

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, March 26, 2009 at the District Administrative Office in the Tinner Board Room. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by Vice President R. Bud Miller, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. Amuso called the roll. Those present were:

PRESENT:	Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner	Mark D. Leer
	William J. Brong	Eric R. MacDougall
	Scott C. Jelinski	R. Bud Miller
	Thomas A. Kwiatkowski	Victor M. Verbeke
ABSENT:	Bernard S. Currie	
SOLICITOR:	Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.	

Also present at the meeting were: Dr. Charles Amuso, Brigitte Bagocius, Karen Berk, Donna Brown, Joseph Deady, Deb Doebler, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Karen Giannini, Bill Lukridge, Joseph McElwee, Krista Pierce, Steve Pollack, Gail Ryan, Jack Silva, Sam Varano, Teresa Washam, representatives from *The Reporter*, *Souderton Independent*, *The Intelligencer*, Radio Station WNPV, and the public.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Souderton Area High School Students – District and Regional Music Festival Participants

Mr. Varano, Administrator on Assignment, introduced the District and Regional band and orchestra musicians and spoke about their achievements. Over the past few months, several Souderton Area High School students have participated in The Pennsylvania Music Educators Association District 11 and Region VI Band, Orchestra, and Choral Festivals. Participants chosen by audition were:

JAYME COLE – District 11 Band Festival – Trumpet
CORY HABERKERN – District 11 Band Festival - Clarinet
VICTORIA HENRY – District 11 Band Festival - Flute
MATTHEW RAMAGE – District 11 Band Festival – French Horn
ALISON SHARP – District 11 Band Festival - Clarinet
RYAN WOODWARD – District 11 Band Festival, Region VI Band Festival, & All-State Band Festival – Clarinet

REBEKAH DOLL – District 11 Orchestra Festival & Region VI Orchestra Festival – Violin
NATHAN FRUEH – District 11 Orchestra Festival & Region VI Orchestra Festival - Bass
MATTHEW RAMAGE – District 11 Orchestra Festival & Region VI Orchestra Festival – French Horn
DAVID SLOAN – District 11 Orchestra Festival – Violin

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Souderton Area High School Students – District and Regional Music Festival Participants (Continued)

Mr. Varano thanked the parents and teachers for their encouragement and support.

Mrs. Teresa Washam, high school choral director, introduced the choral students and spoke about their achievements.

CASSONDR A DIAZ – District 11 Choral Festival, Region VI Choral Festival, &
All-State Choral Festival – Soprano 1

BLAKE DITLOW – District 11 Choral Festival, Region VI Choral Festival, &
All-State Choral Festival – Bass 2

CHRISTOPHER FEINDLER – District 11 Choral Festival & Region VI Choral Festival – Bass 2

LEAH HARREL – District 11 Choral Festival & Region VI Choral Festival – Soprano 1

VICTORIA HENRY – District 11 Choral Festival, Regional VI Choral Festival, &
All-State Choral Festival – Alto 2

BRENNA LANDES – District 11 Choral Festival, Region VI Choral Festival, &
All-State Choral Festival – Soprano 2

ROBERT MORRONE – District 11 Choral Festival – Bass 1

LOGAN SUTHERLAND – District 11 Choral Festival, Region VI Choral Festival, &
All-State Choral Festival – Tenor 1

Mrs. Washam also thanked the parents for supporting their children.

There was a motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Brong, to recognize this year's outstanding high school musicians. A vote was taken, and with a vote of 8 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize all of the 2008-2009 PMEA District and Regional Music Festival students as listed. **EXHIBIT A**

One of the choral students thanked Mrs. Washam for her instruction and encouragement and gave Mrs. Washam a bouquet of flowers.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Krista Pierce, Class of 2010 & Joseph McElwee, Class of 2010

Krista Pierce and Joseph McElwee were introduced as the new Student Representatives to the Board. Joseph reported on the success of the girls and boys swim teams at the state competition. The band recently hosted an Indoor Drum and Color Guard Show. The Jazz Festival also occurred on March 20th. Krista talked about the upcoming Junior Prom and the school musical "Footloose."

