

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, April 25, 2013, at the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:11 PM by President Bernard S. Currie, followed by instructions on meeting protocol, and the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Stone called the roll. Board members present were:

PRESENT:	Jill S. Basile	Bernard S. Currie	Thomas A. Kwiatkowski
	Nicholas A. Braccio	Scott C. Jelinski	Donna M. Scheuren
	William J. Brong	Ken R. Keith	

ABSENT: Matt Holliday

SOLICITOR: Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

Also present at the meeting were: Brigitte Bagocius, Maryellen Brousseau, Stephen Bukowski, Natalie Carbone, Michael Cahill, Phillip Cerami, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Matt Haines, Dr. Christopher Hey, Dr. Frederick Johnson, Elisa Snedaker (Treasurer), William Stone (Secretary), reporters from the *Intelligencer* and *The Reporter* newspapers, WNPV Radio, and community members.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Johnson called on Mr. Matt Haines, assistant principal of Souderton Area High School, to make the presentations.

A. **Souderton Area High School – Academic Decathlon Winners**

After being introduced by Mr. Haines, Coach Phillip Cerami spoke about several Souderton Area High School students who became state **ACADEMIC DECATHLON** medalists at the PA Academic Decathlon State Championships that took place March 7th and 8th in State College, PA. Mr. Cerami spoke about the season and how well the students did in their first Decathlon. Souderton will be hosting next year's regional competition. The students listed below placed fifth in the state of Pennsylvania, and will compete at an online national competition against larger schools. Students received the following awards:

LUCAS MASIN-MOYER (10) – Honors (A) Division
Silver Medals in Literature and Social Science

LOUIS M. MOTTLEY, III (12) – Varsity (C) Division
Silver Medal in Science and a Bronze Medal in Economics

CLARISSA J. THIRIOT (12) – Scholastic (B) Division
Gold Medal in Literature and a Bronze Medal in Music

GRANT A. WELBY (11) – Honors (1) Division
Bronze Medal in Essay

RECOGNITIONS (CONTINUED)

There was a motion by Mr. Jelinski, with a second to the motion by Mrs. Basile to recognize the success of the Academic Decathlon Team.

With no other questions or comments the vote was taken, and with a vote of eight (8) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, the motion was. . .

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Souderton Area High School Academic Decathlon Team for their successful year. **EXHIBIT A**

Dr. Johnson asked the parents and family members to stand and receive recognition for their support.

B. **Souderton Area High School – Economics Challenge State Finals**

Mr. Haines introduced Michael Cahill, who spoke about the High School Economics Challenge students who recently won awards at the 2013 Pennsylvania Economics Challenge. Souderton has participated since 2005. The team is coached by Michael Cahill.

NATHAN BASHLINE (12)
ANDREW DITTY (12)

KAITLYN ROBERTS (12)
CHRISTI SERGIO (12)

The team finished in a tie for first place in the state (but ended up in second place due to a tiebreaker) in the regular Economics Division.

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, with a second to the motion by Mr. Keith to recognize the success of the Economics Challenge Team.

With no other questions or comments the vote was taken, and with a vote of eight (8) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, the motion was. . .

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Souderton Area High School Economics Challenge Team for their successful year. **EXHIBIT B**

Dr. Johnson asked the parents and family members to stand and receive recognition for their support.

C. **Souderton Area High School – National Merit Placement Students**

Mr. Haines explained the requirements needed to be chosen as a National Merit Scholarship Commended Student and Semifinalist or Finalist in the competition. The following students have received recognition from the National Merit Scholarship Board for their final 2012 placement:

COMMENDED STUDENTS

JOSHUA FUHRMAN (12)
ELIZABETH JIANG (12)
MICHAELA OCHNICH (12)

NICHOLAS ROBINSON (12)
ALLISON TAYLOR (12)
EMILY THOMPSON (12)
ELIZABETH WETZLER (12)

FINALIST

MAKENA FINGER (12)

There was a motion by Mr. Kwiatkowski, with a second to the motion by Mrs. Scheuren to recognize the success of all of the National Merit Scholarship winners.

RECOGNITIONS (CONTINUED)

With no other questions or comments the vote was taken, and with a vote of eight (8) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, the motion was . . .

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Souderton Area High School National Merit Scholarship winners. **EXHIBIT C**

Dr. Johnson asked the parents and family members to stand and receive recognition for their support.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD

NATALIE CARBONE – Class of 2013

AARON WHITE – Class of 2014

Natalie Carbone presented the monthly report by mentioning the High School Musical “Legally Blonde” that is currently playing through Sunday afternoon. The second round of Keystone exams will start the beginning of May. Class schedules, for next year, are being distributed so students are able to work out their schedule problems before the end of this year. Again this year, the Key Club will be hosting a Community Yard Sale on May 11th. The Junior Prom will be held on Saturday, May 4th at the High School.

