

SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

760 Lower Road
Souderton, PA 18964

A regularly scheduled public meeting of the Souderton Area Board of School Directors was held Thursday, July 26, 2007 at the District Administrative Office in the Tinner Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM by President Eric R. MacDougall, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll call was as follows:

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

Also present at the meeting were: Dr. Charles Amuso, Brenda J. Bray, Donna Brown, R. Bradley Clemens, Molly Dugan, Grace Eves, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Karen Giannini, Tim Roberts, Jack Silva, representatives from *The Souderton Independent*, *The Reporter*, *The Morning Call*, Radio Station WNPV, and the public.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

Capital Campaign – Schultz & Williams, L. Scott Schultz, President

Scott Schultz, president of Schultz & Williams, a national consulting and direct response firm, presented a PowerPoint presentation on capital campaigns. He shared the firm's history and experience in executing non-profit organizational capital campaigns. Mr. Schultz presented the firm's philosophy of management, marketing, development and direct response when planning for the raising of funds. He spoke about numerous naming, sponsorship, and recognition possibilities; growth of private support for public education; the importance of supplementing, not supplanting, existing levels of funding, and sponsorship vs. philanthropy. Mr. Schultz talked about the four pillars of Souderton's campaign that would include the arts & culture, athletics, student life, and science & technology.

Dr. Amuso indicated that there would be no action recommended this evening. This was an informational presentation.

Mr. MacDougall shared his concern about people donating to a public entity.

Dr. Baumgartner mentioned that the community is very interested in the sports program and thought businesses and corporations would be interested in this type of project.

WORKSHOP ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Capital Campaign (Continued)

Mr. Currie questioned the costs that would be involved in setting up this type of project.

Mr. Schultz indicated that before these questions could be answered, the Board would need to determine the need for the project and who would head the campaign.

Mrs. Cole questioned how the Education Foundation would be involved.

Dr. Amuso indicated that the Board must determine if they want to be involved in philanthropy or sponsorship. When the Board determines what they want to do and how they want to proceed, then the Education Foundation may be involved.

Dr. Amuso questioned the time period for the receipt of funds and pledges.

Mr. Schultz indicated that after a system is set up for receiving gifts the project usually runs from three to five years.

Mr. MacDougall thanked Mr. Schultz for his presentation and indicated that the Board would discuss this matter at a future Board meeting.

Foreign Exchange Student Guidelines Policy #204.1 – Review of Revisions

Mr. Gallagher reviewed the reasons that led up to the revision of this policy. The revised policy addresses both students from Souderton and students coming to Souderton, and how they are registered and enrolled in the foreign exchange program. The policy addresses specific agencies permitted by the school district, timelines for applications, and course/credit review of the exchange student, both local and abroad. The policy also addresses graduation requirements and how that affects foreign exchange students.

Mr. Currie questioned the timeline regarding course/credit review and the transfer of credits. He asked if the administration could find out what courses are being taken and if credits are accepted before the student leaves for the experience rather than wait until they return.

Mr. Gallagher addressed the question and mentioned that the agency is critical in this process. The experience is mostly a cultural experience; a pass/fail program.

Mr. Brong asked how many Souderton students have gone out in the past.

Mr. MacDougall questioned the benefit of a one semester term over a full year. He also indicated that this policy will go forward to the next Board meeting for a First Reading.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments from the public.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Eric R. MacDougall

An Executive Session was held on July 12, 2007 following the Board meeting to discuss personnel items. The meeting lasted 60 minutes.

An Executive Session was held this evening prior to the Board meeting to discuss personnel items. The meeting lasted approximately 30 minutes.

BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations Committee – R. “Bud” Miller, Chairperson

No report.

Education-Personnel Committee – Mark D. Leer, Chairperson

No report.

Finance Committee – Dr. Jack A. Parry, Chairperson

No report.

Policy Committee – Tracy G. Cole, Chairperson

No report.

