

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 Tuesday, December 20, 2011, at the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by President Bernard S. Currie, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

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

Also present at the meeting were: Brigitte Bagocius, Dan Barber, Maryellen Brousseau, Stephen Bukowski, Natalie Carbone, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Kevin Hanlon, Dr. Christopher Hey, Dr. Frederick Johnson, Sylvia Lenz, John McLaughlin, Elisa Snedaker, Dr. Sam Varano, a reporter from *The Reporter* newspaper, and community members.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

Student representatives reporting this evening were **KEVIN HANLON** – Class of 2012 and **NATALIE CARBONE** – Class of 2013.

Natalie spoke about the beginning of winter sports programs and the annual Winter Workshop for first grade students. A student fundraiser for “Jump Rope for Heart” netted \$1,200.

Kevin talked about a student food drive and fundraiser that brought in over 8,000 food items and raised over \$11,000 to help families in need. The high school recently had their annual Holiday Door Decorating Contest. Lastly, Kevin spoke about a few FBLA members who will be competing at the Regional Competition in Hershey.

Mr. Currie congratulated the high school students for their efforts in raising funds and collecting food items for those in need.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Mark Witoskowski, from Franconia Township, wanted to talk about a personnel item on the agenda.

Mr. Currie stated that personnel items are not discussed in the open venue setting.

Mr. Bud Miller, resident of Lower Salford Township, thanked the Board and administration for their recommendation to add the Honors English course back into the schedule.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS (CONTINUED)

Suzanne Hickman, resident of Lower Salford Township, spoke about putting Honors English courses back into the schedule.

Beth Harkins, resident of Lower Salford Township, addressed the Board about the Honors English classes. Students need to be able to take high level courses.

Mary Ellen Wittig, resident of Lower Salford Township, asked the Board to consider adding an Honors English course for next year.

Mark Offner, resident of Lower Salford Township, spoke about students having choices available when choosing courses in eleventh and twelfth grades.

Norma Goodwin, resident of Lower Salford Township, spoke about students with learning disabilities who need choices in high level courses.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Bernard S. Currie

An Executive Session of the Board was held on December 14, 2011 to discuss personnel issues.

An Executive Session of the Board was held this evening, prior to the Board meeting, to discuss personnel items.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA

Dr. Johnson, on behalf of the administration, recommended that the Board consider approving the Consent/Action items A to T, as well as the items listed on the Consent/Action section of the Addendum.

Consent/Action portion of the agenda and addendum included:

- Board Meeting Minutes, Financial Statements, and Check Listings from November and early December 2011;
- Requests to attend conferences/workshops;
- Personnel recommendations for administrative, professional, and support staff, a retirement request, requests for childrearing leave, resignations, transfers, and recommendations for employment;
- Employment of substitute personnel;
- Recommendation to approve a provision for dental services;
- Out-of-state & overnight field trip requests;
- Recommendation for additional Mentors;
- Recommendations for contracted services for sports coaches and band instructors;
- Business Office recommendation for a credit card authorization;
- Recommendation to approve 2011 Per Capita Exonerations;
- Recommendation to approve a Cooperative Purchasing agreement;
- Recommendation to approve the submission of PlanCon K to the Pennsylvania Department of Education;

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

- Recommendation to accept a donation to be used for the High School Wall of Fame;
- Recommendation to move the three Childrearing Leave Policies forward for a Third Reading and adoption at the next Board meeting;
- Recommendation to approve the Souderton Area Community Education Winter/Spring 2012 classes, instructor rates, and contracts.
- Recommendation to approve an amendment to the District's 457(b) plan documents to comply with the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA); the Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2008 (HEART Act); the Worker, Retiree and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 (WRERA); and Final 415 Regulations.

Board members were invited to remove items from the Consent/Action section of the agenda or the addendum if further discussion was required.

There was a motion from Mr. Kwiatkowski to approve the Consent/Action items and the Addendum items as listed. There was a second to the motion by Mr. Jelinski.