Natalie congratulated Kyle Wexler on winning the Rotary 4-Way Test/Speech Competition, along with eight students who placed first at the Pennsylvania Regional Junior Academy of Science Fair.

Mr. Currie presented Natalie and Aaron with a Certificate of Appreciation for their fine reporting throughout the year.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Bernard S. Currie

An Executive Session was held on March 26, 2013 to discuss litigation items.

A Board workshop was held on April 3, 2013 to learn about school operations.

An Executive Session was held on April 17, 2013 to discuss personnel items.

An Executive Session was held prior to tonight’s meeting to discuss personnel items and litigation issues.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA

Dr. Johnson made a recommendation to the Board to approve the Consent/Action items **VII-A** to **VII-O** as presented in the agenda. Board members were invited to remove items from the Consent/Action agenda if further discussion was needed. Items to be considered on the Consent/Action agenda were:

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

- Motion to approve the Minutes of the March 26, 2013 School Board Meeting.
- Motion to approve the Financial Statements and Check Listings for March 2013.
- Motion to ratify/approve requests to attend conferences/workshops.
- Motion to approve Professional Staff personnel items such as: retirement notices and a request for a Childrearing Leave.
- Motion to approve Support Staff personnel items such as: retirement notices, a resignation and employment of new staff.
- Motion to approve out-of-state/overnight field trips.
- Motion to approve employment of staff for Aquatics and Swimming Camp.
- Motion to approve Supplemental Contracts.
- Motion to approve a contracted service position for Indoor Band.
- Motion to approve the employment of an additional Community Education instructor.
- Motion to approve the 2013-2014 Special Education Cost Plan with Montgomery County Intermediate Unit.
- Motion to approve Memorandum of Understanding with the Souderton Area Education Association.
- First Reading of new policy #706.1 – Disposal of School District Property.
- Motion to approve a resolution regarding the Agreement of Sale for the former Souderton Area High School property.
- Motion to approve the Compensation Plan for Food Service employees.

There was a motion by Mr. Jelinski, with a second from Mr. Keith, to vote on the items listed under the Consent/Action agenda. The vote was taken, and on a vote of eight (8) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, it was. . .

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the items listed under the Consent/Action agenda as noted below:

- A. Motion to Approve Minutes of the March 26, 2013 School Board Meeting.
- B. Motion to Approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for March 2013. **EXHIBIT D**
- C. Motion to Ratify/Approve Conference/Workshop Requests
- RATIFY TERESA WASHAM** Pennsylvania Music Educators Association Conference
Choral Music, Souderton Area H. S. Erie, PA
Expenses paid from Professional April 17-21, 2013 (Wednesday – Sunday)
Development Account. Total Expenses: \$695.00 – Substitute needed for T. Washam
- JENNIFER HARP** Teaching Our Third Graders to Harness the Power of Essay
Third Grade Teacher, West Broad Elem. Writing
CAROLYN ROSENBERGER New York City, NY
Elementary Professional May 6, 2013 (Monday)
Development Coach Total Expenses: \$428.28 – Substitute for J. Harp
Expenses paid from Professional Development Account.
- WILLIAM R. STONE, JR.** Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants
Director of Business Affairs School District Conference
Expenses paid from Business Malvern, PA
Services Account. June 6, 2013 (Thursday)
Total Expenses: \$255.00

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

C. Motion to Ratify/Approve Conference/Workshop Requests (Continued)

MARGARET LYNN CONNERY 2013 Reading Recovery Teacher Leader Institute & Leadership Academy
Reading Recovery Teacher Leader, Bethesda, MD
CARS, Salford Hills Elem.
Expenses paid from Staff June 12 - 15, 2013 (Wednesday-Saturday)
Development Reading Recovery Total Expenses: \$1,552.45
Account.

D. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Retirements

CRAIG EVANS School Psychologist, Souderton Area High School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 34 Years

MARTHA FARMER French Teacher, Souderton Area High School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 20.5 Years

SUSAN GOELZ Fifth Grade Teacher, Vernfield Elementary School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 16.5 Years

WILLIAM MICHUDA Guidance Counselor, Souderton Area High School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 26 Years

LINDA S. MOYER Student Support Teacher, Vernfield Elementary School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 29 Years

SCOTT MYERS Health & Physical Education Teacher, Indian Crest M. S.
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 17 Years

LYNN ROBINSON Communication Arts Resources Specialist, Vernfield Elem.
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 18 Years

LINDA SCHECKENBACH Guidance Counselor, Indian Crest Middle School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 38 Years

BETH SWARTZ Family and Consumer Science Teacher, Indian Crest M. S.
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 37 Years

SANDRA WALTER Physical Education Teacher, Franconia Elementary School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 18.5 Years

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

D. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

2. Request for Childrearing Leave

JESSICA BROCKMANN Special Education Teacher, Souderton Area High School
For the first semester of the 2013-2014 school year following the completion of 12-weeks Family/Medical Leave. Mrs. Brockmann is planning to return to work for the second semester of the 2013-2014 school year.

