

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, January 26, 2012, at the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by President Bernard S. Currie, followed by meeting protocol and 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
	William J. Brong	Thomas A. Kwiatkowski
	Bernard S. Currie	Donna M. Scheuren
	Matt Holliday	
SOLICITOR:	Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.	

Also present at the meeting were: Dr. Stacey Aronow, Maryellen Brousseau, Donna Brown, Deb Doebler, Michael Feliciani, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Dr. Christopher Hey, Dr. Frederick Johnson, Sylvia Lenz, Ridgley Shultz, Elisa Snedaker, Stasha Sosnowiz, David Thayres, Dr. Sam Varano, reporters from **The Souderton Independent** and **The Reporter** newspapers, a representative from **WNPV** Radio, and community members.

STUDENT RECOGNITION

Dr. Johnson began by introducing Dr. Sam Varano, principal of Souderton Area High School. Dr. Varano then introduced Dr. Stacey Aronow, *Arrowhead* advisor, and spoke briefly about the newspaper's long-term success.

Souderton Area High School – 2010-2011 Arrowhead Newspaper

After the editors introduced themselves, Dr. Aronow reported on the newspaper's banner year and shared highlights of the staff's trip to Minneapolis, Minnesota to attend the National Scholastic Journalism Convention. She shared that the editors attended sessions dedicated to relevant press topics as journalistic writing for news, features, sports, entertainment, and columns, student media rights, cartooning, and advertising.

Dr. Aronow praised the co-editors for organizing and succeeding with the *Arrowhead* sponsored Zumba Fundraiser. That fundraiser raised \$1,800, which enabled the staff to adopt four campers that will attend the Ronald McDonald Summer Camps.

The 2010-2011 Arrowhead received numerous ratings and awards for high achievement such as:

Pennsylvania School Press Association – Gold Medal and the All-State Award

The All-State Award is given to the "Best of the Best," the highest scholastic honor awarded to a Pennsylvania school by the Pennsylvania scholastic press organization.

Columbia Scholastic Press Association – Gold Medal by scoring 930 out of a possible 1,000 points as well as "All Columbian Honors" in the "Verbal" category.

STUDENT RECOGNITION (CONTINUED)

Souderton Area High School – 2010-2011 Arrowhead Newspaper (Continued)

National Scholastic Press Association – First Class Award

According to the judges..., “This staff seems to have had their hand on the pulse of the student community and the surrounding community from the very first issue... The coverage goes beyond the mere machinations of hallway chat. There is some entertaining and informative work being done and you should be proud of it.”

2012 Arrowhead Editorial Staff

JAMIE BENFIELD (12th Grade) – Co-Editor-In-Chief
SAMANTHA LUCHANSKY (12th Grade) – Co-Editor-In-Chief
EVAN ARMSTRONG (11th Grade) – Opinion Editor
TRAVIS COPENHAVER (11th Grade) – News/Features Editor
MAGGIE WURST (11th Grade) – Sports/Entertainment Editor
SIERRA LAMBETH (10th Grade) – Special Section Editor
DR. STACEY L. ARONOW – Advisor

Dr. Johnson asked the Board for a motion to recognize the 2011 *Arrowhead* Newspaper and editorial staff for their outstanding accomplishments.

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

Mr. Currie congratulated Dr. Aronow and the newspaper staff for their excellence and continued success. He mentioned that every year Dr. Aronow introduces more students who are learning excellent journalism techniques.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the 2011 *Arrowhead* Newspaper and editorial staff for their outstanding success and accomplishments in journalism. **EXHIBIT A**

The parents and family members of the *Arrowhead* editors were asked to stand to receive recognition for their support.

At this time, Dr. Varano introduced Mr. Michael Feliciani, advisor of the High School yearbook.

Souderton Area High School – 2010-2011 Unaliyi Yearbook

Mr. Feliciani spoke about the skills needed by the team and the hours of work that the team puts into producing a yearbook. He talked about the staff and how well they work well together, and is confident that the 2012 edition of the *Unaliyi* will set new standards for the industry.

The yearbook earned recognition from three national organizations for the 2010-2011 edition. The yearbook earned:

American Scholastic Press Association – First Place Award
National Scholastic Press Association – First Class Designation
Columbia Scholastic Press Association – Gold Medal

STUDENT RECOGNITION (CONTINUED)

Souderton Area High School – 2010-2011 Unaliyi Yearbook (Continued)

2012 Unaliyi Editorial Staff

MIRIAM DOEPNER (Grade 12) – Editor-In-Chief
CHRISTINA CORVINO (Grade 12) – Community Editor
ELIZABETH DIPIETRO (Grade 11) – Sports Editor
ALEXIS FARABAUGH (Grade 11) – Student Life Editor
LEAH PULLI (Grade 11) – Photography Editor
ACACIA SNEDAKER (Grade 12) – Organizations Editor
ERICA VOLM (Grade 12) – People Editor
RACHAEL WILLIAMS (Grade 12) – Academics Editor
MICHAEL FELICIANI - Advisor

Dr. Johnson asked the Board for a motion to recognize the 2011 *Unaliyi* Yearbook and editorial staff for their outstanding accomplishments.