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Bernard S. Currie

The Report of the President was given by Mr. Miller in Mr. Currie's absence.

An Executive Session was held this evening prior to the Board meeting to discuss personnel items. The meeting lasted approximately 15 minutes.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA

Dr. Amuso presented the consent/action agenda and recommended Board approval. Board members were asked to remove any items from the agenda that need further discussion.

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

Dr. Amuso mentioned the retirement of John Rowe, who has served the District and students for 40 years.

The vote was taken, and with a vote of 8 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board ratify/approve the items listed in the consent/action agenda as listed:

Recommendation to Approve Minutes of the February 26, 2009 School Board Meeting.

Recommendation to Approve Minutes of the March 4, 2009 Special School Board Meeting.

Recommendation to Approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for February 2009.

EXHIBIT B

Recommendation to Ratify/Approve Requests for Conferences/Workshops

ELISE BRAND	Collaboration Day for Classrooms for the Future
English, Senior High School	Downingtown, PA
JACQUELINE KELLY-SCHUM	March 12, 2009 (Thurs.)
English, Senior High School	Est. Expenses: \$ 73.35 (Combined)
	Sub. Expenses: <u>206.00</u> (Combined)
	Total Est. Expenses: \$279.35 (Combined)

BERNADETTE MUHLBERGER	Bucks County Autism Support Coalition Annual
Autistic Support Aide,	Conference
Lower Salford Elem.	Warrington, PA
	March 28, 2009 (Sat.)
	Est. Expenses: \$ 68.25
	Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u>
	Total Est. Expenses: \$ 68.25

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Recommendation to Ratify/Approve Requests for Conferences/Workshops (Continued)

JOSHUA WAGNER Health & Phys. Ed. Senior High School	Protecting Our Children’s Future: Reducing Childhood Obesity Gwynedd, PA March 31, 2009 (Tues.) Est. Expenses: \$ 50.50 Sub. Expenses: <u>103.00</u> Total Est. Expenses: \$153.50
REBECCA FOGLE Supervisor of Secondary Special Education	Council for Exceptional Children Convention and Expo Seattle, Washington April 1-3, 2009 (Wed., Thurs., Fri.) Est. Expenses: \$337.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Est. Expenses: \$337.00
JEAN FREY Gifted Teacher West Broad, Franconia & E. M. Crouthamel Elem.	PA Association for Gifted Education Conference Valley Forge, PA April 16, 2009 (Thurs.) Est. Expenses: \$157.30 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Est. Expenses: \$157.30
BETH ANN MULFORD Kindergarten, Salford Hills Elem.	Handwriting Without Tears King of Prussia, PA April 17, 2009 (Fri.) Est. Expenses: \$206.00 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Est. Expenses: \$206.00
CHERYLE RADCLIFF Gifted Teacher, Senior High School	Parent Association Gifted Education State Conference King of Prussia, PA April 17, 18, 2009 (Fri., Sat.) Est. Expenses: \$152.50 Sub. Expenses: <u>0.00</u> Total Est. Expenses: \$152.50
ANN MARIE CARANFA Multi-Disability Support Vernfield Elem.	Beginning Communication, Beginning Language and Conversations Norristown, PA May 5, 2009 (Tues.) Est. Expenses: \$ 26.40 Sub. Expenses: <u>103.00</u> Total Est. Expenses: \$129.40

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Recommendation to Ratify/Approve Requests for Conferences/Workshops (Continued)

DENISE KIRSTEIER Unlocking the Writers and Readers in Your Classroom
Fourth Grade, West Broad St. Warrington, PA
May 9, 2009 (Sat.)
Est. Expenses: \$110.00
Sub. Expenses: 0.00
Total Est. Expenses: \$110.00

PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Recommendation to Approve Retirement

JOHN ROWE Mathematics Teacher, Indian Crest Junior High
Effective: End of the 2008-2009 School Year
Employed by SASD: 40 Years

Recommendation to Approve Request for Childrearing Leave

COURTNEY PANACHYDA First Grade, Vernfield Elementary
Beginning approximately October 2, 2009, following Family/Medical Leave, through the first semester of the 2009-2010 school year. Mrs. Panachyda is planning to return to work for the second semester of the 2009-2010 school year.