Legislative Committee – Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner, Representative

Dr. Baumgartner updated the Board members on the Accountability Block Grants and how funding will be distributed for the 2007-2008 school year. The Senate removed the restriction that the funds could only be used for pre-kindergarten and kindergarten.

The Pennsylvania Department of Education is proposing new graduation requirements. Dr. Baumgartner spoke about the removal of the option to use either the PSSA or other testing for student assessment and replace with a state assessment that students would need to pass before they could graduate. Pennsylvania School Boards Association is opposing the requirement because it would remove local authority. Dr. Baumgartner will be attending a roundtable discussion in King of Prussia on this topic.

Dr. Baumgartner mentioned that the PSBA Leadership Conference is coming up October 2-5, 2007 in Hershey. He urged other Board members to attend the conference as a voting delegate.

Dr. Baumgartner also gave a brief report about the PSBA Committee that is reviewing the increasing costs of PSERS pension. The plan could be changed to create a two-tier system for pensions. Current employees would not be affected, but new employees as of the time of the passing of the law would be affected. This year, Souderton’s pension costs increased by 6.38%.

ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA

Dr. Amuso presented the action items/consent agenda, plus the items on the addendum for approval.

There was a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the consent agenda and addendum item as listed:

Recommendation to Approve Minutes of the July 12, 2007 School Board Meeting.

Recommendation to Approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for the Month
Ending June 30, 2007. **EXHIBIT A**

Recommendations to Approve Requests for Conferences/Workshops

DR. LINDA K. LARSON
Principal, Oak Ridge Elem.

Conversational Leadership
Norristown, PA
August 14, 2007 (Tues.)
September 19, 2007 (Wed.)
Est. Expenses: \$275.00
Sub. Expenses: 0.00
Total Est. Expenses: \$275.00

DAN BARBER
School Counselor, High School
CHRISTOPHER HEY
Assist. Principal, High School

High School Scheduling/Teaching in the Block
Norristown, PA
October 19, 2007 (Fri.)
Est. Expenses: \$304.10 (combined)
Sub. Expenses: 0.00
Total Est. Expenses: \$304.00 (combined)

DONA ITALIANO
English Teacher, High School
SHAWN MESSMER
Assist. Principal, High School
SAMUEL VARANO
Principal, High School

ANDREW JOHNSON
Mathematics, Indian Valley M.S.

Pennsylvania Council of Mathematics Conference
Valley Forge, PA
November 8, 9, 2007 (Thurs., Fri.)
Est. Expenses: \$ 20.85
Sub. Expenses: 206.00
Total Est. Expenses: \$226.85

ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Recommendations to Approve Requests for Conferences/Workshops (Continued)

DONNA HUFF Principal, Lower Salford Elem.	National Council of Teachers of English Conference New York City, NY November 15-16, 2007 (Thurs.-Fri.)
MARYELLEN MYERS Principal, Salford Hills Elem.	Est. Expenses: \$885.00 (combined) Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Est. Expenses: \$885.00 (combined)

Request for Overnight Field Trip

Souderton Area High School – Boys Soccer Team

Destination: Pocono Mountain East High School, Mt. Pocono, PA
Date: August 19-21, 2007 (Sunday-Tuesday)
Purpose of Trip: Scrimmage Day with four teams and Pocono Mt. East High School
Number of Students: 24
Number of Teachers/Staff: 6
Requesting Teacher/Sponsor: Tom Quintois
Trip financed through fundraising activities and the students.

Souderton Area High School – Boys Cross Country Team

Destination: William and Mary Cross Country Invitational, Williamsburg, VA
Date: September 21-23, 2007 (Friday-Sunday)
Purpose of Trip: Compete in Cross Country Invitational
Number of Students: 20
Number of Teachers/Staff: 5
Requesting Teacher/Sponsor: John Donahue
Trip financed through student fundraising activities.

PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Resignation

KARA JOHNSON Special Education Teacher, Long-Term Sub.
E. M. Crouthamel Elem.
Effective: July 13, 2007

Transfers

BERTINA HSU-MILLER From: Second Grade Teacher, Vernfield Elem.
Replacement for To: Gifted Support Teacher, Lower Salford &
Stacy Zanine (sabbatical) Oak Ridge Elementary Schools
Effective: 2007-2008 School Year

ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

Transfers (Continued)

DIANE MAZZIOTTA From: Science Teacher, Indian Valley M. S.
Replacement for To: Gifted Support Teacher, Indian Valley M. S.
Cheryle Radcliff (transfer) Beginning: 2007-2008 School Year

JEREMY MILLER From: Special Education, Long-Term Substitute,
Replacement for First Semester, Senior High
Patricia Gallagher To: Special Education, Autistic Support, Indian
(transfer) Crest Junior High

TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL

Beginning: 2007-2008 School Year

Education
West Chester University
(BS) 2004

Experience
2004-2007-Magnolia Speech School Demonstration
Program, Berwyn-Special Education Teacher
Sept. 2002-Jan. 2005-Devereux Whitlock Center
Therapeutic Staff Support

Recommended Salary - \$37,323 – B (1)

Recommendations for Employment

THOMAS LAVELLA Science Teacher, Indian Crest Junior High
Replacement for **TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL**
Susan Hanna (retired) Beginning: 2007-2008 School Year

Education
Susquehanna University
(BS) 2000
Moravian College
(Certificate) 2005

Experience
2006-2007-Derry Township S.D.-Hershey Middle
School-LTS-Science Teacher
Apr.-June 2006-Wilson Area S.D.-Per-Diem
Extended Substitute-Science Teacher
Dec. 2005-Apr. 2006-Bethlehem Area S.D.
& Wilson Area S.D.-Substitute Teacher

Recommended Salary - \$37,323 – B (1)

BERDINE LEINBACH Art Teacher, E. M. Crouthamel & West Broad
Replacement for Lynne Hall Street Elementary
(transfer) and .4 increase **PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEE**
per 2007-2008 Budget Beginning: 2007-2008 School Year

Education
Goshen College (BA) 1987

Experience
Mar.-Jun. 2007-SASD-Franconia Elem.
Per-Diem Extended Substitute, Art
1988-1993-North Penn S.D.-A. M. Kulp Elem.
Art Teacher
1987-1988-Fairfield High School, Goshen IN
Part-Time Art Teacher

Recommended Salary - \$39,722 – B24 (1)

ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL - PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

Recommendations for Employment (Continued)

SUZANNE PFISTER Second Grade Teacher, Lower Salford Elem.
Replacement for **LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Carol Luciani (sabbatical) Effective: First Semester, 2007-2008 School Year
Education Experience
Shippensburg Univ. (BA) 2006-2007-SASD-Lower Salford Elem.
1986 Classroom Aide & Substitute Teacher
Gwynedd-Mercy College Oct. 2005-June 2006-SASD-Franconia Elem.
(Certificate) 2004 LTS-First Grade
Sept. 2004-Oct. 2005-SASD-Salford Hills Elem.
Title V Teaching Assistant
Recommended Salary - \$18,928– B12 (1)

MARISOL RUBALCAVA Spanish Teacher, Souderton Area High School
Replacement for **LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Tammy Caccavo Effective: 2007-2008 School Year
(childrearing)
Education Experience
Bloomsburg Univ. (BS) Nov. 2006–June 2007-SASD-Souderton Area,
2000 High School-LTS-Spanish Teacher
Wilkes Univ. (M.Ed.) 2004 2001-2006-Northwest Area S.D.-Elementary
Spanish-Grades K-6
Recommended Salary - \$41,046– M (1)

KATHIE VENEZIALE Fifth Grade Teacher, Franconia Elementary
Replacement for **LONG TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Tamara Lelii (childrearing) Effective: First Semester, 2007-2008 School Year
Education Experience
King’s College (BA) 2004 2006-2007-SASD-Franconia Elem.-ESL Teaching
Assistant
Nov. 2005–June 2006-Quakertown Community
SD-LTS-Fifth Grade
2004-2005-Souderton Area, North Penn,
Quakertown School Districts-Substitute Teacher
Recommended Salary - \$18,661.50– B (1)

Request for Childrearing Leave

WENDY BIDOLI English Teacher, Indian Crest Junior High
Beginning approximately December 31, 2007 through the 2007-2008 school
year, following Family/Medical Leave. Mrs. Bidoli is planning to return to
work for the 2008-2009 school year.

ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL - SUPPORT STAFF

Resignations

RICHARD BOCHEY Part-Time Custodian, Indian Crest Junior High
Effective: August 10, 2007

DENNIS FRANKENFIELD Part-Time Custodian , Indian Valley M. S.
Effective: August 17, 2007

NATHAN HICKS Part-Time Custodian, Franconia Elem.
Effective: July 20, 2007

LISA MORITZ Cafeteria/Playground Aide, Vernfield Elem.
Effective: July 17, 2007

RYAN PARMER Part-Time Custodial Substitute
Effective: July 12, 2007

LORI STINSON Food Service Assistant, Senior High
Effective: July 23, 2007

Recommendations for Employment

SHELLEY BARNDT Special Education Aide, Salford Hills Elem.
Replacement for (One-on-Two Kindergarten)
Doreen Reinford Beginning: September 4, 2007
(resigned) Wage: \$9.57 per hour
Hours: 3 per day

BRIAN GOTTSHALL Part-Time Custodian, Indian Valley Middle School
Replacement for Beginning: August 13, 2007
Dennis Frankenfield Wage: \$9.46 per hour
(resigned) Hours: 4 per day

DANIEL INSOGNA Part-Time Custodian, Indian Valley M. S.
Replacement for Beginning: July 27, 2007
Stefan Shoup Wage: \$9.46 per hour
(resigned) Hours: 4 per day

ANTHONY MARTORANA Part-Time Custodian, E.M. Crouthamel Elem.
Replacement for Beginning: August 13, 2007
Jessica Lomas Wage: \$9.46 per hour
(resigned) Hours: 4 per day

ACTION ITEMS/CONSENT AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Recommendations for Contracted Services for Coaching Positions for the 2007-2008

School Year

PAUL FARGO	Assist. Football Coach (HS)	\$3,934
Replacement for James Henning (transfer to volunteer coach)		
WILLIAM McKOWN	Assist. Tennis (Girls) Coach (HS)	1,882

Recommendation to Approve Compensation Plan for Cabinet Secretaries for July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008. **EXHIBIT B**

PERSONNEL - ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Transfer

ELLEN SYKES From: Assistant Principal, 10 Month Position,
Replacement for Indian Valley Middle School
Thomas Ferlick (transfer) To: Assistant Principal, 12 Month Position,
Indian Valley Middle School
Beginning: August 27, 2007

Education

Pennsylvania State Univ. 1998-2007-SASD-Indian Valley Middle School
(BS) 1977 Asst. Principal-10 Month
Villanova Univ. (MS) 1981 1996-1998-SASD-Indian Valley M. S.-Instructional
Delaware Law School Support Teacher
Juris Doctor 1989
Pennsylvania State Univ.
(Principal Cert.) 1995

Experience

Recommended Salary - \$98,299 (pro-rated)

ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

Recommendation to Approve PlanCon H for the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2007

Dr. Amuso and Mrs. Bray presented this item for approval. Mrs. Bray verified that this PDE report was routine for the Bond process.

Upon a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve PlanCon H for the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2007 as presented. **EXHIBIT C**

Recommendation for Third Reading of Policy and Board Approval

Dr. Amuso presented Policy #908 – Relations with Parents/Guardians for a third reading and asked the Board for approval of the policy.

ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Recommendation for Third Reading of Policy and Board Approval (Continued)

There was a motion by Mrs. Cole, second by Mr. Brong, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board adopt Policy #908 – Relations with Parents/Guardians as presented.