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

Mr. Currie congratulated Mr. Feliciani and the yearbook staff for their excellence and continued success.

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

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the 2011 *Unaliyi* Yearbook and editorial staff for their outstanding success and accomplishments.

EXHIBIT B

The parents and family members of the *Unaliyi* editors were asked to stand to receive recognition for their support.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES

STASHA SOSNOWIZ – Class of 2012

RIDGLEY SHULTZ – Class of 2013

Ridgley Shultz began his report by recapping mid-year finals and talked about how stressful the finals were for the seniors. The Winter Ball is coming up and this year there will be a new dress code for the ladies. The Winter Ball is organized by the tenth grade class. In sports, all of the winter teams are doing well, especially the Swimming and Diving Team, the Boys Basketball Team, and the Ice Hockey Team has had a large student following this year.

Stasha Sosnowiz spoke about the excitement of starting a new semester. Ninth grade students are following the Pathway program, which will help prepare students for their careers, work force, or college life after graduation. Seniors have started receiving their acceptance letters from colleges and universities. The National Honor Society will be putting their spring fundraising efforts into helping Manna-on-Main Street in Lansdale move to a new facility.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Bernard S. Currie

An Executive Session was held on December 20, 2011 to discuss personnel matters.

The Board held an informational workshop on January 10, 2012.

An Executive Session was held on January 18, 2012 to discuss possible litigation issues.

An Executive Session was held this evening prior to the Board meeting to discuss personnel matters.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA

Dr. Johnson made a recommendation to the Board to approve the Consent/Action items **VII-A** to **VII-N**, as presented. He listed the items that were on the Consent/Action agenda, which included:

- Motion to approve Minutes of Board meetings: December 20, 2011 and January 18, 2012.
- Motion to approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for December 2011.
- Motion to ratify/approve requests to attend conferences/workshops.
- Motion to approve professional staff and support staff personnel items such as: childrearing leave requests, recommendations for employment, resignations, retirement request and transfers.
- Motion to approve spring coaches for the Souderton Area sports teams.
- Motion to approve contracted service for Indoor Band.
- Motion to approve a mentor for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year.
- Motion to approve additional substitute teachers.
- Motion to ratify/approve several overnight field trip requests.
- Motion for a third reading and approve adoption of policies.
- Motion to approve additions and deletions to the Community Education roster for the Spring 2012 session.
- Motion to approve a contract for Demand Response Service to the District.

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

Upon a motion by Mr. Kwiatkowski and a second by Mr. Brong, the vote was taken and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was. . .

RESOLVED, That the Board approve items A to N of the Consent/Action portion of the agenda as presented and listed below:

- A. Motion to Approve Minutes of the December 20, 2011 School Board Meeting.
- B. Motion to Approve Minutes of the January 18, 2012 Special School Board Meeting.
- C. Motion to Approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for December, 2011.

EXHIBIT C

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

- D. Motion to Ratify/Approve Requests to Attend Professional Development Events
RATIFY
- | | |
|---|--|
| ED GALLAGHER
Secondary Math Coordinator
Souderton Area High School | The Common Core Standards: From Transition to Implementation
Norristown, PA - Thursday, January 19, 2012 |
| ROSS POLLACK
Third Grade Teacher
Oak Ridge Elementary School | Total Expenses: \$221.65 (One Substitute Needed)
Funding will come from Curriculum Budget accounts. |
| CHRISTINE MAINE
ESL Teacher, Lower Salford Elem.
and Vernfield Elem. | International Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages
Philadelphia, PA - March 27, 2012 (Tuesday)
Total Expenses: \$263.59
Funds from Title III Budget |

E. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Request for Childrearing Leave
LAURIE HAAS Social Studies Teacher, Souderton Area H. S.
Beginning April 2, 2012, following Family/Medical Leave, through the end of the 2011-2012 school year. Mrs. Haas is planning to return to work for the start of the 2012-2013 school year.

