

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

In accordance with Sections 402 and 404 of the Pennsylvania School Code, the Board of School Directors of Cheltenham Township met on Tuesday, September 1, 2015 at 6:45 p.m. in the Administration Building, 2000 Ashbourne Road, Elkins Park, PA to hold its emergency special board meeting. The meeting was called to order by the Vice President: Ms. Haywood. Those present were: Mr. Delgado, Mrs. Gray, Mrs. Hawkins, Ms. Haywood, Mr. Malloy, and Ms. Russell. Dr. Marseille - Superintendent, Ms. Michaels-Director of Financial Services, Crystal Mance -Secretary.

The following were absent. Mr. England, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Rackow, and Mr. Roos-Solicitor

The following members of the staff were present:

- Lynn David, Director of Human Resources
- Dwight Nolt, Director of Education
- Ray Bavi, Director of Support Services
- Susan O’Grady, Director of Communications
- Cheryl Horsey, Director of Pupil Services

There were four signatures in the guest register.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Delgado.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Sherry Hazlewood from Glenside, commented by welcoming the new Cedarbrook principal, and she spoke of the retirement of Lisa Hawkins, who has worked hard for the District and she knows the staff very well. She also commented on the 2015 – 2016 calendar and how the committee considered all options on the calendar prior to making any final decision in 2014. She further stated a lot of students will be asking for days off to see the Pope and they won’t be able to get them. The calendar team deliberately put the calendar together this way so the teachers could have PD days when they need them the most. Starting the school year with a disruptive September is not a good way to begin the school year.

PERSONNEL

- Appointment of Administrator
- Appointment of Interim Principal
- Acceptance of Resignations
- Acceptance of Retirements
- Approval of Leaves of Absences
- Appointment of Support Staff
- Approval of Professional Employees
- Approval of Temporary Professional Employees
- Appointment of Professional Employees
- Appointment of Long Term Substitute Teachers
- Approval of Changes in Position

Upon motion by Ms. Russell, seconded by Mr. Delgado, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board appoints Marcy Hockfield as Principal, Cedarbrook Middle School, CASSA classification, at an annual 2015-2016 salary of \$150,000 prorated, to be hired provisionally pending statutory requirements, effective date to be determined.

On roll call the following voted in the affirmative: Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Gray, Mr. Delgado, Ms. Russell, Mr. Malloy, and Ms. Haywood. Negative: None. Motion adopted.

Upon motion by Ms. Russell, seconded by Mr. Delgado, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board appoints Francine Deal as interim principal of Cedarbrook Middle School effective September 8, 2015 through ending date to be determined but no later than November 11, 2015, at the rate of \$500 per day.

On roll call the following voted in the affirmative: Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Gray, Mr. Delgado, Ms. Russell, Mr. Malloy, and Ms. Haywood. Negative: None. Motion adopted.

PERSONNEL
(continued)

Upon motion by Ms. Russell, seconded by Mrs. Hawkins, the following resolutions were adopted:

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Keith Cunningham, C.L.A.S.P. Head Group Supervisor at Cheltenham Elementary School, effective August 12, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Victoria Peca, Kindergarten Assistant at Wyncote Elementary School, effective August 07, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Christopher Fernandez, School Psychologist at Cheltenham Elementary School and Myers Elementary School, effective date to be determined but no later than October 15, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Alexandra Moore, Mathematics Teacher at Cheltenham High School, effective August 20, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Georgette Bolden, Lunchroom/Playground Aide at Elkins Park School, effective August 24, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Quyntyn Gaston, Emotional Support Paraeducator at Elkins Park School, effective August 24, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Samantha Geigert, Learning Support Paraeducator at Elkins Park School, effective August 24, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Jonathan Schroeder, 1:1 Paraeducator at Elkins Park School, effective August 25, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the resignation of Regina Oswald, part-time C.L.A.S.P. Aide at Cheltenham Elementary School, effective August 25, 2015.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the retirement of Francis Zelaney, Lead Custodian at Glenside Elementary School, effective September 11, 2015 end of workday. Mr. Zelaney has been a district employee for 31 years.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board accepts the retirement of Lisa Hawkins, Residency Officer at the Administration Building, effective September 04, 2015 end of workday. Ms. Hawkins has been a district employee for 39 years.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board grants Syieda Graham-Logan, Grade 1 Teacher at Cheltenham Elementary School, an unpaid leave of absence from September 01, 2015 until October 13, 2015, under the provisions of the Family & Medical Leave policy and an unpaid leave due to medical necessity from October 14, 2015 until the end of 2015-2016 school year. Ms. Graham-Logan's return to work date is the first teacher day of the 2016 - 2017 school year.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board ratifies the appointment of Christopher Hood as the Warehouse Shipping and Receiving Clerk, Grade 18, at the Administration Building, at an annual salary of \$37,672 prorated, to be hired provisionally

PERSONNEL (continued)

pending statutory requirements, effective August 27, 2015. A 90-day probationary period is required.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board appoints Debora Scholl as a Receptionist at Cheltenham High School, 7.5 hours per day for 260 days, at an annual salary of \$36,692 prorated, to be hired provisionally pending statutory requirements, effective September 01, 2015. A 90-day probation period is required.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board ratifies the appointment of Tara Rabb, Grade 1 Teacher at Myers Elementary School, to be hired conditioned upon meeting pre-employment requirements, effective August 24, 2015, at a salary of \$66,958 (Step 4/Masters+ 36).

