., Fri.)

Est. Expenses: \$ 0.00

Sub. Expenses: 309.00

Total Expenses: \$309.00

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Requests for Conferences/Workshops (continued)

Requests comply with District administrative policies and procedures.

JANE NATALI
Supervisor of Food Service

Pennsylvania Department of Education
Financial Management Training
State College, PA
April 5, 6, 2007 (Thurs., Fri.)
Est. Expenses: \$220.00
Sub. Expenses: 0.00
Total Expenses: \$220.00

Act 1 Update

Dr. Amuso explained that the focus of Act 1 is property tax relief. On Thursday, January 25th, the District will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00PM, prior to the Board meeting. This hearing is for public input and questions regarding Act 1. The hearing will be videotaped and aired on Channel 27 – SATV. The final decision will be up to the public when they vote on May 15th in the primary election. The Local Tax Study Commission has made a recommendation for an additional 1% earned income tax to be levied.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Brenda Jones Bray

Action on School Board Meeting Minutes of December 21, 2006

Mrs. Bray presented the Minutes of the December 21, 2006 Board meeting for approval.

Upon the motion by Mr. Miller, second by Dr. Baumgartner, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the Minutes of the December 21, 2006 Board meeting as presented.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Eric R. MacDougall

An Executive Session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel items. This meeting lasted 30 minutes.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Grace Eves

Financial Statements for December 2006

Mrs. Eves presented the financial statements for December 2006 as an information item.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Dr. Parry asked for clarification of the Key Account balance.

Mr. Currie suggested that the percentage of interest for each depository be listed on the financial report.

EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mark D. Leer, Chairperson

Committee Chairperson Report

Topics of discussion at the January 17, 2007 Education-Personnel Committee will be, but not limited to the following:

CURRICULUM ITEMS

- Middle States Update
- "Study Island" at Indian Crest--Reading and Math Intervention
- Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trip Requests
- 2007-2008 School Year Calendar

OTHER ITEMS

Recommendation to Accept the Montgomery County Special Needs Children's Foundation Mini-Grant/Technology Grant Award to the Learning Support Teachers at the Oak Ridge Elementary School in the Amount of \$1,951.04

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

Mr. Currie asked for an explanation on the educational value of downloaded books on iPods.

Mrs. Berk indicated that research shows this method of learning for special needs children is extremely valuable. They listen to downloaded books on iPods while following along with the text.

Mrs. Cole added that the Montgomery County Special Needs Children's Foundation is similar to our Education Foundation in that they award mini-grants.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board accept the Montgomery County Special Needs Children's Foundation Mini-Grant/Technology Grant award to the Learning Support teachers at the Oak Ridge Elementary School in the amount of \$1,951.04. **EXHIBIT C**

EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

PERSONNEL ITEMS

On a motion by Mr. Leer, second by Dr. Baumgartner, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the personnel items as listed.

SUPPORT STAFF

Resignations

SUZANNE TYSON

Special Education Aide, Vernfield Elem.
Effective: January 12, 2007

SONYA TALBOT

Special Education Aide, Vernfield Elem.
Effective: March 16, 2007

Transfers

MELISSA DAVIS

Replacement for
Elissa Saner (resigned)

From: Substitute Teacher
To: Title I Aide, E. M. Crouthamel Elem.
Beginning: January 3, 2007
Hourly Wage: \$12.65
Hours: 6 per day

ANITA BROWN

Replacement for
Kristin Kelly (transfer)

From: Substitute Secretary
To: Secretary, Main Office, Souderton Area H. S.
Beginning: January 12, 2007
Hourly Wage: \$11.68
Hours: 7.5 per day

KRISTIN KELLY

Replacement for
Roseli Paschoaletto

From: Secretary, Main Office, Souderton Area H.S.
To: Secretary to the Assistant Principal
Souderton Area H.S.
Beginning: January 12, 2007
Hourly Wage: \$11.90
Hours: 7.5 per day

Recommendations for Employment

GARY DERSTINE

Replacement for
Robert White (transfer)

Building Facilities Manager, Lower Salford Elem.
Beginning: January 29, 2007
Hourly Wage: \$20.53
Hours: 8 per day

NOAH MUSSELMAN

Replacement for
R. Terry Raudenbush

Warehouse Manager, Food Service Department
Indian Crest Junior High
Beginning: January 8, 2007
Hourly Wage: \$15.00
Hours: 8 per day

EDUCATION-PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

PERSONNEL ITEMS

SUPPORT STAFF (continued)

Recommendations for Employment (continued)

MARIA RAZZI Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aide, Salford Hills Elem.
Beginning: January 2, 2007
Hourly Wage: \$9.20
Hours: as needed