2. Motion to Approve Employment

KEVIN BUTZ Replacement for Laurie Haas (childrearing)	Social Studies Teacher – Souderton Area H. S. LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE Effective: January 9, 2012 through the end of the 2011-2012 School Year
<u>Education</u> Bloomsburg Univ. (BS) 2007	<u>Experience</u> 2009 – Present–Ombudsman Alternative School, Quakertown, Math, Social Studies, and Science Teacher 2008-2009–Quakertown Community High School, Building Substitute
Recommended Salary - \$42,179 (pro-rated) – B12 (1)	
LYNDSAY FITZER Replacement for Michele Neff (leave)	Family & Consumer Science Teacher – Souderton Area High School LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE Effective: Second Sem.- 2011-2012 School Year
<u>Education</u> Immaculata Univ. (BS) 2011	<u>Experience</u> Oct. 2011–Present - Souderton Area SD, High School, Per-Diem Extended Substitute Family Consumer Science Teacher Fall 2010 – Great Valley S.D. – High School & Middle School – Student Teaching
Recommended Salary - \$20,246 – B (1)	

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

E. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

2. Motion to Approve Employment (Continued)

JOANNE JIRUSKA

Replacement for
Therese Tirado
(childrearing)

Education

Marquette Univ.

(BS) 1980

Arcadia Univ.

(MA) 2010

English Teacher – Souderton Area High School

LONG-TERM SUBSTITUTE

Effective: Second Sem. - 2011-2012 School Year

Experience

Sept. 2010- Jan. 2012–Souderton Area SD, High School

Long-Term Substitute English Teacher

2009- 2010–Gwynedd-Mercy Academy High School,

Part-Time English Teacher

Recommended Salary - \$24,042 – M (1)

F. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Resignations

LAURA AQUILANTE

Special Education Instructional Asst.–Indian Crest M.S.

Effective: December 22, 2011

DEBORAH MASON

Food Service Asst. – E. M. Crouthamel Elementary

Effective: January 13, 2012

SALVATORE SACCO

Part-Time Custodian, Franconia Elementary

Effective: January 4, 2012

ANDREA STECK

Intervention Teaching Asst. – Indian Valley MS

Effective: January 19, 2012

2. Motion to Approve Retirement

LISA KETTELL

Special Education Instructional Asst., Souderton Area
High School

Effective: January 27, 2012

Years of Service in SASD: 14.5 Years

3. Motion to Approve Transfers

ELISSA BISHOP

Replacement for

Courtney Bishop

(resigned)

From: Substitute ESL Teaching Asst. – E. M. C.

To: Title I Teaching Asst.–E. M. Crouthamel Elem.

Beginning: January 2, 2012

Wage: \$12.81 per hour – Hours: 6 per day

LORRAINE COHAN

Replacement for

Dawn Kester

(transfer)

From: District Substitute Secretary

To: Receptionist, Indian Crest Middle School

Beginning: January 17, 2012

Wage: \$12.01 per hour – Hours: 7 per day

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

F. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF (CONTINUED)

4. Motion to Approve Employment

AMANDA COSTA Title I Teaching Asst., Franconia Elementary
Replacement for Beginning: January 23, 2012
Kerri Schlegel (resigned) Wage: \$13.31 per hour – Hours: 6 per day

THOMAS IMBODEN Part-Time Custodian, Franconia Elementary
Replacement for Beginning: January 18, 2012
Salvatore Sacco (resigned) Wage: \$10.36 per hour – Hours: 4 per day

MELISSA McVAUGH Title I Teaching Asst., Franconia Elementary
New Position Effective: January 24, 2012 through the end of the
2011-2012 School Year
Wage: \$12.81 per hour – Hours: 6 per day

G. Motion to Approve Coaches for Spring Sports Teams at Souderton Area High School.

EXHIBIT D

H. Motion to Approve Contracted Service for Indoor Band

ELIZABETH YODER Asst. Color Guard Instructor \$900.00
(Paid by Band Boosters)

I. Motion to Approve Mentor for the Remainder of the 2011-2012 School Year

JOSHUA KLIMOVICH Mentor for Kevin Butz (pro-rated) \$320.00

J. Motion to Approve Additional Substitute Teachers

KATHRYN BERNARD PETER CHIMERA JANELL STAMP
ASHLEY ZIMMERMAN

K. Motion to Ratify/Approve Overnight Field Trips

RATIFY

1. Souderton Area High School – Band Students – Grades 10-12

Dates: January 5, 6, 7, 2012 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday)
Destination: Neshaminy High School, Langhorne, PA
Purpose of Trip: PMEA District 11 Band Festival – Advanced music performances
and educational experiences.
Requesting Teachers: Stephen Straka and Adam Tucker
Number of Students Participating: 4 Number of Chaperones: 2
Expenses paid by Souderton Area School District