EXHIBIT D

Recommendation to Approve 2006-2007 Budgetary Transfers

Dr. Amuso and Mrs. Bray presented the budgetary transfers for approval.

There was a motion by Mr. Currie, second by Mr. Brong, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the budgetary transfers as presented.

EXHIBIT E

Recommendation to Approve Lunch Price Increases Effective 2007-2008 as Listed:

Elementary Lunch - \$1.75	Adult Lunch - \$3.50
Middle Level - \$2.00	Milk - \$.40
High School - \$2.35	

Dr. Amuso indicated that the last increase in lunch prices was in 2005.

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, second by Dr. Baumgartner.

Mr. MacDougall asked what was driving the increase.

Mrs. Bray indicated that increases in milk, fuel, corn prices were driving increased costs. She added that Souderton still has one of the lowest lunch prices of all the schools in Montgomery County.

Dr. Baumgartner asked about the free and reduced lunch program.

Dr. Amuso explained the program and process used to verify if a family is eligible for the program.

Dr. Baumgartner also asked what percentage of the student population was involved in the program.

Mr. Gallagher responded that approximately 9% of the student body participates in the free and reduced program.

Mrs. Cole commented that the wellness policy may also have attributed to price increases.

Mrs. Bray indicated that items purchased to coincide with policy are a bit more expensive.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the increase in lunch prices for the 2007-2008 school year as presented.

EXHIBIT F

ACTION ITEMS/DISCUSSION ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Acknowledgement of Receipt of Reading Recovery Council Scholarship Grant

Mr. Gallagher presented the terms of this grant. Ms. Lynn Connery-Orcutt has been selected to receive a \$15,000 scholarship under the Reading Recovery Council of North America's Teacher Leader Scholarship Awards that are funded by the Deluxe Foundation Corporation. This scholarship is to be applied toward the cost of sending Ms. Connery-Orcutt to New York University for a year of training as a Reading Recovery teacher leader. The Reading Recovery Council has an office in the Lansdale area.

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

Mr. MacDougall asked if Ms. Connery-Orcutt would be gone for a full year.

Dr. Amuso responded that Ms. Connery-Orcutt would be out of the building several days per week over an academic year's time.

Mr. Gallagher clarified that Ms. Connery-Orcutt will be working in reading recovery in the elementary grades a few days a week and also attending New York University a few days a week during the 2007-2008 school year.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board acknowledge receipt of the Reading Recovery Council Scholarship Grant in the amount of \$15,000 to be used as indicated. **EXHIBIT G**

Recommendation to Revise 2007-2008 School Board Meeting Calendar

Dr. Amuso indicated that due to the scheduling of the Souderton Area High School graduation ceremony and the final adoption of the 2008-2009 budget, revisions are suggested in the June 2008 School Board meeting calendar as follows:

Thursday, June 12, 2008 changed to Thursday, June 5, 2008
Thursday, June 26, 2008 changed to Thursday, June 19, 2008

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, second by Mr. Currie, and on a vote of 6 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the changes to the 2007-2008 School Board Meeting Calendar as presented.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The next regularly scheduled School Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, August 9, 2007 beginning at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held in the Tinner Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS (CONTINUED)

The next North Montco Technical Career Center Joint Operating Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 20, 2007, in the Administrative Conference Room at North Montco, 1265 Sunneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM.

On Wednesday, August 22, 2007 at 7:45 PM a meeting of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors will take place in Conference Rooms B3/B4, Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

No report.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Brong asked for an update at the next Board meeting on the HVAC project taking place at Indian Valley Middle School.

Dr. Amuso indicated that the project is on schedule.

Mr. MacDougall announced that there would a brief executive session following the meeting to discuss personnel items.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Currie, second by Dr. Baumgartner to adjourn the meeting. On a vote of 6 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board adjourn the meeting at 8:23 PM.

Respectfully,

Brenda Jones Bray
Board Secretary