Dr. Johnson took a moment to thank Mrs. Nora Dilks for her many years of service to the Souderton Area School District and the Souderton Community Education Program.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board approves all Consent/Action and Addendum items as listed:

- A. Motion to Approve Minutes of the November 22, 2011 School Board Meeting.
- B. Motion to Approve Minutes of the December 1, 2011 School Board Reorganization Meeting.
- C. Motion to Approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for November 2011. **EXHIBIT A**
- D. Motion to Approve Requests to Attend Conferences/Workshops
- | | |
|--|--|
| KYLE LONGACRE
Assistant Principal,
Souderton Area High School
(Ratify) | Train the Trainer Conference: Aligning Practices with the
Common Core
West Conshohocken, PA
December 16, 2011 (Friday)
Total Expenses: \$324.53
Expenses charged to High School Staff Development |
| AMY COYLE
Autistic Support Teacher
Indian Crest Middle School | Visual, Behavior, and Social Strategies Workshop
Voorhees, NJ
February 9, 2012 (Thursday) |
| JENNY PRITCHARD
Autistic Support Teacher
Indian Crest Middle School | Total Expenses: \$540.00 (Combined)
Expenses charged to Special Education Budget |

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

D. Motion to Approve Requests to Attend Conferences/Workshops (Continued)

MAUREEN UNGER Attendance/Child Accounting Association of Pennsylvania
District Registrar/Student Spring Conference
Accounting Specialist Hershey, PA
March 21, 22, 23, 2012 (Wed., Thurs., Fri.)
Total Expenses: \$791.12
Expenses charged to Attendance Services Budget

E. PERSONNEL – ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Retirement

NORA DILKS District Coordinator of Community Education
Effective: On or before January 26, 2012
Years in SASD: 20 Years

2. Motion to Approve Employment

DAWN KESTER District Coordinator of Community Education
Replacement for **ACT 93 POSITION**
Nora Dilks (retired) Beginning: To be determined
Education Experience
Univ. of Delaware (BA) 1990 Sept. 2008-Present-Souderton Area S.D.–Indian Crest M. S.-
Receptionist
1994-1997–Daller, Greenberg & Dietrich, LLP–Para-legal
Coordinator
1991-1994–Cardiac Diagnostic Center–Secretary
1990-1991–St. Barnabas Medical Center–Medical Receptionist
Recommended Salary - \$45,905 (pro-rated)

F. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Request for Childrearing Leave

DAWN CURTIS Mathematics Teacher, Souderton Area High School
Beginning approximately March 9, 2012, following Family/Medical Leave, through the end
of the 2011-2012 school year. Mrs. Curtis is planning to return to work for the start of the
2012-2013 school year.

2. Motion to Approve Request for Extension of Childrearing Leave

REBECCA LEMIEUX District School Psychologist
Extension through the second semester of the 2011-2012 school year. Mrs. Lemieux is
planning to return to work for the start of the 2012-2013 school year.

3. Motion to Approve Resignation

CARYN MARSHALL Health & Physical Education Teacher, Indian Valley M.S.
Effective: At the end of the First Semester, 2011-2012
School Year (January 20, 2012 – Tentative)

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

F. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

4. Motion to Approve Employment

LAURA AQUILANTE Special Education Teacher – 6th Grade Learning Support
Replacement for Indian Crest Middle School
Rosemarie Osada
LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE
(childrearing) Effective: Approximately January 2, 2012 through the end of
the 2011-2012 School Year

<u>Education</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Gwynedd-Mercy College (BS) 2009	Jan. 2009-Present–Souderton Area S. D.–Special Education Instructional Asst.–One-to-One–Salford Hills Elem. & Indian Crest M. S.

