

Regular Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood

Board of Education

February 6, 2006

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 February 6, 2006.

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. Little, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Wren-Hardin

9 MEMBERS PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE *ñled by Mr. Gleason, South Mountain Parent*

BOARD MEMORIAL ñ read by Dr. Horoschak

The Board of Education and the School District of South Orange and Maplewood, New Jersey mourn the loss of Mrs. Zelda Pollack, a retired special education teacher, who passed away on Friday, February 3, 2006 after a long illness.

Mrs. Pollack faithfully served as an elementary and middle school Learning Disabilities Teacher Consultant in our school district for more than 21 years prior to her retirement in March of 2001. Mrs. Pollack was a highly regarded

and gifted educator who was in the forefront of promoting special education in the private sector. Prior to joining the school district in 1979, Mrs. Pollack served as Director of the Early Childhood Learning Center in Madison, New Jersey. She was well respected by her colleagues throughout New Jersey for her dedication and promotion of education for special needs children.

On behalf of the Board of Education, the Superintendent of Schools is asked to convey condolences and remembrances to Ms. Pollack's family and friends.

The Board of Education would like to request a moment of silence to honor Ms. Pollack's memory.

BOARD RECOGNITION ñ *read by Dr. Horoschak*

1. Ryan Thompson and Brian Ash, members of the Columbia High School Mathematics Team, placed third and received Honorable Mention, respectively, in a statewide competition sponsored by the Association of Math Teachers of New Jersey.

In the winter Iron Hills Math League competition the CHS Math Team placed second, competing against 15 other schools. The Team members include CHS students Ryan Thompson, Max Kramer, Michelle Micallef, Georgia Squyres, Kenneth So, Alex Dranove, Ben Reader and Chris Marino. Also included are three South Orange Middle School students Leah Garber, Scott Zimmer and Will Barkalow. To win in this particular contest, which is comprised of relays, the entire team must be correct in order to receive points. Advisors to the Team include Mr. Mark Wolfmeyer and Mr. Chandar Gulati, CHS mathematics teachers.

2. Ms. Phyllis Bivens-Hudson, South Orange Middle School eighth-grade language arts teacher, was selected as one of eight winners of this year's New Jersey Phat Friends Award. Nominated by a former student, the award was presented to Ms. Bivens-Hudson for her contribution to the lives of the students she has influenced. The award is presented annually to community leaders by the All Stars Project New Jersey, which aims to help young people in and around Newark.

3. The Columbia High School girls' track team shared the Essex County Relays team title with East Orange Campus team last week at Seton Hall University. Under the direction of Coach Jason Jackson, the girls' team also placed fourth at the NJSIAA Group 4 Relays in Princeton. Team members include Aasha Anderson, Ariel Duncan, Anissa Folley, Iman Johnson, Colleen MacPhee, Ashley Newby, Busola Oyefesobi, Ugo Okoro and Bianca Stewart.

Mr. Miller congratulated Maplewood Middle School for another outstanding Musical performance.

Mr. Miller recognized the accomplishments of the Columbia High School fencing teams' placements - Girls, first place - Boys, second place; and the basketball team's recent win.

Mr. Frazer pointed out an error in the State School Report Card related to the mobility of teachers at Columbia High School.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

Name

Topic

Lindsay Scott		Expressed concern with the ongoing pool
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CHS Swim Team Boosters problems.

[illegible]

South Mountain Parent Ms. Shipís leadership at South Mountain.

Thanked Board members who have visited

the school.

Justin & Melissa Montalvo Urged the Board to accept their proposal

MLKA Members requesting additional advisors to lead the MLKA.

Ebony Wiggins & Katie at South	Spoke about issues and atmosphere
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Costello Mountain and requested that the staff be

South Mountain Teachers allowed to speak at a closed session with the

Board.

Sally Monaghan Expressed concern that South Mountain teachers

South Mountain Parent have not been heard.

