

Regular Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood

Board of Education

June 6, 2005

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the District Meeting Room in the Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, on June 6, 2005.

President David Frazer called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Adequate written notice of this meeting of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education was sent to the Township and Village Clerks, the Libraries, The Star Ledger, the News Record and all schools.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Bennett, Mr. Betheil, Ms. Crawford, Mr. Frazer,
Mrs. Jasey, Mr. Latz, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Wren-Hardin

Absent: Mr. Little

8 MEMBERS PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

**BOARD RECOGNITION ñ *read by Dr.
Horoschak***

1. The Foundation of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences announced that Columbia High School students won two of the seven awards given to high school students across the nation for outstanding television journalism. In the Public Service category, the iEmmyi award went to Ashley Good for her video entitled iEat Your Vegetablesi. In the Excellence in News category, the iEmmyi award went to Rebecca Hilton and Alessandra Bellizia for their video entitled iSilent Nighti. The national winners will be presented with their Emmys at an awards ceremony on June 15th at the Time Warner Headquarters in New York. They will receive their awards from CNN anchor Soledad O'Brien who will emcee the event.

The seven winners were chosen from a pool of 117 regional winners, of which Columbia had three first place winners and two honorable mentions. They include co-winners in the Excellence in News category Rebecca Adelson and Kerry Szydlowski for iA Honey Roasted Miracle: The Matt Lee Storyi and Rebecca Hilton and Alessandra Bellizia for iSilent Nighti. In the Public Service category, Ashley Good won for her video entitled iEat Your Vegetablesi. The Honorable Mention awards went to Michael Rubin and Campbell Morrissy for their entry into the Sports category, iGambling Your Life Away,i and to Anna Robilotta and Maura Flanagan for their entry into the Arts and Entertainment category, iStudio Soapi.

The winners are all students in Columbia High School's Television Arts Program, under the direction of Mr. Frank Mullin.

2. The Columbia High School Moot Court Team competed in a statewide competition at Princeton University. Under the direction of advisors Mr. Jon Campbell and Ms. Lori Jones, the team of Molly Andrews and Rebecca Hausner reached the level called isweet 16,i the team of Fred Seixas and Danielle Levine reached the quarter finals and Rebecca Hausner went on to receive an outstanding attorney award.
3. The Unity Club of Maplewood and the Village Club of South Orange honored a group of Columbia High School seniors at their sixteenth annual Volunteerism and Community Awards Brunch. The students were commended for the valuable volunteer service that they provided to the community. Those honored were Elizabeth Anyanwu, Alissa Cooper, Jordan Filko, Rebecca Hilton, Angela Holtz, Sarah Holzman, Claire Hyman, Alissa Lance, Bara Levitt, Hilary Neher, Sara Okin, Alexandra Robinson and Neema Roshania. Elizabeth, Jordan, Bara, Hilary, Alexandra and

Neema received special awards for their extraordinary volunteer contributions.

4. Fifteen Columbia high School students received top awards for their scores in three categories on the National Latin Exams.

Silver Maxima Cum Laude: Matthew Monformoso, Jordan Kesner, Eric Jaffe and Victoria Goldberg.

Magna Cum Laude: Liam Zaaier, Joanna Gross, Hannah Lambert, Samuel Prentice and Katherine Boehner.

Cum Laude: Caitlin Mattheiss, Matthew Faust, Anna Toledano, Rebecca Brady, Jesse Nettleton, and Elizabeth Macyshyn.

5. In recognition of their high student performance, both Columbia High School and Maplewood Middle School have been honored as New Jersey Benchmark Schools for 2004 by the Business Coalition for Education Excellence of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce. Representatives from both district schools received the awards at a ceremony on April 20, 2005 during the BCEE conference, "The Sky is the Limit: Advancing Achievement for All Students." This is the second consecutive year that both Columbia and Maplewood Middle received this recognition.
6. Peter Trebour, sixth-grade teacher at Maplewood Middle School, was a workshop presenter at William Paterson University's "Closing the Achievement Gap Conference." Mr. Trebour led two workshops on the success of Maplewood Middle School's Transition Program and the personal efforts he has made to increase student achievement. Mr. Trebour was invited to lead his workshops by the New Jersey Department of Education.