Recommended Salary - \$40,492 (pro-rated) – B (1)

C. NICOLE BRAY District School Psychologist
Replacement for **LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Rebecca Lemieux Effective: Second Semester of the 2011-12 School Year
(childrearing) (January 20, 2012 – Tentative)

<u>Education</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Carnegie-Mellon Univ. (BS) 2003 Lehigh Univ. (M.Ed.) 2006	Sept. 2011-Present–Souderton Area S. D.-Long-Term Substitute-School Psychologist 2010-2011- School District of Philadelphia- School Psychologist Jan.–June 2010–Central Buck S.D.–Long-Term Substitute- School Psychologist Sept. 2009 - Jan. 2010–Reading S.D.–School Psychologist

Recommended Salary - \$25,745.50 – M24 (1)

PHILLIP CERAMI Chemistry & Physics Teacher – Souderton Area H. S.
Replacement for **TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL**
Peter Spizzirri (resigned) Beginning: On the First Day of the Second Semester for
Students (January 20, 2012 – Tentative)

<u>Education</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Pennsylvania State Univ. (BS) 2009	Sept. 2009-Present–Renaissance Academy–Chemistry and Physics Teacher Spring 2009–Altoona Area S. D. – Altoona Area H. S.–Student Teaching

Recommended Salary - \$40,492 (pro-rated) – B (1)

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

F. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

4. Motion to Approve Employment (Continued)

ELIZABETH DEATON Fifth Grade Teacher–West Broad St. Elementary
Replacement for **LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Christine Wuelfing Effective: December 9, 2011 through the end of the 2011-
(childrearing) 2012 School Year
Education Experience
Temple Univ. (BS) 2010 Sept. 2011–Nov. 2011–School District of Philadelphia-
Learning Support Teacher
Jan. 2010–June 2011–School District of Philadelphia- First
Grade Teacher
Recommended Salary - \$40,492 (pro-rated) – B (1)

LYNDSAY DIVIS Second Grade Teacher–West Broad St. Elementary
Replacement for **LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Coleen McGowan Effective: Second Semester of the 2011-2012 School Year
(leave) (January 20, 2012 – Tentative)
Education Experience
Penn State Univ. (BS) Sept. 2011-Present- Souderton Area S. D.-West Broad St.
2010 Elem.-Long-Term Substitute- Second Grade Teacher
Oct. 2010–June 2011–North Penn S. D.–Montgomery Elem.–
Kindergarten, Fourth, & Sixth Grades-Substitute Teacher
Recommended Salary - \$20,246 – B (1)

KATHLEEN FARRELL Fourth Grade Teacher–Oak Ridge Elementary
Replacement for **LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Jacqueline Tonik Effective: Second Semester of the 2011-2012 School Year
(childrearing) (January 20, 2012 – Tentative)
Education Experience
West Chester Univ. (BS) Sept. 2011-Present- Souderton Area S. D.-Oak Ridge Elem.-
2007 Long-Term Substitute- Fourth Grade Teacher
2010–2011–SASD- Salford Hills Elem.- Long-Term-
Substitute-Fourth Grade Teacher
Sept-Dec. 2009 –SASD - Salford Hills Elem.–Substitute
Kindergarten Teacher
Recommended Salary - \$20,246 – B (1)

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

F. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

4. Motion to Approve Employment (Continued)

VANESSA FERRIER Health & Physical Education Teacher–Indian Valley M.S.
Replacement for **TEMPORARY PROFESSIONAL**
Caryn Marshall Beginning: Second Semester of the 2011-2012 School Year
(resigned) (January 20, 2012 – Tentative)
Education Experience
West Chester Univ. (BS) Sept. 2010-Present–Souderton Area S.D.–Indian Valley M.S.-
2005 Health & Physical Education Teacher
2007- 2009–Fox Chapel Middle School, Spring Hill, FL-
Physical Education Teacher
Recommended Salary - \$42,179 (pro-rated) – B (2)

