

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 on Thursday, March 22, 2012, at the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Bernard S. Currie, followed by meeting protocol and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Ms. Sylvia C. Lenz, Board Secretary, called the roll. Board members present were:

PRESENT:	Jill S. Basile	Scott C. Jelinski
	William J. Brong	Ken R. Keith
	Bernard S. Currie	Thomas A. Kwiatkowski
	Matt Holliday	Donna M. Scheuren
ABSENT:	Nicholas A. Braccio	
SOLICITOR:	Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.	

Also present at the meeting were: Brigitte Bagocius, Frank Ball, Maryellen Brousseau, Michael Cahill, Molly Dugan, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Dr. Christopher Hey, Mark James, Dr. Frederick Johnson, Sylvia Lenz (Secretary), Carol Luciani, John McLaughlin, Ridgley Shultz, Elisa Snedaker (Treasurer), Stasha Sosnowiz, William Stone, Dr. Sam Varano, a reporter from *The Reporter* newspaper, and community members.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Dr. Johnson introduced Dr. Sam Varano, principal of the Souderton Area High School, who congratulated the Academic Challenge Team and thanked Mr. Michael Cahill, team advisor, for his work in advising students, in the various extra-curricular activities that he oversees, to get involved in opportunities that do good things for others and builds character. Mr. Cahill spoke about this year's Academic Challenge Team's performance and achievements.

Academic Challenge Team - Souderton Area High School

The Academic Challenge Team is comprised of some of Souderton's best and brightest students who compete against neighboring school districts in a series of "Academic Matches." In these matches, students answer extremely difficult scholastic questions in the areas of math, science, history, geography, grammar, literature, and foreign languages. Students must be quick and accurate with their answers. This year's team emerged with not only the best record overall, but also the highest cumulative point total. They will compete in the "All Montgomery County Tournament" on March 29th. Members of the Academic Challenge Team are:

MAKENA FINGER (11 th)	CAROLINE PRITCHARD (9 th)
NATHANIEL HAMAKER (12 th)	STASHA SOSNOWICZ (12 th) - Captain
NICHOLAS HAUSLER (10 th)	ALEXANDRA TOMASEVICH (9 th)
BENEDIKT HOERMANN (9 th)	RYAN WILLIAMS (11 th)
ALEXANDER KOZITZKY (9 th)	

Dr. Johnson recommended to the Board that they formally recognize the Souderton Area High School Academic Challenge Team for their outstanding accomplishments.

STUDENT RECOGNITION (CONTINUED)

Academic Challenge Team - Souderton Area High School (Continued)

There was a motion from Mr. Brong, with a second from Mr. Keith, for the Board to recognize the Academic Challenge Team.

Mr. Currie congratulated the team members and wished them well in their next competition.

The motion was put to a vote and with a vote of 8 to 0, it was . . .

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Souderton Area High School Academic Challenge Team members for their outstanding achievements. **EXHIBIT A**

Dr. Johnson called on family members, who were present, to stand and receive recognition for their guidance and support.

REPORT FROM THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD

Student Representatives reporting this evening:

STASHA SOSNOWIZ – Class of 2012

RIDGLEY SHULTZ – Class of 2013

Stasha Sosnowiz thanked Michael Cahill, advisor for the National Honor Society, for his guidance. The National Honor Society members are helping Manna on Main Street move to their new facilities. The NHS officers will be serving food at Manna on Main Street several times a week this spring as their spring service project.

Stasha reported on the success of the Cinderella Project. This project took in gently used prom dresses and accessories and then allowed students to purchase these items at low prices. To go along with the prom theme, the Prom Fashion Show will be coming up very soon. Lastly, the Advanced Placement exams will be taken in a few weeks.

Ridgley Shultz reported on athletic accomplishments like the Boys Basketball team who won the Division title and went on to participate in the state championships, and Souderton's swimming and diving championships, including Ozzie Moyer's Gold medal from state diving championships. Practices for spring sports have begun.

Recently, students from both the Art Department and the Performing Arts areas held an arts festival to show what students have learned and accomplished in these departments. The idea of the festival emerged from a senior project. The festival raised over \$7,000 that will go to help fund these departments with items that will help improve their areas. Another event that is taking place at the high school is PSSA testing. High school students are finished for March, but will continue with more testing in April.

Mr. Currie thanked Michael Cahill for his mentoring and guiding the leaders of the National Honor Society and their work with Manna on Main Street.

Mr. Cahill indicated that the ideas and enthusiasm for the projects all come from the students themselves who are involved in the National Honor Society.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mark James, president of the Souderton Area Education Association, spoke on behalf of the association members who are disappointed with the decision to change the Middle School Program. This change will bring about the elimination of thirteen teaching positions.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Bernard S. Currie

The Board held an Executive Session on February 23, 2012, following the Board meeting, to discuss real estate matters and personnel issues.