Karen Gates Reported that the meeting regarding goals was South Mountain Parent not well received. Encouraged the Board to

investigate the situation further.

Dawn Breeden Expressed her opinion that effort is focused on

South Mountain Parent how to remove Ms. Ship rather than how to work

with her.

PRESENTATIONS

Discussion: 2006-07 Budget ñ Budget Calendar - Mr. Latz, Ms. Milanette

A timeline for completion of the district's budget was reviewed with an explanation of the possibility of a delay if there is a postponement of the Governor's budget address.

Board members' comments included the following:

- Suggestion was made that budget cuts should be disclosed as early as possible.
- List of worst case scenario to be available by the February 15 workshop.

Discussion: 2006-07 Budget ñ Budget Analyses ñ Dr. Horoschak, Ms. Milanette

Analysis # 4 Cost of Athletics/Extra-Curriculars, Stipends and Differentials

Analysis # 7 Special Education

Analysis # 8 CHS Alternative High School Program

Analysis #10 Alternative Delivery of Various Elementary Special Programs

Analysis #12 All Day Kindergarten Program at Clinton School

Analyses were reviewed and Board members' comments included the following:

- #4 Efforts should be made to maintain Athletics program.
- Suggestion for a policy to set minimums and maximums of student participation.
- Question the number of football assistant coaches.
- Athletics offer opportunities for staff and students to interact outside of the classroom.
- #7 Support social worker at middle schools.
- #8 Suggestion to return some students from out of district placements to Montrose.
- #10 Purpose of analysis is not to recommend savings but to better understand resource deployment.
- #13 Savings of having in-house counsel are understated.

Board recessed at 9:35 p.m.

Board reconvened at 9:50 p.m.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

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

2057A. WHEREAS, Student District ID No. 05AH 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, as approved by Board Resolution 2049 C on January 9, 2006 the suspension of Student District ID No 05AH was continued, with homebound instruction, pending further discussions or until the Board hearing scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, 2006 ; and

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

WHEREAS, the student's parents do not wish to contest the administration's disciplinary recommendation and have determined that they do not wish a Board Hearing at this time; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the student engaged in prohibited conduct on November 22, 2005; and, having heard the administration's recommendation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Student District ID No. 05AH be suspended from November 22, 2005 through June 30, 2006 with home instruction. If required, mid-term and final examinations will be administered through home instruction.

If Student District ID No. 05AH does not earn enough credits for graduation and desires to return to Columbia High School in September 2006, in late August, 2006, said student and his/her parents shall meet with Columbia High School Principal Renee Pollack, or her designee, to discuss the student's re-entry to Columbia High School in September 2006 for the 2006-07 school year. Said student's parents shall contact Ms. Pollack's office to schedule the re-entry conference. 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 high school principal at the August 2006 meeting for discussion.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT while out on school suspension, Student District ID No. 05AH 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.

2057B. WHEREAS, Student District ID No. 0FBD 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 student's parents do not wish to contest the administration's disciplinary recommendation and have determined that they do not wish a Board hearing at this time; and

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the student engaged in prohibited conduct on January 4, 2006; and, having heard the administration's recommendation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Student District ID No. 0FBD be

suspended from January 5, 2006 through June 30, 2006 with home instruction. If required, mid-term, semester and/or final examinations will be administered through home instruction.

On Monday, April 17, 2006, said student and his/her parents will meet

with South Orange Middle School Principal Kirk Smith, or his designee,

to discuss the student's conditional re-entry to South Orange Middle

School that day. In early April 2006, 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 Mr.

Smith at the April 17, 2006 conditional re-entry meeting for discussion.

Student District ID No. 0FBD shall be permitted entry to South Orange

Middle School during the week of March 13-16, 2006 to enable said

student to participate in GEPA testing that week. Each morning, said

student shall report to the Main Office of the school where he/she

shall be escorted to a testing location. Upon completion of testing

each day, said student shall be required to leave the school building

and school property immediately.