Recommendation to Approve Request for Extension of Childrearing Leave

TRACY BORRO Fourth Grade, Vernfield Elementary
Through the first semester of the 2009-2010 school year. Mrs. Borro is planning to return to work for the second semester of the 2009-2010 school year.

PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF

Ratification/Recommendation to Accept Resignation

STEPHANIE A. SMITH Cafeteria/Playground Aide, Vernfield Elem.
Effective: March 6, 2009

Recommendation to Approve Request for Childrearing Leave

JILLIANNE HANGEY Special Education Aide, Senior High
Effective for the 2009-2010 school year. Mrs. Hangey is planning to return to work for the 2010-2011 school year.

Ratification/Recommendation for Employment

STEPHANIE HANSELL Special Education Aide, One-to-One, Franconia Elem.
New Position Beginning: March 19, 2009
Wage: \$10.40 per hour
Hours: 3 per day

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF (CONTINUED)

Ratification/Recommendation for Employment (Continued)

LINDA MACK Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aide, Vernfield Elem.
Beginning: March 2, 2009
Wage: \$9.37 per hour
Hours: As needed

Ratification/Recommendation for Employment of Coaches for the 2008-2009 School Year

Supplemental Contracts for Coaching Positions

COURTNEY HUGHES	Head Softball Coach (IC)	\$2,073.00
(Correction of salary from previous agenda)		
KIMBERLY DUDEK	Asst. Lacrosse Coach (G) (HS)	3,454.00
(Correction of salary from previous agenda)		
KIMBERLY GARDNER[^]	Head Softball Coach (IV)	2,013.00
KARLENE SMITH[^]	Head Softball Coach (IV)	2,013.00

[^] New to Coaching at SASD

Contracted Services for Coaching Positions

HUNTER MOYER[^]	Head Track Coach, Boys (IV)	\$2,013.00
BRIAN KRIZOVENSKY[^]	Head Baseball Coach (IV)	2,013.00
JAIME MATHE	Head Lacrosse Coach (G) (IC)	2,310.00
PAUL SIGMANS	Head Baseball Coach (IC)	2,073.00
CAROL ATKINSON[^]	Head Softball Coach (IC)	2,013.00
BRENT BYERLY[^]	Head Lacrosse Coach (G) (IC)	2,013.00

[^] New to Coaching at SASD

Ratification of Additions to the 2008-2009 Substitute Teacher List

REBECCA ECKBURG	JILLIAN HENDERSON	SHANNON McBRIDE
NICOLE MUNZ	MELISSA ROSE	ALLISON STERLING

Request for Overnight Field Trips

Souderton Area High School – Selected Choir Students

Date of Trip: April 22-25, 2009 (Wed.-Sat.)

Destination: Horsham, Valley Forge, and Norristown, PA

Purpose of Trip: Students have been selected for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Chorus Festival

Number of Students: 5 Number of Chaperones: 1 – Teresa Washam, Teacher

Trip is Financed: By the district.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Request for Overnight Field Trips (Continued)

Souderton Area High School – Selected Band Student

Date of Trip: April 22-26, 2009 (Wed.-Sun.)

Destination: Spring-Ford Area School District, Royersford, PA.

Purpose of Trip: Students have been selected for the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Band Festival

Number of Students: 1

Number of Chaperones: 1 – Stephen Straka, Teacher

Trip is Financed: By the district.

Recommendation for Second Reading of New Course and Textbooks for 2009-2010

Souderton Area High School (Grades 9-12) Pre-School Lab I Course, Family and Consumer Science - 0.5 credits

Recommendation to Award High School Student Furniture Bids

The Operations Committee is recommending awarding the high school student furniture bids to:

Student Desks – Corporate Interiors, Conshohocken, PA - \$53.93 per desk (*Stelter*)

Student Chairs – Reed Associates, Harleysville, PA - \$39.70 per chair (*Alumni*)

EXHIBIT C

Recommendation to Award High School Kilns Bid

The Operations Committee is recommending awarding the high school kiln bids for the art program to: Kilns (2) – L & L Kilns, Swedesboro, New Jersey - \$34,940.00 for 2 kilns (price includes delivery, set-up, and removal of packaging for 2 kilns)

EXHIBIT D

Recommendation to approve Resolution to schedule the Public Hearing, as required by law, to close the Souderton Area Senior High School, located on School Lane, in Souderton Borough. The Public Hearing has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 15, 2009 at 6:30 PM in the Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administration Offices, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA. The public is invited to attend.