The Board of Education recognized employees who are retiring or have retired during the 2004-05 school year. The following retirees were introduced and presented plaques of appreciation from the Board of Education: Rudolf Bolivar, Ronald Dower, Carol Ford, Evelyn Gurland, Sandra Haimoff, Carol Lerner, Vittorio Pinto, Catalina Riccobono, Joan Stewart, Constance Trautman, Robert Young.

Additionally, the following individuals are retiring, but were unable to attend the Board Meeting. The Board extended their appreciation for their years of service: Frederick Atkins, Ellen Basile, Carol Bowers, Sandra Facciponti, Barbara Greene, Arlene Kollin, Joseph Leone, Beatrice LoBiondo,

Cheryl Meehan, William Rhinehart, Thomas Ricciardi, William Ryman, Lillian Schmaus, Barbara Villiani.

Mr. Frazer reported that the South Orange Maplewood School District, along with Food Service Director, Patricia Johnson, had received recognition from the State of New Jersey for its Nutrition Program.

Mr. Bethel presented a Strategic Planning Update. Action Plans have been reformatted and early drafts are available on the district website. Volunteers will have the opportunity to provide feedback at the meeting scheduled for June 13, 2005 and the Board will further examine the plans at the Board offsite on June 17-18, 2005.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS & DELEGATIONS

The following individuals spoke about Board policies referring to holiday music: John DeVita, Laura Mucci, David Niles, Gordon Agress.

John DeVita spoke about the Strategic Plan and Action Plan items to reestablish a Diversity Coordinator and to eliminate leveling.

Josie O'Brien, VP, Clinton PTA, read letter regarding loss of full-time social worker at Clinton Elementary.

Dr. Horoschak explained the reassignment of Social Workers in the district.

The following individuals discussed the reduction in specials at Marshall School for 2005-06 and the loss of a dedicated teacher: Karen Hamel, Kathryn Huang, Lori Sender, Kathleen Kargell, Mary MacDonald, David Noll, and Lynn Dodo.

Amy Dahn, President, CHS Music Parents, thanked Mr. Santoro and Ms. Pollack, for including the Parentsí Association in the selection process for a new band teacher. She also requested assistance in obtaining a vehicle for equipment transportation for the marching band and instrumental program.

Paul Surovell spoke regarding the release of student information to military recruiters.

Lynn Doddo spoke about rodent problems at district schools.

Board recessed at 9:30 p.m.

Board reconvened at 9:45 p.m.

PRESENTATION

Presentation: Health Program Assessment Report ñ Mr. Memoli and Mr. Witty

Mr. Memoli and Mr. Witty presented the results of the Health Program Assessment Committee. The presentation highlighted the program goals, state requirements, methods of assessments and results, assessment survey results, and committee recommendations, including:

- ☐ Provide grades 1-5 general education teachers with instructional materials to support the health education curriculum.
- ☐ Provide assistance to elementary nurses in delivering the health education curriculum.
- ☐ Improve the coordination and articulation of the health education curriculum among the grades 1-5 physical education teachers, nurses, and classroom teachers and between health education teachers at the middle and high school levels.
- ☐ Improve the scheduling of health education classes at the middle school and Columbia High School.

- ☐ Develop Health Education electives to better meet student needs in grades 9-12.

Board members asked for clarification on a number of the recommendations. Clarification was provided by Mr. Memoli and Mr. Witty. Mr. Frazer thanked the committee for the directness of the report in exposing both strengths and needs of the health education program.

Discussion: Policies 2270 ñ Religion in Schools and 5880 ñ Pupil Participation ñ Dr. Horoschak and Ms. Bass

Dr. Horoschak introduced the discussion by presenting a brief history of the controversy of implementing the policies. He stated that having clear regulations for implementing the policies is necessary for the upcoming season. Ms. Bass discussed how the regulations were developed.