The Board held an Executive Session on February 29, 2012 to discuss negotiations.

The Board held an informational workshop on March 6, 2012 related to Special Education.

The Board held an Executive Session on March 14, 2012 to discuss negotiations.

The Board held an Executive Session this evening, prior to the Board Meeting, to discuss personnel issues.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA

Dr. Johnson, on behalf of the administration, recommended to the Board that they consider approving the Consent/Action items **VII-A** to **VII-O** as presented, plus items listed on the Addendum. The consent/action agenda and addendum included motions to approve the following items:

- Minutes of the February 23, 2012 School Board Meeting
- Financial Statements and Check Listings for February 2012
- Requests to Attend Conferences
- Personnel Items Such as Resignations, Retirement, and Employment for Support Staff
- Requests for Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trips
- Supplemental Contracts/Contracted Services for Spring Athletic Coaches for the two Middle Schools
- Supplemental Contract for an Assistant Track Coach at Souderton Area High School
- Ratification of Employment for a Community Education Instructor
- Appointment of William R. Stone, Jr. as the Right-to-Know Officer
- Appointment of William R. Stone, Jr. to the Indian Valley Public Library Board
- Appointment of William R. Stone, Jr. as the Board Secretary
- Appointment of William R. Stone, Jr. as the District's Representative to the Montgomery County Tax Collection Committee
- Extension of Real Estate Tax Installment Plan to all Real Estate Taxpayers
- Local Tax Assessment Appeal Settlement with JDJ Properties
- Request to Approve Extension of a Confidential Placement and Release Agreement for one (1) student.

Board members were invited to remove items from the Consent/Action agenda and the Addendum if further discussion was needed.

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, with a second by Mr. Kwiatkowski to vote on the motions. The vote was taken, and on a vote of 8 to 0, it was . . .

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

RESOLVED, That the Board approves the Consent/Action agenda, plus the Addendum items as listed below:

- A. Motion to Approve Minutes of the February 23, 2012 School Board Meeting.
- B. Motion to Approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for February 2012. **EXHIBIT B**

C. Motion to Approve Requests to Attend a Conference

C. NICOLE BRAY
School Psychologist, Oak Ridge
and Lower Salford Elem. Schools

TODD BROWN
District Special Education
Supervisor - Middle Level

FRANK GALLAGHER
Assistant Superintendent/
Director of Pupil Services

REBECCA LEMIEUX
School Psychologist, Oak Ridge
and Lower Salford Elem. Schools

MICHELLE NOGA
District Special Education
Supervisor - Elementary Level

DR. NICOLE PAUZANO
School Psychologist, West Broad St.
Elem. School and Indian Crest M. S.

TERESA WASHAM
Choral Music, Souderton Area
High School

Lehigh University's 40th Annual Education Law
Conference: The Evolution of a Revolution
Bethlehem, PA
May 11, 2012 (Friday)
Total Expenses: \$1,742.94 (Combined)
No Substitutes Required.
Funded by IDEA funds.

AMY POSEY
School Psychologist, Oak Ridge Elem. and
E. M. Crouthamel Elem. Schools

SARA SCHWED
School Psychologist, Indian Valley M. S. and Salford
Hills Elem.

MEGAN ZWEIBACK
District Special Education Supervisor,
High School Level

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Conference
and All-State Band and Chorus
Lancaster, PA
April 19, 20, 2012 (Thursday, Friday)
Total Expenses: \$326.58
Expenses to be paid from Student Activity Account.

D. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Resignations of Support Staff

JAMIE CHUCHMAN
Part-Time Custodian, Salford Hills Elementary
Effective: February 16, 2012

MELISSA DAVIS
Intervention Teaching Asst., Lower Salford Elem.
Effective: March 6, 2012

KRISTEN McCOWN
Title I Teaching Asst., E. M. Crouthamel Elementary
Effective: March 21, 2012

2. Motion to Approve Retirement of Support Staff

JANICE ERNST
In-School Suspension Monitor – High School
Effective: At the end of the 2011-2012 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 13 Years

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

D. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF (CONTINUED)

3. Motion to Approve Employment of Support Staff (Continued)

ANDREA GURGICK Substitute Secretary – District Copy Center
Beginning: February 27, 2012
Wage: \$12.43 per hour – Hours: As needed

KELLY HOFFMAN Part-Time Custodian, Salford Hills Elementary
Replacement for Beginning: March 12, 2012
Jamie Chuchman (resigned) Wage: \$10.36 per hour – Hours: 4 per day

ALYSSA RAUCH Special Education Instructional Asst. – Learning
Replacement for Support, Souderton Area High School
Heather Kopp (resigned) Beginning: March 12, 2012
Wage: \$10.10 per hour – Hours: 6 per day