In the event that said student is involved in any behavior warranting

school suspension following re-entry to South Orange Middle School on

April 17, 2006, said student shall be immediately removed from school

without need for a Board hearing. Home instruction will again be

provided, and marking period/semester examinations will be administered as part of home instruction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT while out on school suspension, Student District ID No. 0FBD is excluded from all South Orange Middle 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 2057A-B passed; 9 yes, 0 no.

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

2058A. Approves the following list of providers for the services indicated:

<u>Provider</u>	<u>Service</u>	<u>Rate</u>
Linda Sue Meyer Fairlawn, NJ	Psycho-Educational Evaluation	\$2,000/eval

Lois Feigenbaum
South Orange, NJ

Social Work Intern Supervisor \$300/diem

2058B. Approves the refund of Fiscal Year 2004 Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, (IDEA) Part B Basic and Preschool funds in the amount of \$77,377.00 to the Treasurer of the State of New Jersey as listed below:

<u>Program</u>	<u>Refund Due</u>
IDEA Basic	\$76,951.00
IDEA Preschool	<u>\$ 426.00</u>
Total	\$77,377.00

2058C. Award the contract for projects 2003-33: Kitchen Alterations at Maplewood Middle School and 2003-31: Kitchen Alterations at South Orange Middle School to J. R. Staedler Construction, Inc. of Summit, New Jersey for the lowest responsible bid of \$1,060,000.00

ROLL CALL: Motions 2958A-C passed; 9 yes, 0 no.

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

2059. Adopts and approves the committee and liaison assignments as indicated on the attached document [on file in Board Secretary's office].

MOTION made by Mrs. Jasey, seconded by Ms. Crawford, to amend the liaison assignments to add Mr. Miller as Board of School Estimate alternate.

ROLL CALL: Motion to amend resolution 2059 passed; 9 yes, 0 no.

ROLL CALL: Motion 2059 passed as amended, 9 yes, 0 no.

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

2060. Amends the 2005-2006 School Calendar to designate

- Monday, March 13, 2006 through Thursday, March 16, 2006 as full days of school for middle school students (Grades 6-8) only; and
- Tuesday, April 4, 2006 through Thursday, April 6, 2006, as half-days of school for middle school students (Grades 6-8) only.

ROLL CALL: Motion 2060 passed, 9 yes, 0 no.

MOTION made by Ms. Wren-Hardin, seconded by Ms. Crawford, that the Board of Education approves the following:

2061A. 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>
0BZF	CHS	12 th
07VN	CHS	11 th
0BZ0	CHS	9 th
0ERJ	S. MNTN	1 st

2061B. WHEREAS, in accordance with law, the Superintendent has made application to the Board of Education for the removal of students identified as follows:

<u>STUDENT #</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
07PG	CHS	10 th

BE IT RESOLVED that the Superintendent or his designee will notify the parents or guardians, in writing, of his/her right to a hearing before the Board of Education to determine whether the students are entitled

to a free public education in the schools of the District in
accordance with law; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Education will conducted
hearings, in accordance with law, at the request of the parents or
guardians of the students identified above; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the hearings before the Board of
Education are scheduled to start at 9:30am on February 9, 2006.

ROLL CALL: Motions 2061A-B passed; 9 yes, 0 no.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Amy Paternite Clinton Parent	Gave suggestions on how to keep the full day Clinton kindergarten program going at Clinton School.

NEW BUSINESS

Overview of February 27, 2006 meeting

Discussion: 2006-2007 Budget

Tent. Presentation: Measurement Committee Update

Overview of March 6, 2006 Meeting

Presentation: Seth Boyden Program Evaluation & Mission Renewal

Action: Approve 2006-07 Budget

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

Education meet in Executive Session prior to the February 27,
2006, 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. Latz, seconded by Mr. Miller, that the Board
of

Education adjourn. Motion unanimously approved at 11:45 p.m.

Karla Milanette, Board Secretary