ERIC SCHECKENBACH Special Education Aide-Autistic Support, Vernfield Elem.
Replacement for
Martha Moyer (resigned) Beginning: January 8, 2007
Hourly Wage: \$10.23
Hours: 7 per day

Recommendations for Supplemental Contracts - 2006-2007 School Year

NICHOLAS CHIAROLANZA ^	Assistant Wrestling Coach, Indian Crest	\$1,628.00
EDWARD GALLAGHER	Weight Room Supervisor, Senior High Second semester	1,000.00

^New to coaching at SASD

Contracted Services for Band Positions 2006-07, Souderton Area High School

PERRY BOUCHER	Indoor Drum Line – Head Director	\$2,600.00
DAVID FRY	Indoor Drum Line – Asst. Director	1,531.00
ANGELA LAROCCO ^ (To be paid by Band Boosters)	Indoor Drum Line – Technician	1,200.00
STEVE RAYSOR	Indoor Color Guard – Asst. Director	2,001.00
LARRY TRIMBLE	Indoor Color Guard – Head Director	2,600.00
STEVE YODER (To be paid by Band Boosters)	Indoor Drum Line – Technician	1,200.00

^New to SASD

Additions to Substitute Teacher Listing for 2006-2007

EXHIBIT D

Souderton Area Community Education Winter/Spring 2007 Classes and Instructor Rates

EXHIBIT E

The next Education-Personnel Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 7:30PM (or immediately following the 6:30PM Policy Committee meeting) in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

NORTH MONTCO TECHNICAL CAREER CENTER

William J. Brong and Mark D. Leer, Representatives

No report.

The next Joint Operating Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 7:30PM at the North Montco Technical Career Center, Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

R. “Bud” Miller, Chairperson

Committee Chairperson Report

The Operations Committee discussed the following at the January 3, 2007 meeting:

- New High School Project Update

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for Use of School Facilities

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy.

E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School

Ryan’s Court Homeowner’s Association

c/o North Penn Real Estate

Auditorium--Tuesday, January 23, 2007--7:00PM–9:00PM

Homeowner’s Association Annual Meeting

Certificate of Insurance on file

Franconia Elementary School

E.P.Y.S.A.–Souderton Soccer

Gym--Wednesdays--January through February 2007--6:30PM–8:00PM

Indoor practice

Certificate of Insurance on file

Senior High School

S.H.Y.B.A.

Gym--Saturday, March 17, 2007--8:00AM-6:00PM

Community basketball championship games

Certificate of Insurance on file

S.A.Y.W.A.

Gym--Sunday, January 28, 2007--8:00AM–11:30AM

Wrestling match

Certificate of Insurance on file

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE

Requests for Use of School Facilities (continued)

Prevailing rates, conforming to present policy.

Senior High School

Souderton Area Community Aquatic Club
Natatorium--Saturday, January 13, 2007--11:00AM–5:00PM
Swim & dive meets
Certificate of Insurance on file

Indian Crest Junior High School

Souderton Area Baseball League
Baseball Fields--April through July 2007--Weekdays–5:30PM–Dusk
Weekends–9:00AM–Dusk
Certificate of Insurance on file

Souderton Area Soccer Association
Gym--January through March 2007--Sundays only--7:30PM-9:00PM
Indoor practice
Certificate of Insurance on file

Indian Valley Middle School

S.H.Y.B.A.
Gym--January 18, 25; February 1–6:30–10:00PM; February 8, 15, 22–6:00PM–7:15PM
Basketball practice
Certificate of Insurance on file

Lower Salford Elementary School

Girl Scouts of PA
Cafeteria--Friday, January 19, 2007--6:30PM–10:00PM
Cookie Rally
Certificate of Insurance on file

New High School Project - Acknowledgement of PlanCon G Approval Letter from PDE

Mr. Miller explained that PlanCon G includes the project accounting portion of the new high school project based on bids and gives us the maximum reimbursement expected.

On a motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Leer, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board acknowledge receipt of the PlanCon G approval letter from PDE for the new high school project. **EXHIBIT F**

TRANSPORTATION

No report.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

FOOD SERVICE

No report.

The next Operations Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 31, 2007 at 6:30PM 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

Committee Chairperson Report

The Finance Committee discussed the following at the January 3, 2007 meeting:

Recommendation to Approve 2006-2007 Budgetary Transfers

On a motion by Dr. Parry, second by Mr. Miller, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the 2006-2007 budgetary transfers as presented.

EXHIBIT G

Recommendation to Approve 2007-2008 Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Budgets

Dr. Amuso indicated that the Intermediate Unit has made some changes to the special education budget which will help Souderton financially.

There was a motion by Dr. Parry, second by Mrs. Cole.

Mr. MacDougall indicated that the Board would vote on all four budgets at once.

