

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, March 26, 2013, at the Souderton Area School District Administrative Office Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:04 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	Ken R. Keith (via conference phone)
	Nicholas A. Braccio	Matt Holliday	Thomas A. Kwiatkowski
	William J. Brong	Scott C. Jelinski	Donna M. Scheuren

SOLICITOR: Tim Gilspach, Esq.

Also present at the meeting were: Frank Ball, Maryellen Brousseau, Arlene Buchman, Michael Cahill, Peter Chimera, Dr. Louise Donohue, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Dr. Christopher Hey, Dr. Frederick Johnson, David Lotier, John McLaughlin, Thomas Quintois, Tim Roberts, Natalie Robertson, Walt Salevsky, Elisa Snedaker (Treasurer), William Stone (Secretary), Dr. Sam Varano, reporters from the *Intelligencer* and *The Reporter* newspapers, reporter from **WNPV Radio**, and community members.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Johnson called on Dr. Sam Varano, principal of Souderton Area High School, to make the presentations.

Souderton Area High School – Academic Challenge Team

Mr. Michael Cahill spoke about the successful year that was had by the Souderton Area High School Academic Challenge Team. They repeated as League Champions this year. While most other teams used mainly seniors from their rosters, Souderton won with a cast including ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth grade students. Advisor for the Academic Challenge Team is Michael Cahill. Team members are:

EMMA FARRELL (9)	ALEXANDRA TOMASEVICH (10)
AVERY PRICE (9)	GENEVIEVE GROSSMAN (11)
ALEXANDER CROSS (10)	NICHOLAS HAUSLER (11)
ALEXANDER KOZITZKY (10)	NATHAN KORSEN (11)
CAROLINE PRITCHARD (10)	MAKENA FINGER (12)
GUARJASON SINGH (10)	RYAN WILLIAMS (12)

There was a motion by Mr. Brong and a second by Mr. Jelinski to recognize the success of the Academic Challenge Team.

With no other questions or comments the vote was taken, and with a vote of nine (9) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, the motion was. . .

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Souderton Area High School Academic Challenge Team for their successful year.

EXHIBIT A

RECOGNITIONS (CONTINUED)

Dr. Johnson recognized the parents of the Academic Challenge students and thanked them for their support.

Souderton Area High School – Boys Basketball Team

Both Tom Quintois and Coach Peter Chimera commented on their outstanding basketball season. The Souderton Area High School Boys Basketball Team recently won the Suburban One Continental Conference Championship title. Coach Chimera was assisted by Jim Seaton, Dave Lotier, Nate Alcott and Chris Casperson. Team managers were Emily Dusillier, Ashley Domzalski, Kyle Curran, Jess Rodgers and Rose Muller. Members of the winning team were:

TIMOTHY MARKOW (10)
EVAN SLONE (10)
BENJAMIN WONDERLING (10)
JARED BERNHART (11)
CARTER KNIGHT (11)
STEVEN SHAFFER (11)
BRENDAN WAGNER (11)

GUILHERME FREIRE (12)
JOHN KANAS (12)
VINCENT KOWALICK (12)
KURT MUHLBERGER (12)
AUSTIN MURPHY (12)
DANIEL O'HARA (12)
CHRISTOPHER UHRICH (12)
ANTHONY WILLIAMS (12)

There was a motion by Mr. Kwiatkowski and a second by Mrs. Basile to recognize the success of the Boys Basketball team.

With no other questions or comments the vote was taken, and with a vote of nine (9) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, the motion was. . .

RESOLVED, That the Board recognize the Souderton Area High School Boys Basketball Team for their great year and Suburban One Continental Conference Championship. **EXHIBIT B**

Dr. Johnson recognized the parents of the Basketball Team members and thanked them for their support.

REPORT OF THE STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD
NATALIE ROBERTSON – Class of 2014

Natalie Robertson reported on the high school's second annual Arts and Soul Fest fundraiser where the students raised over \$3,000 for the school's Art and Music Departments. The students are putting the finishing touches on the sets and getting ready for the spring musical which opens in one month. **Arrow-head** newspaper staff held a Zumba fundraiser to raise money for the local Ronald McDonald House. The students raised enough money to send eight (8) children to summer camp.

In the academic field, Souderton had several winners at this year's Montgomery County Science Fair. The Economics Challenge team recently went to the State competition, where Souderton students had six (6) perfect scores out of 15 students. SAVE recently had a historical house donated to them to use as a testing ground for their experiments. The club is putting an addition on the house and will install some of their experiments from Haiti in the house. Lastly, the students were able to see many different industries and career options at the recent Career Fair.