Board members discussion of policies 2270 and 5880 included the following points:

- ☐ Administration was acting in the best interest of what was interpreted to be the policy of the Board of Education.
- ☐ Conversations need to be in the context of the diversity of our community.
- ☐ Differentiation of ages could benefit the regulations.
- ☐ Music and art must be secular and curriculum-based but comfortable with the idea of more flexibility.
- ☐ Policies should acknowledge diversity, not suppress it.

MOTION made by Mrs. Jasey, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board refers policies 2270 and 5880 to the policy committee for review.

ROLL CALL: Motion to refer the policies to the policy committee passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

MOTION made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Ms. Crawford that the Board of Education approves the following:

1973. WHEREAS, Student District ID No. 0DHW has been duly noticed and afforded the opportunity to participate in a hearing before the Board of Education and has been afforded certain due process rights; and

WHEREAS, the student's parents were advised of the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the student engaged in prohibited conduct on May 13, 2005; and, having heard the administration's recommendation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Student District ID No. 0DHW be suspended from May 13, 2005 through December 31, 2005 with home instruction. Final examinations for the 2004-05 SY will be part of home instruction.

During the week of June 27, 2005, said student and his/her parents will meet with the Columbia High School Principal, Renee Pollack, or her designee, to discuss the student's conditional early re-entry to Columbia High School on Tuesday, July 5, 2005 to enable said student to participate in summer school. Prior to that meeting, said student shall undergo a mental health evaluation, performed by a licensed mental health professional and at parent expense, which shall indicate that said student is not a danger to him/herself or others and that said student is able to return to school. Such report shall be provided to the CHS principal at the June 2005 re-entry meeting for discussion. In the event that said student is involved in any behavior that warrants additional suspension after his/her re-entry to Columbia High School the student shall be immediately suspended without further need for a Board hearing.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT such early re-admittance is conditional upon the student agreeing to receive in-school counseling for substance abuse on a regular basis for the 2005-06 school year; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT while out on school suspension, Student District ID No. 0DHW is excluded from all Columbia High School extracurricular/school activities, and is not permitted on any school property or at any school function without prior approval of the Superintendent.

ROLL CALL: Motion 1973 passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

MOTION made by Ms. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Betheil, that the Board of Education approves the following:

1974. WHEREAS, the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education has received a recommendation from Peter Horoschak, Superintendent of Schools, relating to Employee #1935, which as noted below, shall be confidential; and

WHEREAS, the Superintendent has recommended that the salary and other compensation of such employee be maintained at the same amount for the 2005-06 school year as earned by such employee during the 2004-05 school year; and

WHEREAS, specific grounds for the recommendation were submitted to the Board and considered by it in connection with this action.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education in accordance with the requirements of N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14, as follows:

1. The salary and other compensation to be received by Employee #1935 for the 2005-06 school year shall be the same as received by such employee during the 2004-05 school year.

2. This action is taken by the Board pursuant to the authority vested in it under N.J.S.A. 18A:29-14.

3. The Board Secretary is hereby directed to provide Employee #1935 with a statement of reasons for this action which shall be as stated in the written recommendation received by the Board from the Superintendent of Schools. The statement of reasons shall be transmitted in writing to such employee forthwith and by not later than ten (10) days from the date of this resolution.

4. This action is taken with the express understanding that it is without prejudice to any other disciplinary action which might be taken.

ROLL CALL: Motion 1974 passed. YES: Mr. Bennett, Mr. Betheil,
Ms. Crawford, Mr. Frazer, Mrs. Jasey, Mr. Latz, Mr. Miller,
Mrs. Wren-Hardin. NO: none.

MOTION made by Mr. Betheil, seconded by Mrs. Jasey, that the Board of Education approves the following:

1975. WHEREAS, in accordance with law hearings were afforded with regard to the children identified by student number below; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that, as to the students identified below, the parents or guardians are not domiciled within the District or the children are not kept in the home of another person domiciled within the school district pursuant to the affidavit pupils statute; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board hereby orders the transfer or removal of the students identified below.