- a. General Administrative Services
- b. Curriculum, Instruction & Professional Development Services
- c. State & Federal Legislative Services
- d. Instructional Materials Services

Mrs. Bray called the roll.

Dr. Baumgartner – yes
Mr. Brong – yes
Mrs. Cole – yes
Mr. Currie – yes
Mr. Leer - yes

Mr. Miller - yes
Dr. Parry – yes
Mr. Verbeke - yes
Mr. MacDougall - yes

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve all four Montgomery County Intermediate Unit 2007-2008 Budgets as presented.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Real Estate Transfer Tax Resolution

There was a motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the Real Estate Transfer Tax Resolution as presented.

EXHIBIT H

Budget Timeline Under Act 1

Dr. Parry mentioned that Souderton is working with a very aggressive budget schedule as set forth by Act 1.

Mrs. Bray indicated that the proposed preliminary budget vote must be taken no later than February 14th. Souderton's Board will be taking the vote on February 8th. The proposed preliminary budget must be presented to the public by January 19th. The proposed final proposed budget will be voted on in May, displayed for 30 days, with the final vote on the budget slated before June 30th. The Board intends to adopt the

Act 1 Referendum Question on February 22, 2007.

Mrs. Cole asked if the PDE forms had become available for completion of the proposed preliminary budget.

Mrs. Bray indicated that the forms had been downloaded from PDE's Web site on January 10th.

2007-2008 Proposed Preliminary Budget

Dr. Parry mentioned that the 2007-2008 proposed preliminary budget had been reviewed at the Finance Committee meeting. This is a work in progress with adjustments being made. With this process, the Board has the preliminary budget upfront and can analyze the budget over a four month period.

Mrs. Bray indicated that the expenditure budget shows a 7.02% increase. However, we have not taken into account revenues or a millage increase. Debt service, enrollment, class sizes, and health care costs will be adjusted as time goes on.

Mr. MacDougall stated that as the Board gets closer to the end of the budget process, some numbers may firm up.

Mr. Miller noted that one of the local newspapers listed a 7% increase. That 7% was an increase in expenditures only, not the millage. The Board had given a directive to the administrative early on not to exceed 6.25%.

Mrs. Cole asked about projected and current enrollment numbers.

Dr. Amuso stated that February 1st is kindergarten registration, where we get our projected enrollment numbers. Once that information is available, it will be given to the Board.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 at 8:30PM (or immediately following the 7:30 PM Education-Personnel Committee meeting) in the Souderton Area School District Administrative Offices, Lowell A. Tinner Board Room, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

POLICY COMMITTEE

Tracy G. Cole, Chairperson

Committee Chairperson Report

Proposed agenda items for the Wednesday, January 17, 2007 Policy Committee meeting will be, but not limited to the following:

- Second Reading of Policies – Terroristic Threats/Acts
- Broadcasting Board Meetings
- Policies that deal with job related expenses

The next Policy Committee meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 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 indicated that there was no meeting in December. She updated the Board on IU news such as the IMS Division has had a name change as of January 1st to the Division of Technical and Informational Services. The Intermediate Unit is working hard to realign divisions for a more cost-effective operation.

The next Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 24, 2007 beginning at 7:45 PM. The meeting will be held at the IU, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

INDIAN VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Victor M. Verbeke, Representative

Mr. Verbeke shared that he had attended the recent Indian Valley Parent Forum where the focus was on technology. The parents saw a demonstration of the Power Library, which is set up through the Indian Valley Public Library, and how the program helps students with research. He indicated that sixth and seventh graders will be given the opportunity to acquire library cards through the school.

FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Tracy G. Cole, Representative

Mrs. Cole will be attending the Federal Relations Network Conference towards the end of January. She mentioned that she will be communicating with Representatives Dent and Schwartz about the decrease in ACCESS funding and how that will impact Souderton's programs.

STATE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Dr. Jack Parry, Representative

No report.

FEDERAL PROJECTS

No report.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

No report.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Verbeke shared that Mr. Sultanik had been elected as secretary of the PSBA School Solicitors Association.

Mr. Verbeke also mentioned that the Mennonite Heritage Center has set up an exhibit that features reconstructed parts of the old barn that was on the new high school site. He encouraged everyone to visit the exhibit and see the barn that was over 150 years old.

Mr. Pollack added that the Mr. Hart, who demolished the barn, lives in the community and has an interest in preserving local history. Mr. Hart is also preserving other items from the barn and farm house for display in the new high school.

Mr. Miller announced that the SAVE organization would be recycling Christmas trees this weekend at Franconia Park.

Dr. Parry suggested that the practice of sending out meeting reminder post cards to the Board be curtailed. The Board agreed with the suggestion.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, there was a motion by Dr. Parry, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board adjourn the meeting at 8:36 PM.

Souderton Area School District

Brenda Jones Bray
Board Secretary