CHRISTINE WITTER Intervention Teaching Asst., Lower Salford Elem.
Replacement for Beginning: March 7, 2012
Melissa Davis (resigned) Wage: \$12.81 per hour – Hours: 3 per day

E. Motion to Approve Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trips

1. Souderton Area High School – Varsity Baseball Team – Grades 10-12

Date: March 23-25, 2012 (Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
Destination: Cal Ripken Baseball Complex, Aberdeen, MD
Purpose of the Trip: Baseball Team will be taking part in a team building program, as well as two baseball games.
Number of Students: 20 Number of Chaperones: 5
Requesting Coach: Michael Childs
Trip will be paid by the Baseball Booster Assoc.

2. Indian Valley Middle School – Robotics Club – Grades 6-8

Date: April 11, 12, 13, 2012 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
Destination: Manassas, VA – Manassas Park and Lockheed Martin Company
Purpose of the Trip: National Sea Perch Challenge – to compete against schools nationwide in an underwater robotics mission and learn about engineering from scientists. Culminating activity for the Robotics Club.
Number of Students: 8 Number of Chaperones: 2
Requesting Teacher: Andrew Johnson
The trip will be financed by the District.

3. Souderton Area High School – German Students – Grades 10-12

Date: April 14, 2012 (Saturday)
Destination: New York City, NY – The Guggenheim Museum and The Heidelberg.
Purpose of the Trip: This trip relates to the study of German culture.
Number of Students: 12 Number of Chaperones: 2
Requesting Teacher: Neil Lindenfelser
The trip will be financed by the students.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

E. Motion to Approve Out-of-State/Overnight Field Trips (Continued)

4. Souderton Area High School – Indoor Drum Line and Color Guard – Grades 9-12
Dates: May 3, 4, 5, 6, 2012 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
Destination: Wildwood, NJ - Wildwood Convention Center
Purpose of the Trip: The Indoor Drum Line and Color Guard will be competing in the TIA Championships in Wildwood, NJ. This event is the final performance of the 2012 Indoor Drum Line and Color Guard competition season.
Number of Students: 31 Number of Chaperones: 13
Requesting Advisors: Perry Boucher and Tink Fazekas
The trip will be financed by the students.

5. Salford Hills Elementary School – Fifth Grade Students
Date: May 30 to June 1, 2012 (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday)
Destination: Camp Men-O-Lan, Finland, PA
Purpose of the Trip: Provide fifth graders with a three day outdoor school environmental experience. The trip incorporates ecology, music, math, language arts, and other special area activities.
Number of Students: 57 Number of Chaperones: 14
Requesting Teacher: Janet Smith and the fifth grade teaching staff.
The trip will be financed by the students.

6. Indian Crest Middle School, Indian Valley Middle School and Souderton Area High School Students – Science Fair – Grades 7th – 11th
Date of Trip: May 13, 14, 15, 2012 (Sunday, Monday, Tuesday)
Destination: State College, PA
Purpose of the Trip: Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science Fair Competition
Requesting Teacher/Sponsor: Karen Frazier
Number of Students: 14 Number of Chaperones: 3
Registration fee paid by District Student Activity funds. Other expenses to be paid by students.

7. Souderton Area High School – All-State Chorus, Band and Orchestra Participants – Grades 10th – 12th
Date of Trip: April 19, 20, 21, 22, 2012 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday)
Destination: Lancaster, PA
Purpose of the Trip: Students, who were selected by audition, will participate in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All-State Chorus, All-State Band and/or All-State Orchestra.
Number of Students: 6 Number of Chaperones: 1
Registration fees paid by District Student Activity funds.
Other expenses to be paid by students.

F. Motion to Approve Supplemental Contracts/Contracted Services for Spring Sports Coaches at Indian Crest and Indian Valley Middle Schools. **EXHIBIT C**

G. Motion to Approve Supplemental Contract
ADAM EWING Asst. Track Coach, High School \$2,404.00
(Replacement for John Myers – resigned)