SOUNDERTON "SPOTLIGHT"

Dr. Johnson introduced Ms. Brousseau, who spoke about the "Reading Apprenticeship" program. Arlene Buchman, secondary staff development coach, presented highlights of the program.

Mrs. Buchman noted that the Reading Apprenticeship program is designed to help secondary students engage and succeed in rigorous work. The program is based on the premise that content area teachers are excellent readers in their own discipline and that they should apprentice their students in active reading strategies that will help them problem solve and persevere when facing complex tests.

Fourteen (14) teachers are already trained, with another nine (9) teachers to be trained this summer. A short video was shown that highlighted the Reading Apprenticeship program in classes such as Science, History, and English.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

Jeff Moore, resident of Lower Salford, spoke about the decision to move students from Vernfield Elem. to Salford Hills Elem. He asked for information about the Option #1 redistricting plan, and how and why the Task Force came to this conclusion.

Lynne Baronett, resident of Lower Salford Township, expressed concern about the redistricting plan. She asked the Board to consider a few more options before voting on a redistricting plan.

Karen Schwabe, resident of Lower Salford Township, asked the Board to delay the vote on the redistricting plan until the parents were informed about other options.

Lisa Bocchino, resident of Lower Salford Township, shared her concern about the lack of communication to Vernfield parents and asked the Board to delay the vote until parents have information to consider.

Amy Burch, resident of Lower Salford Township, spoke about parents not having information about the redistricting plan. She indicated that she was trying to understand the decision on the option that was recommended.

Mr. Currie responded to some of the parent comments and a flurry of emails received by the Board and administration.

Mr. Currie spoke about the complexity of redistricting and how the Redistricting Task Force was formed. There were conflicting interests, but all learned how to compromise for the best results. A task force is used to be sure all interests are represented and heard from. He also reviewed the specific outcomes from the Task Force meetings in detail. Mr. Currie spoke about Dr. Donohue's professionalism and experience in past redistricting situations.

Mr. Currie congratulated the members of the Task Force and thanked them for their hard work. He concluded by saying that the Board has acted in the best interests of all of the taxpayers. The Board will continue to strive for the best educational outcomes for all students and to do so in a fiscally sound and prudent manner.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Bernard S. Currie

An Executive Session was held prior to tonight's meeting to discuss personnel items.

Mr. Currie announced that there would be an Executive Session following the Board meeting to discuss litigation issues.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA

Dr. Johnson made a recommendation to the Board to approve the Consent/Action items **VII-A to VII-T** as presented in the agenda and in the addendum. 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:

- Motion to approve the Minutes of the February 28, 2013 School Board meeting.
- Motion to approve financial statements and check listings from February 2013.
- Motion to approve requests to attend conferences & workshops.
- Motion to approve administrative staff personnel requests for retirement.
- Motion to approve professional staff personnel items such as: retirements and childrearing leave requests.
- Motion to approve support staff personnel items such as: employment of new staff and resignations.
- Motion to approve the employment of additional substitute teachers.
- Motion to approve supplemental contracts for Spring coaches.
- Motion to approve contracted services for Spring coaches.
- Motion to approve additions and changes to the Winter/Spring Community Education Program.
- Motion to approve staff and wages for the Summer 2013 Community Education Club Adventure session.
- Motion to approve out-of-state field trips.
- Motion for a third reading and approval of new curriculum.
- Motion to approve Memorandum of Understanding with the Souderton Area Education Association to allow dual-enrollment courses for graduation credit on-site at Souderton Area High School to be taught by Association members and/or faculty from the participating post-secondary institutions.
- Motion to reject all bids for gym floor and hardwood refinishing at the Souderton Area High School, Indian Crest and Indian Valley Middle Schools.
- Motion to reject all bids for concrete sidewalk and curbing replacement at EMC Elementary School, Indian Crest and Indian Valley Middle Schools.
- Motion to reject all bids for carpet removal and VCT installation at Indian Crest Middle School.
- Motion to approve the purchase of six (6) cafeteria tables for Souderton Area High School and ten (10) cafeteria tables for Indian Crest Middle School from Kurtz Brothers at a total cost of \$18,554.
- Motion to approve student expulsion from Souderton Area School District.
- Motion to nominate a candidate as the District's representative to the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors for a three (3) year term.

There was a motion by Mr. Brong, with a second from Mr. Kwiatkowski, to vote on the items listed under the Consent/Action agenda and the items on the Addendum. The vote was taken, and on a vote of nine (9) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, it was . . .