3. Motion to Approve Request for Compensated Professional Leave

BROOKE ROGERS Third Grade Teacher, Lower Salford Elementary School
For the Second Semester of the 2013-2014 School Year

E. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Retirements

BONNIE KEPPEL Staff Nurse, Lower Salford Elementary School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service in SASD: 20 Years

CATHY LEEDOM Food Service Assistant, Indian Crest Middle School
Effective: June 11, 2013
Years of Service in SASD: 18 Years

DEBRA MICHELSON Building Secretary, Vernfield Elementary School
Effective: June 30, 2013
Years of Service in SASD: 21.5 Years

2. Motion to Approve Resignation

LISA KEHRLE Classroom Aide, E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School
Effective: March 28, 2013

3. Motion to Approve Employment

LETICIA CLARK Instructional Assistant, Multiple Disabilities Class
Replacement for Souderton Area High School
Laura Siciliano (resigned) Beginning: May 1, 2013
Wage: \$10.43 per hour – Hours: 6.5 per day

DEBORAH NENTWIG Substitute Part-Time Custodian
Beginning: April 8, 2013
Wage: \$10.62 per hour – Hours: As needed

KRISTA SANTONE Classroom Aide, E. M. Crouthamel Elementary School
Replacement for Lisa Kehrle (resigned) Beginning: April 2, 2013
Wage: \$9.60 per hour – Hours: 2 per day

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

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

- RATIFY 1. Souderton Area Senior High School – Choir – Grades 10-12
Date: April 17-21, 2013 (Wednesday-Sunday)
Destination: Erie Convention Center, Erie, PA
Purpose of the Trip: Students prepare music to be rehearsed with the best singers in the state and perform them in a culminating concert for their teachers and parents.
Number of Students: 2 Number of Chaperones: 3
Requesting Teacher: Teresa Washam
The cost of the trip will be shared by the students and District.
2. Souderton Area School District – Science Fair Participants – Grades 7-11
Date: May 12-14, 2013 (Sunday-Tuesday)
Destination: Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Science – Science Fair, State College, PA
Purpose of the Trip: Students will present science projects they have done either independently or as a part of a science class.
Number of Students: 13 Number of Chaperones: 3
Requesting Teacher: Karen Frazier
The cost of the trip will be shared by the students and District.
3. Souderton Area High School – Robotics Team – Grades 9-12
Date: May 17-20, 2013 (Friday-Monday)
Destination: Indianapolis, IN
Purpose of the Trip: Students will participate in the National Sea Perch Challenge.
Number of Students: 8 Number of Chaperones: 4
Requesting Teacher: Phillip Cerami
The cost of the trip will be paid by the students.
4. Salford Hills Elementary School – Outdoor School – Grade 5
Date: May 29, 30, 31, 2013 (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.
Number of Students: 58 Number of Chaperones: 43
Requesting Teacher: Jeff Sinkinson and Fifth Grade Teachers
The cost of the trip will be shared by the students and Home & School Assoc.
5. Souderton Area High School – SAVE Organization – Grades 9-12
Date: June 24 – 28, 2013 (Monday – Friday)
Destination: Orlando, FL, Valencia College.
Purpose of the Trip: To construct our passive solar cooling system at Valencia College and take important data. The college will then continue to collect data for SAVE.
Number of Students: 8-10 Number of Chaperones: 4
Requesting Teacher: Kenneth Hamilton
The cost of the trip will be paid by the students.

G. Motion to Approve Employment of Staff for Aquatics and Swimming Camp

KARA STEGMANN	Lifeguard	\$ 9.00 per hour
PATRICIA BURNS	Instructor – Stroke & Turn Clinic	20.00 per hour

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

H. Motion to Approve Supplemental Contracts

STEPHANIE MAGGIO	Asst. Coach, Track and Field (IC)	\$1,409.00
JEFFREY SINKINSON	Building Program Leader (shared) (SH)	437.50
MEREDITH EHST	Building Program Leader (shared) (SH)	1,312.50

Change from single leader position at Salford Hills Elementary School

I. Contracted Service for Indoor Band, High School

SCOTT WENTZ	Asst. Percussion Instructor (Paid by Band Boosters)	\$1,200.00
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J. Motion to Approve Employment of Community Education Instructor