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

- H. Motion to Ratify Employment for Spring 2012 Community Education Evening Course
SAM VIGARITO Fly Fishing \$20 per Hour / 16 Hours
(Replacement for Greg Boyd - resigned)
- I. Motion to approve the appointment of William R. Stone, Jr., Director of Business Affairs, as Souderton Area School District's Right-to-Know Officer, effective April 2, 2012, replacing Frank Gallagher.
- J. Motion to approve the appointment of William R. Stone, Jr., Director of Business Affairs, to the Indian Valley Public Library Board of Directors, effective April 2, 2012, to complete the unexpired term of Sylvia C. Lenz. The appointment was discussed at the February 29, 2012 Finance Committee Meeting.
- K. Motion to approve the appointment of William R. Stone, Jr., Director of Business Affairs, as School Board Secretary, effective April 2, 2012, to complete the unexpired term of Sylvia C. Lenz. The appointment was discussed at the February 29, 2012 Finance Committee Meeting.
- L. Motion to approve the appointment of William R. Stone, Jr., Director of Business Affairs, as the Souderton Area School District delegate to the Montgomery County Tax Collection Committee, effective April 2, 2012, to complete the unexpired term of Sylvia C. Lenz. The appointment was discussed at the February 29, 2012 Finance Committee Meeting.
- M. Motion to approve a Resolution to extend the Real Estate Tax Installment Plan to all real estate taxpayers in the district effective July 1, 2012. Formerly, only taxpayers of homestead/farmstead properties qualified, with tax payments due on July 31, September 30 and October 31. The Finance Committee discussed this at their meeting on March 14, 2012 and recommended it for Board action, which will bring the district in compliance with Act 25 of 2011. **EXHIBIT D**
- N. Motion to accept a Tax Assessment Appeal Settlement with JDJ Properties. The Finance Committee discussed this at their meeting on March 14, 2012, and recommended it for Board action. **EXHIBIT E**
- O. Motion to approve an Extension of Confidential Placement and Release Agreement for one (1) student. **EXHIBIT F**

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

- A. Motion to approve Resolution adopting Middle School Program Changes as drafted by the district solicitor. The Education-Personnel Committee discussed the program changes at its March 14, 2012 meeting, and recommended it for Board action.

There was a motion by Mr. Jelinski, with a second by Mr. Kwiatkowski to approve the Resolution.

Dr. Johnson asked Ms. Brousseau to review the main Middle School Program change points. She briefly highlighted the benefits to making the changes.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the Resolution outlining the Middle School Program Changes as drafted by the district solicitor and as discussed at the March 14, 2012 Education-Personnel Committee meeting. **EXHIBIT G**

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

- B. Motion to approve 2012 Summer Maintenance Projects and proceed with the required bid process as discussed and recommended by the Operations Committee on March 14, 2012. Estimated total amount of summer projects to be \$177,300.

Dr. Johnson reminded the Board that the monies for the Summer Maintenance Projects comes from the Capital Reserve Account, which cannot be used for the General budget. Also, \$1.2 million dollars had been put aside in the Five Year Plan for this year's summer maintenance projects. However, it looks like the district will only be using \$177,300 of that money for this summer's projects.

Dr. Johnson read the motion for the 2012 Summer Maintenance Projects.

There was a motion by Mrs. Basile, with a second by Mr. Brong. The vote was taken, and on a vote of 8 to 0, it was . . .

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the 2012 Summer Maintenance Projects as listed on the attachment and proceed with the required bid process as discussed and recommended by the Operations Committee. Estimated total amount of summer projects to be \$177,300.

EXHIBIT H

- C. Motion to approve the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Special Education Cost Plan for 2012-2013 in the amount of \$813,489.77, which represents a reduction of \$474,505.74 from the 2011-2012 MCIU Cost Plan. The Finance Committee discussed the plan at its meeting on March 14, 2012 and recommended it for Board action.

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, with a second by Mr. Jelinski.

Mr. Frank Gallagher spoke about the importance of bringing the special education students back from the Intermediate Unit classes to their home district for their education.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Special Education Cost Plan for the 2012-2013 school year in the amount of \$813,489.77.

EXHIBIT I

INFORMATIONAL

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

The next meeting of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, March 28, 2012 at 7:45 PM in Conference Room B3/B4 at the MCIU Administrative Office Building, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

The schedule of April 2012 meetings of the Souderton Area School District Board of School Directors are listed below:

--- Wednesday, April 4, 2012 – Finance Committee Meeting – 6:30 PM

The Policy Committee for Wednesday, April 4, 2012 **has been canceled**.

INFORMATIONAL (CONTINUED)

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

- Wednesday, April 18, 2012 – Education-Personnel Committee Meeting – 6:30 PM
The Operations Committee Meeting will take place immediately following the Education-Personnel Committee Meeting. A Finance Committee Meeting will follow immediately at the conclusion of the Operations Committee Meeting.
- Thursday, April 26, 2012 - 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 16, 2012 in the Administrative Conference Room at North Montco, 1265 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

No report from the solicitor.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Currie pointed out that tonight's meeting will be Ms. Sylvia Lenz' last meeting and thanked her for her expertise on budget development.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no other business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Jelinski, with a second by Mrs. Scheuren to adjourn the meeting. The vote was taken, and on a vote of 8 to 0, it was . . .

RESOLVED, That the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM.

Respectfully,

Sylvia C. Lenz
School Board Secretary