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

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

- A. Motion to Approve Minutes of the February 28, 2013 School Board Meeting.
- B. Motion to Approve Financial Statements and Check Listings for February 2013. **EXHIBIT C**

C. Motion to Approve Requests to Attend Conferences & Workshops

DR. FREDERICK C. JOHNSON Montgomery County Superintendents' Conference
Superintendent Hershey, PA
April 17-19, 2013 (Wednesday-Friday)
Total Expenses: \$269.30
Expenses charged to Supt. Workshop Account.

PAT GIDARO Transition to Kindergarten Classroom Participation;
Physical Therapist, District-Wide Preparation for Success
Baltimore, MD
April 21-22, 2013 (Sunday-Monday)
Total Expenses: \$887.52
Expenses charged to IDEA account.

D. PERSONNEL – ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Retirements

DONNA HUFF Principal, Lower Salford Elementary School
Effective: June 30, 2013
Years of Service in SASD: 29 years

PATRICIA MATHUES District Supervisor of Elementary Language Arts
Effective: June 30, 2013
Years of Service in SASD: 35 years

E. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Retirements

LYNDELL AUCHENBACH Family and Consumer Science Teacher, Souderton Area H. S.
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service at SASD: 26 years

ROSEMARY HILL Social Studies Teacher, Indian Valley Middle School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service at SASD: 15 years

CAROL RAMSEY Latin Teacher, Souderton Area High School
Effective: At the end of the 2012-2013 School Year
Years of Service at SASD: 24 years

2. Motion to Approve Requests for Childrearing Leave

MEREDITH EHST First Grade Teacher, Salford Hills Elementary School
For the first semester of the 2013-2014 school year following the completion of 12-weeks
Family/Medical Leave. Mrs. Ehst is planning to return to work for the second semester of the
2013-2014 school year.

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

E. PERSONNEL – PROFESSIONAL STAFF (CONTINUED)

2. Motion to Approve Requests for Childrearing Leave (Continued)

TRACEY NEELY Second Grade Teacher, Oak Ridge Elementary School
For the first semester of the 2013-2014 school year following the completion of 12-weeks Family/Medical Leave. Mrs. Neely is planning to return to work for the second semester of the 2013-2014 school year.

F. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT STAFF

1. Motion to Approve Employment of New Staff

CHRISTINE BRUSH Substitute Cafeteria/Playground Aide, Vernfield Elem.
Beginning: March 27, 2013
Wage: \$9.40 per hour – Hours: As needed

AMY CIAFREI Title I Teaching Assistant, West Broad St. Elementary
Replacement for Beginning: April 8, 2013
Eileen Kulikowski (resigned) Wage: \$12.81 per hour – Hours: 6 per day

GRETCHEN COLOMBO ESL Teaching Asst., E. M. Crouthamel Elementary
Replacement for Effective: March 8, 2013 through June 7, 2013
Renee Miller (childrearing) Wage: \$12.81 per hour – Hours: 6 hours per day

JENNIFER MALONE Instructional Assistant, Autistic Support, Indian Crest M. S.
Replacement for Beginning: April 2, 2013
Paul Sigmans (resigned) Wage: \$10.43 per hour – Hours: 6.5 per hour

LAWRENCE WALDSPURGER Part-Time Custodian, Indian Valley Middle School
Beginning: February 4, 2013
Wage: \$10.62 per hour – Hours: 4 per day

2. Motion to Approve Resignations

LISA EDGHILL Instructional Assistant, One-to-One, Souderton Area
High School
Effective: March 15, 2013

EILEEN KULIKOWSKI Title I Teaching Asst., West Broad St. Elementary
Effective: April 2, 2013

PAUL SIGMANS Instructional Assistant, Indian Crest Middle School
Effective: March 28, 2013

LAWRENCE WALDSPURGER Part-Time Custodian, Indian Valley Middle School
Effective: February 6, 2013

COLLEEN WULTERKENS Title I Teaching Assistant, West Broad Street Elementary
Effective: April 26, 2013