KIMBERLY HARSANYI Fourth Grade Teacher–Franconia Elementary
Replacement for **LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Tracy Borro Effective: Second Semester of the 2011-2012 School Year
(childrearing) (January 20, 2012 – Tentative)
Education Experience
Temple Univ. (BS) 2008 Sept. 2011-Present- Souderton Area S. D.-Franconia Elem.-
Long-Term Substitute- Fourth Grade Teacher
2008–2011–SASD- E.M.C. & Franconia Elem.- Title I Teaching
Assistant
May 2011-June 2011–SASD-Franconia Elem.–Substitute
Fifth Grade Teacher
Recommended Salary - \$20,246 – B (1)

JACQULYN HIMMEL First Grade Teacher–Oak Ridge Elementary
Replacement for **LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE**
Michele Smith Effective: Second Semester of the 2011-2012 School Year
(childrearing) (January 20, 2012 – Tentative)
Education Experience
Gwynedd-Mercy College Sept. 2011-Present- Souderton Area S. D.-Oak Ridge Elem.-
(BS) 2007 Long-Term Substitute - First Grade Teacher
Jan. 2010-June 2011–SASD- Franconia & Oak Ridge Elem.-
Long-Term Substitute- Second Grade Teacher
Recommended Salary - \$20,246 – B (1)

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

F. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

4. Motion to Approve Employment (Continued)

LISA NELSON
Replacement for
Jessica Brockmann
(childrearing)

Education
Eastern Univ. (BS) 2010

Special Education Learning Support – Souderton Area H. S.
LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE
Effective: Second Semester of the 2011-2012 School Year
(January 20, 2012 – Tentative)

Experience
Sept. 2011-Present- Souderton Area S. D. -High School-Long-
Term Substitute- Special Education Teacher
March-June 2011–Methacton S. D.–Long-Term Substitute-
Learning Support–Grades 1-3
Dec. 2010-March 2011–Academy in Manayunk- Long-Term
Substitute–Learning Support- Grades 3-4

Recommended Salary - \$21,089.50 – B12 (1)

CAROLYN SCOTT
Replacement for
Dawn Curtis
(childrearing)

Education
Drexel Univ. (BS) 1995

Mathematics Teacher – Souderton Area High School
LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE
Effective: December 9, 2011 through the end of the 2011-
2012 School Year

Experience
Sept. 2011-Present- Norristown Area S. D. -High School-Part-
Time Mathematics Teacher
Dec. 2010-March 2011–Central Bucks South H. S. –Substitute
Teacher–Mathematics

Recommended Salary - \$40,492 (pro-rated) – B (1)

TIMOTHY WILSON
Replacement for
Melissa Trempe
(childrearing)

Education
Kutztown Univ. (BS)
2002

Fifth Grade Teacher–Oak Ridge Elementary
LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE
Effective: Second Semester of the 2011-2012 School Year
(January 20, 2012 – Tentative)

Experience
Sept. 2011-Present- Souderton Area S. D.-Oak Ridge Elem.-
Long-Term Substitute- Fifth Grade Teacher
Nov. 2010–June 2011– SASD-Salford Hills Elem.–Long-Term
Substitute–Fourth Grade Teacher
2009-2010–SASD-Oak Ridge Elem.–Long-Term Substitute-
Second Grade Teacher
Sept. 2008- Feb. 2009–SASD-Oak Ridge Elem.- Long-Term
Substitute–Third Grade Teacher

Recommended Salary - \$20,246 – B (1)

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

G. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF

1. Motion to Accept Resignations

COURTNEY BISHOP Title I Teaching Asst. – E. M. Crouthamel Elem.
Effective: December 15, 2011

RUSSELL KHAWJA Part-Time Custodian, Indian Crest Middle School
Effective: December 2, 2011

ROBERT STROHM Part-Time Custodian, Salford Hills Elementary
Effective: December 8, 2011

2. Motion to Approve Transfers

THOMAS COUGHLIN From: Full-Time Custodian, Lower Salford Elementary
Replacement for To: District Custodial/Lawn Maintenance
Bradley Bargher Effective: To be determined
(transfer) Wage: \$19.60 per hour – Hours: 8 per day