LORRAINE COHAN	Total Body Sculpting-Extension	\$300.00
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K. Motion to approve the 2013-2014 Special Education Cost Plan with the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit. **EXHIBIT E**

L. Motion to approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Souderton Area Education Association (SAEA) incorporating the Joint Labor-Management Committee's recommendation on written minimum expectations for Bargaining Unit Members' use of Team Planning Time. **EXHIBIT F**

M. First Reading of New Policy #706.1 – Disposal of School District Property

The Administration is recommending the adoption of a new policy. The need for this policy became apparent when a significant amount of time was spent in the buildings this past summer and noted unused and/or obsolete equipment was taking up valuable storage space. The District will also encounter more unnecessary equipment as Lower Salford Elementary School is closed. If there is no objection to the First Reading, the policy will move forward to the next Board meeting for a Second Reading.

N. Motion to approve a resolution regarding (i) the potential amendment of the Agreement of Sale with Turnersville Estates LP for the former Souderton Area High School property and (ii) the filing with the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas of the "Petition of the Souderton Area School District for the Sale of Real Property" involving the former Souderton Area High School property consistent with the Public School Code, Agreement of Sale and amendment to Agreement of Sale.

EXHIBIT G

O. Motion to approve the Compensation Plan for Food Service Employees effective July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016. **EXHIBIT H**

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA

A. ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL

Mr. Currie talked about the resignation of Dr. Johnson and the Board's commitment for a succession plan. Dr. Johnson came to Souderton to mentor the next generation of administration in the District. Dr. Johnson has carried out his mission. The Board wished Dr. Johnson well in his new position as Executive Director of the Erie County Intermediate Unit #5.

Dr. Johnson thanked the Board, Cabinet, Professional and Support Staffs, the students and the community for helping him grow professionally.

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

A. ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL (CONTINUED)

1. Motion to Approve Resignation (Continued)

DR. FREDERICK C. JOHNSON District Superintendent of Schools
Effective: July 8, 2013

There was a motion by Mr. Jelinski, with a second by Mrs. Basile to approve the motion of the resignation of Dr. Frederick Johnson.

Mr. Currie commented on Dr. Johnson's leadership and thanked him for his service to the District.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of eight (8) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, it was . . .

RESOLVED, That the Board accept the resignation of **DR. FREDERICK C. JOHNSON**, effective July 8, 2013.

2. Motion to Elect New Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Johnson presented a motion to elect **FRANK T. GALLAGHER** as District Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the PA School Code and authorizing a contract to establish salary and fringe benefits for the position of District Superintendent of Schools effective July 8, 2013 until June 30, 2018.

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, with a second by Mrs. Basile to approve the motion of the election of **FRANK T. GALLAGHER** as District Superintendent of Schools.

Mr. Currie commented on the qualifications and reputation of Mr. Gallagher as being a well respected candidate for the position.

The vote was taken, and on a vote of eight (8) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, it was . . .

RESOLVED, That the Board accept the election of **FRANK T. GALLAGHER** as District Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the PA School Code and authorizing a contract to establish salary and fringe benefits for the position of District Superintendent of Schools effective July 8, 2013 until June 30, 2018. **EXHIBIT I**

Mr. Gallagher spent some time thanking the Board and his colleagues for the opportunity, and is looking forward to moving Souderton ahead in the realm of educational excellence.

INFORMATIONAL

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

The schedule of May 2013 meetings of the Souderton Area School District Board of School Directors are listed below:

- A. The schedule of May 2013 meetings of the Souderton Area School District Board of School Directors are listed below:

May 1, 2013 - Wednesday – Finance Committee Meeting – 6:30 PM
Policy Committee Meeting has been cancelled.

INFORMATIONAL (CONTINUED)

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

- A. The schedule of May 2013 meetings of the Souderton Area School District Board of School Directors are listed below:

May 15, 2013 - Wednesday – Special School Board Meeting – 6:30 PM
The Board will be voting on the proposed Final Budget for 2013-2014.

May 15, 2013 – Wednesday – Board Committee Meetings - TBD
The Education-Personnel Committee Meeting will follow immediately after the Special School Board Meeting. The Operations Committee Meeting will begin immediately following the conclusion of the Education-Personnel Committee meeting.

May 23, 2013 – Thursday - School Board Action Meeting – 7:00 PM

- B. The next meeting of the North Montco Technical Career Center Joint Operating Committee will be held on Monday, May 20, 2013. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM in the Administrative Conference Room at the Career Center, 1265 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA.
- C. The next meeting of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2013, beginning at 7:45 PM. The meeting will be held in Conference Room B3/B4 at the 1605 West Main Street, Norristown office.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

There was no report from the solicitor.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

No unfinished/new business from the Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Currie adjourned the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Respectfully,

William R. Stone, Jr.
Board Secretary