RATIFY

2. Souderton Area High School – Wrestling Team – Grades 9-12

Dates: January 20, 21, 2012 (Friday, Saturday)
Destination: Lackawanna Trail High School, Factoryville, PA
Purpose of Trip: Wrestling Tournament
Requesting Coaches: Tristan Boyd and Bill Sholly
Number of Students Participating: 14 Number of Chaperones: 2
Expenses paid by parents and Booster Club.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

K. Motion to Ratify/Approve Overnight Field Trips (Continued)

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

Dates: February 16, 17, 18, 2012 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday)

Destination: Octorara High School, Atglen, PA

Purpose of Trip: PMEA Region VI Band Festival - Advanced music performances and educational experiences.

Requesting Teachers: Stephen Straka and Adam Tucker

Number of Students Participating: 2 Number of Chaperones: 2

Expenses paid by Souderton Area School District

L. Motion for a Third Reading and Final Adoption of Policies:

The Childrearing Leave policies listed below are being updated to reflect current insurance language. If approved by the Board this evening, the policies will be adopted and become effective as of January 26, 2012.

1. Policy #335 – Childrearing Leave

EXHIBIT E

2. Policy #435 – Childrearing Leave

EXHIBIT F

3. Policy #535 – Childrearing Leave

EXHIBIT G

M. Motion to Approve Additions and Deletions to the Instructor List, Classes, and Salaries for the Winter/Spring 2011-2012 Session of the Souderton Area Community Education Classes.

EXHIBIT H

N. Motion to Approve a Three Year Contract with EnerNoc as the District’s Demand Response Service Program provider from June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2015 as discussed and recommended by the Operations Committee at their meeting on January 18, 2012. This contract will replace the current contract with Comverge, which is now null and void.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

PERSONNEL – ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Dr. Johnson referred to the addendum and spoke to the Board about the qualifications of the candidate that the administration was recommending for the position of Director of Business Affairs. He briefly talked about the interview process and the team approach that was used for the interviews. The recommended candidate has worked for the private sector at PriceWaterhouseCoopers, has had experience in rural area school districts, and is also a Certified Public Accountant. This candidate comes to Souderton with very high recommendations and is very passionate about linking finances to the education program. He also has experience working with general fund budgets.

Dr. Johnson recommended that the Board approve the employment of **WILLIAM R. STONE** as the district’s Director of Business Affairs.

There was a motion by Mr. Jelinski, with a second by Mr. Holliday. The vote was taken, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was . . .

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS (CONTINUED)

PERSONNEL – ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF (CONTINUED)

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the employment of **WILLIAM R. STONE**, as the new Director of Business Affairs beginning on or about April 2, 2012.

PERSONNEL – EMPLOYMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

WILLIAM R. STONE	Director of Business Affairs
Replacement for Robert Bruchak	CABINET ADMINISTRATOR
	Beginning: On or About April 2, 2012
<u>Education</u>	<u>Experience</u>
Franklin & Marshall College (BA) 2003	Feb. 2010–Present – S. D. of Upper Dublin, Assist. Business Admin.
Wilkes Univ. (MS) 2011	Jan. 2008 – Feb. 2010 – Upper Darby S. D., Assist. Director of Business Management & Board Treasurer
	Recommended Salary - \$122,500 (pro-rated)

Mr. Currie added his congratulations and welcomed Mr. Stone to the Souderton Area School District.

Mr. Stone thanked the administration and the Board for the opportunity to serve at Souderton. He was humbled to be selected, but indicated that the budget will be a serious challenge. Mr. Stone said he is excited about getting started and working with the educational community and leaders here at Souderton.

INFORMATIONAL

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

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

Wednesday, February 1, 2012 - Finance Committee Meeting – Beginning at 6:30 PM
The Policy Committee Meeting has been canceled.

Wednesday, February 15, 2012 – Education-Personnel and Operations Committee Meetings
Beginning at 6:30 PM

Thursday, February 23, 2012 – School Board Meeting – Beginning at 7:00 PM

Wednesday, February 29, 2012 - Finance Committee Meeting – Beginning at 6:30 PM
The Policy Committee Meeting has been canceled.

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, February 22, 2012 in the Administrative Conference Room at North Montco, 1265 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM.

INFORMATIONAL (CONTINUED)

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, February 22, 2012 at 7:45 PM in Conference Room B3/B4 at the MCIU Office, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

There was no report.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

No unfinished or new business from the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no other business to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Kwiatkowski, with a second by Mrs. Basile to adjourn the meeting. The vote was taken, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was...

RESOLVED, That the Board adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully,

Sylvia C. Lenz
Acting School Board Secretary