EXHIBIT E

Recommendation to approve Audit Engagement Letter with Gorman & Associates for the 2008-2009 Independent and Single Audits.

EXHIBIT F

Third Reading and Recommendation to Adopt Policies

Policy #907 – School Visitors

EXHIBIT G

Policy #221 – Dress and Grooming

EXHIBIT H

Policy #913.2 – Commercial Sponsorship Agreements

EXHIBIT I

INFORMATIONAL

The public is invited to attend all meetings that are listed below.

The schedule of April 2009 meetings of the Souderton Area School District Board of School Directors are listed below:

INFORMATIONAL(CONTINUED)

The public is invited to attend all meetings that are listed below.

Wednesday, April 1 – Policy Committee Meeting – 6:30 PM

Finance Committee Meeting immediately following the Policy Committee Meeting.

Wednesday, April 15 – Public Hearing to close current Souderton Area High School – 6:30 PM

Education-Personnel Committee Meeting will follow immediately after the Public Hearing. Operations Committee Meeting immediately following the Education-Personnel Committee Meeting.

Thursday, April 23 – Board of School Directors Meeting – 7:00 PM

All meetings of the Board of School Directors are held in the Tinner Board Room of the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

The next North Montco Technical Career Center Joint Operating Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 20, 2009 in the Administrative Conference Room at North Montco, 1265 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM.

The next meeting of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 at 7:45 PM in Conference Rooms B3/B4, Montgomery County Intermediate Unit, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

Mr. Sultanik updated the Board on the status of contract talks between the Souderton Area Educational Support Professional Association (SAESP) and the Souderton Area Secretaries Educational Support Professional Association (SASESPA). The Pennsylvania Labor Relations Board received requests from the two associations on February 17, 2009 to enter into Fact Finding. The Labor Relations Board appointed John Skonier, a labor arbitrator, to preside at the March 12th Fact Finding hearing.

On Monday, March 30th, Mr. Skonier is scheduled to release his recommendations to the School Board and both unions. The recommendations will be confidential. The Board and the unions will have not less than five days, but not more than ten days, to vote on the recommendations. If both parties vote to accept the recommendations, then we have a settlement. If one of the parties rejects the recommendations, then there is another ten days to discuss and vote again. The Board is tentatively scheduled to have an executive session on April 1st to discuss the recommendations. The Board will have a special meeting sometime after that to vote on the recommendations.

Mr. Sultanik stated that the procedures for the SAESP and SASESPA are different from that of the teacher's union.

Mr. MacDougall asked when the Arbitration Board would be submitting their recommendations.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR (CONTINUED)

Mr. Sultanik indicated that the timeline is unknown. He suggested a possibility of four to six weeks until the report from the Arbitration Board could be expected.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

There was no unfinished/new business from the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Tracy Cole, resident of Franconia Township, spoke about the quality of teachers that are in the Souderton Area School District.

Samantha Hickman, a senior student at Souderton Area High School, addressed negotiations and the quality of teachers at Souderton. She asked the Board to keep an open mind when reviewing the Arbitrator's recommendations.

Beth Swartz, resident of Telford and teacher in the district, spoke on the issue of merit pay.

Charyl Wellener, resident of Souderton Borough, reminded the Board of Senator Rock's Bill 1369 which would abolish a teacher's right to strike in Pennsylvania. She asked the Board to call local legislators and ask them to vote for the bill.

Hugh Donnelly, resident of Franconia Township, spoke about the history of the PSEA and how the union has influenced Pennsylvania's labor and taxes over the years.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Jelinski, with a second by Mr. Kwiatkowski to adjourn the meeting. On a vote of 8 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:41 PM.

Respectfully,

R. Bradley Clemens
Interim Board Secretary