ASHLEY ROSEN From: Special Education Instructional Asst. – Indian
New Position Crest Middle School
To: Title I Teaching Assistant, West Broad St. Elem.
Effective: December 5, 2011 through the end of the
2011-2012 School Year
Wage: \$12.81 per hour – Hours: 6 per day

3. Motion to Approve Employment

SUSAN CARR Title I Teaching Asst., Franconia Elementary School
Replacement for Beginning: December 13, 2011
Nancy Deputy (resigned) Wage: \$12.81 per hour – Hours: 6 per day

JAMIE CHUCHMAN Part-Time Custodian, Salford Hills Elementary School
Replacement for Beginning: December 20, 2011
Robert Strohm (resigned) Wage: \$10.36 per hour – Hours: 4 per day

LORRAINE COHAN District Substitute Secretary
Beginning: December 6, 2011
Wage: \$12.43 per hour – Hours: As needed

MARK JAMISON Part-Time Custodian, Indian Crest Middle School
Replacement for Beginning: December 8, 2011
Russell Khawja (resigned) Wage: \$10.36 per hour – Hours: 4 per day

PAUL SIGMANS Special Education Instructional Asst.-Learning Support –
Replacement for Indian Crest M.S.
Ashley Rosen (transfer) Beginning: January 2, 2012
Wage: \$10.10 per hour – Hours: 6.5 per day

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

G. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF (CONTINUED)

3. Motion to Approve Employment (Continued)

LISA WALTERS Classroom Instructional Asst., Fifth Grade – Lower Salford
New position due to Elem.
increased enrollment Beginning: Nov. 7, 2011 through the end the 2011-2012
school year, or when the classroom enrollment is reduced,
thereby eliminating the need, whichever occurs first.
Wage: \$9.60 per hour – Hours: 5 per day

H. Motion to Approve Additional Substitute Staff

Food Service Substitute **JOAN HILLEGAS**
Substitute Nurse **ROBIN KREISER**
Substitute Teachers **LYNNE HALL** **LISA WALTERS**

I. Motion to Approve Provision for Dental School Health Services

DR. HELENE WOODMANCY (Replacement for Dr. Boraski- Retired)

J. Motion to Ratify/Approve Overnight & Out-of-State Field Trips

RATIFY 1. Souderton Area High School – Wrestling Team (Grades 9-12)

Date: December 9-10, 2011 (Friday-Saturday)
Destination: Solanco High School, Quarryville, PA
Purpose of the Trip: Participate in a wrestling tournament.
Number of Students: 14 Number of Chaperones: 2
Requesting Coach: Tristan Boyd
The trip will be funded by students/parents and the Booster Club.

2. Indian Crest Middle School – SAVE/Recycling Club (Grades 6-8)

Date: May 11-12, 2012 (Friday-Saturday)
Destination: Provincetown, MA – Whale Watching and tour Provincetown.
Purpose of the Trip: Students will experience the reason they have been working so hard
to help save the environment all year. The SAVE and recycling club have been doing
projects around the school and community throughout the year to help improve the
environment.
Number of Students: 35 Number of Chaperones: 5
Requesting Teachers: Tom Lavella and Lynn Carroll
The trip will be funded by students and parents.

3. Indian Crest Middle School – Social Studies, Science, & Language Arts (Grade 8)

Date: May 16, 2012 (Wednesday)
Destination: New York City, NY – 9/11 Memorial, Ellis Island, Radio City Music Hall,
Metropolitan Museum, and the Natural History Museum.
Purpose of the Trip: To provide a differentiated trip with connections to the eighth grade
Social Studies, Science and Language Arts curriculum.
Number of Students: 254 Number of Chaperones: 46
Requesting Teachers: Eric Hartman and Andrew McClintock
The trip will be funded by the students/parents.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