CONSENT/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

G. Motion to Approve Employment of Additional Substitute Teachers

AARON BASHLINE	DANA BERGEY	ELIZABETH COLONNA
DAVID DACHILLE	SUNNY HWANG	SUSAN KELLY
SUSAN RONCORONI	JENNIFER STEWART	

H. Motion to Approve Supplemental Contracts for Spring Coaches

MATTHEW BENNER	Head Coach, Track & Field (IC)	\$ 2,013.00
THOMAS LAVELLA	Head Coach, Baseball (IC)	2,242.00
NICHOLAS CHIAROLANZA	Head Coach, Baseball (IV)	2,013.00
VANESSA FERRIER	Head Coach, Softball (IV)	2,013.00
CHARLES K. MOYER	Asst. Coach, Track & Field (IV)	1,409.00
JAMES O'NEILL	Head Coach, Track & Field (IV)	2,757.00
JEFFREY WALKER	Head Coach, Lacrosse (IV)	2,242.00

I. Motion to Approve Contracted Services for Spring Coaches

MICHAEL McGOWAN	Asst. Coach, Lacrosse-Boys (HS)	\$ 2,348.00
DAVID STASTNY	Asst. Coach, Volleyball-Boys (HS)	2,566.00
AMY KELLER	Head Coach, Lacrosse-Girls (IC)	2,650.00
CAROL ATKINSON	Head Coach, Softball (IC)	2,135.00

J. Motion to Approve Additions and Changes to Winter/Spring Community Education Program

ANITA BROWN	Chaperone, NYC - Ninth Avenue Food Festival	\$50.00
KAITLYN MILLER	Zumba Fitness Party – Monday Extension, 6 hours	20.00/hour
SUSAN RONCORONI	French Immersion – Beginner, 10.5 hours (increase in number of hours from 9 to 10.5)	20.00/hour

K. Motion to Approve Staff and Wages for Community Education “Club Adventure” - Summer 2013.
EXHIBIT D

L. Motion to Approve Out-of-State Field Trips

1. Indian Valley Middle School – Eighth Grade Students

Date: May 10, 2013 (Friday)

Destination: Washington, D.C. – Smithsonian Museum and National Mall

Purpose of the Trip: To gain educational enrichment through the exploration of the historical sites of the Washington, D.C. area.

Number of Students: 275

Number of Chaperones: 35

Requesting Teacher: Stephen Nogami

The trip will be paid for by the students.

2. Indian Crest Middle School – Sixth Grade Students

Date: May 13, 2013 (Monday)

Destination: Camden, NJ – Adventure Aquarium

Purpose of the Trip: Students will explore aquatic life at the aquarium and view a 4D movie about prehistoric sea creatures.

Number of Students: 284

Number of Chaperones: 29

Requesting Teacher: Connie Harmer

The trip will be paid for by the students.

DISCUSSION/ACTION AGENDA (CONTINUED)

Motion to Approve a Resolution to Direct the Administration to Implement Option #1 for the Elementary Attendance Areas Effective as of the Commencement of the 2013-2014 School Year (Continued)

Mr. Holliday spoke about the process of redistricting and how the option was determined. He mentioned that there have been opportunities to participate in the process throughout the year.

With no further comments or questions, the vote was taken on the motion, and on a vote of nine (9) affirmative votes to zero (0) negative votes, it was . . .

RESOLVED, That the Board approve the Resolution to direct the Administration to implement Option #1 for the elementary attendance areas, effective as of the commencement of the 2013-2014 school year.

EXHIBIT G

INFORMATIONAL

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

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

Wednesday, April 3, 2013 – Finance Committee Meeting – 6:30 PM
Policy Committee Meeting has been canceled.

Wednesday, April 17, 2013 – Special Finance Committee Meeting – 6:30 PM
The Education-Personnel Committee Meeting will begin immediately following the conclusion of the Special Finance Committee Meeting. The Operations Committee will meet immediately following the Education-Personnel Committee Meeting.

Thursday, April 25, 2013 – School Board Action Meeting – 7:00 PM

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

The next meeting of the Joint Operating Committee of the North Montco Technical Career Center will be held on Monday, April 15, 2013, beginning at 7:00 PM in the Administrative Conference Room at the Technical Career Center, 1265 Sumneytown Pike, Lansdale, PA.

The next meeting of the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Board of Directors will be held on April 24, 2013, beginning at 7:45 PM in Conference Room B3/B4 located at the MCIU Center, 1605 West Main Street, Norristown, PA.

REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR

Tim Gilspach, Esq.

There was no report from the solicitor.

UNFINISHED/NEW BUSINESS FROM THE BOARD

Mrs. Basile shared information about the performance of the Elementary Honors Band and urged people to attend next year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

Mr. Currie thanked the people who have been coming out to Board meetings and getting involved.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

With no other business to discuss, Mr. Currie adjourned the meeting at 8:03 PM.

Respectfully,

William R. Stone, Jr.
Board Secretary