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment of Melanie Gogoj, Special Education Teacher, Emotional Support at Cedarbrook Middle School, to be hired conditioned upon meeting pre-employment requirements, effective date to be determined, at a salary of \$48,168 (Step 3/Masters).

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment of Gina Casalinuovo, Special Education Teacher, Learning Support at Glenside Elementary School, to be hired conditioned upon meeting pre-employment requirements, effective September 01, 2015, at a salary of \$50,362 (Step 6/Bachelor's).

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment of Chloe Kaplan, Grade 1 Teacher at Glenside Elementary School, to be hired conditioned upon meeting pre-employment requirements, effective September 01, 2015, at a salary of \$43,499 (Step 2/Bachelor's).

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment of Nicole Myrick, Grade 2 Teacher at Cheltenham Elementary School, to be hired conditioned upon meeting pre-employment requirements, effective September 01, 2015, at a salary of \$54,090 (Step 6/Masters).

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment of Elsie Butler, Reading Specialist at Cheltenham Elementary School, to be hired conditioned upon meeting pre-employment requirements, effective August 24, 2015, at a salary of \$54,090 (Step 6/Masters).

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment of Adrienne Bonner, Mathematics Teacher at Cheltenham High School, to be hired conditioned upon meeting pre-employment requirements, effective September 01, 2015, at a salary of \$50,362 (Step 6/Bachelor's).

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment of Kathleen Hassey as Long Term Substitute Teacher, .2 Business Education Teacher at Cedarbrook Middle School, at a salary of \$46,707 prorated (Step 2/Masters) effective September 01, 2015, through the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment of Lindsay Bauer as Long Term Substitute Teacher, .2 Art Teacher at Cedarbrook Middle School, at a salary of \$43,499 prorated (Step 2/Bachelor's) effective September 01, 2015, through the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the appointment

PERSONNEL (continued)

of Lisa Brown as Long Term Substitute Teacher, Grade 1 Teacher at Cheltenham Elementary School, at a salary of \$50,362 prorated (Step 6/Bachelor's) effective September 01, 2015, through the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board ratifies a change in position and status for Eileen Gillard, from: part-time C.L.A.S.P. Aide, Tier III, Cheltenham Elementary School, to: full-time C.L.A.S.P. Site Director, Tier IV at Cheltenham Elementary School, 6 hours per day for 182 days at an hourly rate of \$19.97, effective August 25, 2015.

On roll call the following voted in the affirmative: Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Gray, Mr. Delgado, Ms. Russell, Mr. Malloy, and Ms. Haywood. Negative: None. Motion adopted.

EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

Upon motion by Mrs. Hawkins, seconded by Ms. Haywood, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, upon recommendation of the administration, the Board approves the following amendment to the 2015-16 School Calendar:

1. Redesignation of September 15, 2015 from a Student Day to a day when schools and offices are closed.
2. Redesignation of April 26 from a Teacher/Staff Professional Development Day to a Student Day.
3. Redesignation of June 28 to a Teacher/Staff Professional Development Day, non-student day.

These changes are being made to observe the second day of Rosh Hashanah as has been the District's past practice. The changes are intended to maintain the integrity of the instructional year and ensure that teacher professional development occurs at the most effective time of the year. Attached is copy of the 2015-2016 schedule.

On roll call the following voted in the affirmative: Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Gray, Mr. Delgado, Ms. Russell, Mr. Malloy, and Ms. Haywood. Negative: None. Motion adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Myron Goldman from Elkins Park commented by, thanking the Superintendent and School Board for making the provision in the calendar for the Jewish students and staff so they don't have to choose between their religious obligations and school obligations. He also commented on the achievement gap with our students and he asked the Board find a way to view the behaviors between our student and hopes the Board accepts the challenge in the near future in reference to the achievement gap so it will no longer be known. Dr. Marseille responded to Mr. Goldman by stating addressing the fundamental achievement gap is the District's highest priority. He also briefly discussed the opening day with all District staff and how he further committed himself to the staff and teachers that the District must work to close the achievement gap, and change the mindset and disposition of our students, staff and parents. We must work to change the culture and provide additional resources on the ground so that enrichment, acceleration and remediation take place at the same time. The achievement gap does not discriminate though it is proportionate, we see other sub groups are not doing as well as they should. They are just able to regulate their behavior so it doesn't come out in their behavior. We have a fundamental challenge to simultaneously raise the floor as we raise the ceiling. We need to look forward and recommit ourselves as a community to what really matters. He has challenged the administration, teachers, faculty and those who come in contact with children to focus on the achievement gap. We need to attack the achievement gap with the same sense of urgency as we do everything else and attach a firm date around when the work will be accomplished. He further stated we are committed and it will be his central focus during his tenure. Mr. Goldman thanked the Board for their commitment to this

issue coming from the Superintendent.

Vivienne Jean from Elkins Park commented by stating her family is concerned about leaving their children in the District. They had considered sending their children to other schools in other Districts but after hearing from the Superintendent today, she will continue to encourage her family to leave their children in the Cheltenham School District because she believes it is going to get better.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Upon motion by Mr. Delgado seconded by Mrs. Hawkins, and unanimously approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.


Secretary


President