- K. Motion to Approve Mentors for the 2011-2012 School Year
- | | | |
|---------------------------|---|-----------|
| MEGAN FINNEY | Mentor for Christina Crawford (prorated) | \$ 197.00 |
| THOMAS LAVELLA | Mentor for Rachelle Deitch (2 nd Semester) | 300.00 |
| TARA FLEDDERJOHANN | Co-mentor for Lyndsay Divis (2 nd Semester) | 150.00 |
| JENNIFER GRANITO | Mentor for Lisa Nelson (2 nd Semester) | 300.00 |
| CHRISTINE GREEN | Mentor for Kimberly Harsanyi (2 nd Semester) | 300.00 |
| LAURIE PHILLIPS | Co-mentor for Lyndsay Divis (2 nd Semester) | 150.00 |
| AMY POSEY | Mentor for C. Nicole Bray (2 nd Semester) | 150.00 |
| MEREDITH EHST | Mentor for Nancy Deputy (prorated) | 370.50 |
| HEATHER FINK | Co-mentor for Elizabeth Deaton (prorated) | 185.25 |
| MELISSA MOELLER | Co-mentor for Elizabeth Deaton (prorated) | 185.25 |
| IAN BURLEY | Mentor for Phillip Cerami (2 nd Semester) | 300.00 |
| TODD BAUER | Mentor for Carolyn Scott (prorated) | 370.50 |
| LORI GRAF | Mentor for Laura Aquilante (prorated) | 337.50 |
- L. Motion to Approve Contracted Services for 2011-2012 Sports Coaches and Band Employees
- | | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------|
| WILLIAM SHOLLY | Asst. Wrestling Coach (HS) | \$2,684.00 |
| PERRY BOUCHER | Head Percussion Instructor-Indoor Band (HS) | 2,941.00 |
| WESLEIGH FAZEKAS | Head Guard Instructor-Indoor Band (HS) | 1,596.00 |
| RUSSELL DAVIES | Asst. Percussion Instructor-Indoor Band (HS) | 2,041.00 |
- (Booster paid contract)
- M. Motion to approve **ELISA R. SNEDAKER**, Assistant Business Manager, as the Authorized Officer or Guarantor on the Bank of America Platinum Plus credit card account, beginning December 1, 2011.
- N. Motion to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendation to accept the 2011 Per Capita Tax Exonerations as presented at the December 14, 2011 meeting. **EXHIBIT B**
- O. Cooperative Purchasing Proposal
Motion to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendation of December 14, 2011 to participate in Cooperative Purchasing program through the following sources: Montgomery County Intermediate Unit #23, Lancaster-Lebanon Intermediate Unit #13, COSTARS, PEPPM, Southeastern Pennsylvania Buying Group (Food Service), Chester County Intermediate Unit #24 (Food Service), and Capital Area Intermediate Unit #15.
- P. Motion to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendation of December 14, 2011 to submit PlanCon K for the School District’s General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2011 to the Pennsylvania Department of Education, as per request from Public Financial Management (PFM). **EXHIBIT C**
- Q. Motion to accept a donation from Mr. Jack Ebert in the amount of \$1,225.90 for the Sports Wall of Fame plaques at Souderton Area High School. **EXHIBIT D**
- R. Motion for a Second Reading of Three Policies:
These policies are being updated to reflect current insurance language. If there are no objections from the Board, these policies will move forward to the January 26, 2012 Board meeting for a Third Reading and Adoption.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

- R. Motion for a Second Reading of Three Policies (Continued):
1. Policy #335 – Childrearing Leave
 2. Policy #435 – Childrearing Leave
 3. Policy #535 – Childrearing Leave
- S. Motion to approve Instructor List, Classes, and Salaries for the Winter/Spring 2011-2012 Session of the Souderton Area Community Education Classes. **EXHIBIT E**
- T. Motion to approve amendment to the District’s 457(b) plan documents to comply with the Pension Protection Act of 2006 (PPA); the Heroes Earnings Assistance and Relief Tax Act of 2008 (HEART Act); the Worker, Retiree and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 (WRERA); and the Final 415 Regulations. **EXHIBIT F**

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

- A. 2011-2012 English Honors/AP Evaluation
Motion to consider the recommendation from the December 14, 2011 Education-Personnel Committee meeting to add an Honors Grade 11/12 English course offering for the 2012-2013 school year at Souderton Area High School.