<u>STUDENT #</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
0EPL	CHS	10 TH
0C81	CHS	10 TH
0DV3	CHS	10 TH
09Q5	CHS	9 TH
0C7Z	CHS	9 TH
05W6	CHS	9 TH
0EPD	CHS	9 TH
0EPC	CHS	9 TH
0EPF	MMS	7 TH
0EPA	MMS	6 TH
0C63	MAR	2 nd
0EPG	SB	1 ST
0E9A	CLIN	4 TH
0EPB	CLIN	4 TH
0E10	ODP	7 TH

ROLL CALL: Motion 1975 passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

MOTION made by Mr. Latz, seconded by Ms. Crawford, that the Board of Education:

1976. Approves the Update to Uniform State of Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials for 2005 pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.2.

ROLL CALL: Motion 1976 passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

MOTION made by Mrs. Jasey, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board of Education:

1977. Accepts the change in the revised 2005-06 public meeting calendar as submitted [copy on file in Board Secretary's office].

ROLL CALL: Motion 1977 passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

MOTION made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Ms. Crawford, that the Board of Education:

1978. Accepts and approves the hiring of Marian Leibowitz Associates of Lawrenceville, New Jersey to facilitate the Board of Education's Offsite Meeting on Friday afternoon/evening, June 17, 2005 and all-day Saturday, June 18, 2005, and to meet with the Executive Committee in preparation on Tuesday morning, June 14, 2005, at a cost of \$3,000.

ROLL CALL: Motion 1978 passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

MOTION made by Ms. Crawford, seconded by Mrs. Jasey, that the Board of Education:

1979. Approves the settlement agreement for R.C. and authorizes the Business Administrator to reimburse the parents of R.C. in the amount of \$68,000 in full satisfaction of all claims through June 30, 2005.

ROLL CALL: Motion 1979 passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

MOTION made by Mrs. Wren-Hardin, seconded by Mr. Latz, that the Board of Education approves the following personnel fiscal resolutions:

1980A. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS FOR THE 2004-2005 SCHOOL YEAR

STATE CERTIFIED TEACHER

NAME	INSTITUTION	DATE	DEGREE
Coleman,	Bloomfield College	5/1996	B.S.
Michele	Rutgers University	5/2005	B.A.

COLLEGE GRADUATE AND COUNTY SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATE

NAME	INSTITUTION	DATE	DEGREE
Chang,	Baruch College	6/1980	B.A.
Vilma			
Gaspard-Champagne,	Rutgers University	5/1994	B.S.
Nadia			
Monel,	Caldwell College	5/2000	B.A.
Roger	University of Phoenix	1/2003	M.B.A.

NON-DEGREE SUBSTITUTE CERTIFICATE

Nelson, Amanda

1980B. APPOINTMENT OF SUBSTITUTE SECRETARY FOR THE 2004-2005 SCHOOL YEAR

NAME	HOURLY RATE
Singer, Amy	\$8.00

ROLL CALL: Motions 1980A-B passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

Amy Dahn and Gordon Agress commented on the discussion of the holiday music regulations.

NEW BUSINESS

The Board of Education will hold a Public Forum on Monday, June 13, 2005 to discuss the Strategic Planning Action Planning Team Results.

The Board of Education will hold a Public Session beginning at 5:00 pm on Friday, June 17, 2005 and continuing on Saturday, June 18, 2005 from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm to discuss Strategic Planning and Board of Education Goals for the 2005-06 School Year.

Overview of June 20, 2005 Public Meeting:

Recognition of Former Board Member Brian OíLeary

Recognition of CHS and MMS as Benchmark Schools

Presentation: ACHIEVE Tutor Program

Overview of July 18, 2005 Public Meeting:

Discussion: Language Arts Program Action Plan

MOTION made by Mr. Latz, seconded by Mrs. Jasey, that the Board of Education meet in Executive Session prior to the June 13, 2005 Public Meeting to discuss personnel matters, and prior to the June 20, 2005 Public Meeting to discuss personnel and legal matters, the nature of which will be made public at a future date. Motion unanimously approved.

Motion made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Mr. Miller, that the Board of Education adjourn. Motion unanimously approved at 12:15 a.m.

Karla Milanette, Board Secretary