There was a motion by Mr. Kwiatkowski, with a second by Mrs. Basile.

Mr. Kwiatkowski thanked the administration for all of the work and research that was put into this issue, and felt that Honors course should be added back into the curriculum so the students could have more opportunities.

Mr. Jelinski stated that the district has encouraged more rigor in the curriculum. He would like to see a full year’s worth of data on the outcome of this decision.

Mr. Keith agreed that the decision was not an easy one to make. He felt adding an Honors course would be the best for the students at this time.

Mrs. Scheuren spoke about how Dr. Varano’s presentation at the Education-Personnel Committee meeting impacted her thought process on the curriculum.

The motion was then brought to a vote, and on a vote of 8 to 0, it was....

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the recommendation to add an Honors Grade 11/12 English course offering for the 2012-2013 school year at the Souderton Area High School.

INFORMATIONAL

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

The schedule of January 2012 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, January 4, 2012 – **FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELED.**

Wednesday, January 18, 2012 – Special Board Meeting to Adopt the Preliminary 2012-2013 - School Year Budget – 6:30 PM
School Board Committee Meetings for Education-Personnel and Operations Committees will begin immediately following the Special Board Meeting.

Thursday, January 26, 2012 – School Board 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 Wednesday, January 18, 2012 in the Administrative Conference Room at North Montco, 1265 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM.

The next meeting of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, January 25, 2012 at 7:45 PM in Conference Room B3/B4 at the MCIU Building, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Mark Fitzgerald, Esq.

There was no report.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Public Presentation of 2012-2013 Preliminary Budget – Ms. Sylvia Lenz

Ms. Lenz reviewed the budget development process and the timeline that has been developed by PDE and the District administration. In October, building and department budgets were due. From October to December, work has been done on revenue projections, and there have been several administrative meetings to go through budget accounts. Estimated expenses were also discussed.

The Preliminary Budget will be posted on the Souderton Area School District Website as of December 21st. There are three phases of the budget between now and June, and changes can be made at any time – Preliminary Budget, Proposed Final Budget, and Final Budget.

Ms. Lenz compared the estimated revenue for 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 school years. She explained how those figures are determined. Estimates will be adjusted as the weeks go on.

The passing of Act 1 by the Pennsylvania legislators is what accelerated the budget development process. Act 1 establishes an index and Ms. Lenz explained how the index is determined. The 2012-2013 index is at 1.7%. Also impacting the district is exceptions. At one time Souderton had ten exceptions. For next year, Souderton will have only two – Pension costs and special education costs.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD (CONTINUED)

Public Presentation of 2012-2013 Preliminary Budget – Ms. Sylvia Lenz (Continued)

An explanation of pension costs was reviewed. It is important to note that 78% of the revenue is from local sources. Souderton gets less than 1% of our revenue from federal sources. Ms. Lenz explained the aid ratio for Souderton.

Monies for professional staff salaries have not been determined at this point. SAEA will be negotiating a new contract, but salaries have not been determined or included in the budget at this time.

The District will have a budget shortfall of \$684,000, if real estate taxes are raised to the maximum allowable increase of 5.1%, which uses both the index and the exceptions.

Capital projects and project funding were discussed.

Mr. Currie commented on the challenge that the Board and administration will have with this budget. He shared concern that there will be insufficient funds for capital projects.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ken Heffner, resident from Souderton Borough, spoke about his involvement with the Souderton alumni and their concern about the Souderton Mascot. He asked the Board if the Indian will remain the official mascot.

Mr. Currie stated that the Board referred that matter to the administration, and the Board is waiting for the administration's recommendation.

Mr. Currie called for a brief Executive Session following tonight's Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no other business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Jelinski, with a second by Mr. Keith 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 8:06 PM.

Respectfully,

Sylvia C. Lenz
Acting School Board Secretary