

Regular Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education
May 5, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the Auditorium at Clinton Elementary School, 27 Berkshire Road, Maplewood, New Jersey, on May 5, 2008.

Board President Mark Gleason called the meeting to order at 7:30 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, Ms. Crawford, Mrs. Daugherty,
Mr. Gleason, Mr. Eastman, Ms. Karriem,
Dr. Payne-Parrish, Mrs. Wren-Hardin
Absent: Mr. Laine.

8 MEMBERS PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

BOARD RECOGNITION – Read by Mr. Gleason

1. Columbia High School senior Samiel Cameron was one of four students selected to receive the 2007-2008 Princeton Prize in Race Relations of Essex-Hudson Counties and Northwestern New Jersey. Samiel achieved this award by developing a unique project entitled *Highlighting Columbia High School: Fears, Facts and Folklore*. She organized events where community members could meet and discuss facts and perceptions about Columbia High School. Samiel received her award at the second annual award ceremony held at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center.
2. Columbia High School students entered the Moody's Mega Math (M3) Challenge, an Internet-based competition in which high schools may enter up to two teams of three to five students each. More than 1,100 east coast students, from New Hampshire to Delaware, entered the 2008 Challenge. The teams are given one day, with a maximum of 14 hours, to solve an open-ended, realistic, applied math-modeling problem focused on real-world issues. The 2008 problem, "Energy Independence Meets the Law of Unintended Consequences," asked the students to consider the replacement of gasoline by ethanol as it relates to U.S. energy independence. The teams included Ziv Kennan, senior, Michelle Micallef, senior, Dillon Plunkett, junior, Daniel Tessler, senior, and Caitlin Williams, senior. Advisors to the teams were Mr. Mark Wolfmeyer and Mr. James Ooi.
3. Columbia High School senior Caitlin Williams was one of fifty-three exemplary high school seniors chosen for the Robertson Scholars Class of 2012, an innovative merit scholarship program at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and Duke University. Caitlin was accepted at UNC and then, following an extensive interview process, was named a Robertson Scholar. All the students take courses at both schools and spend a semester in residence at the other campus. The Scholars will receive full four-year scholarships based on their leadership strengths, intelligence and creativity and will come together for special seminars, taught by faculty of both universities, research projects and service-learning programs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gleason declared the minutes of the Executive and Public Sessions of April 28, 2008 approved as amended to reflect that it was Ms. Crawford who read the New Business Announcements.

PRESENTATION

Tuscan School teacher, Ms. Sackett, introduced Tuscan students Charlotte Cramer, Kayla Herry, Kendall Majtyka, Evalina Patino, Aileen Sartori, Madeline Jaworski, Katherine Camara, Declan Wollard, Samantha Normandia and Brandon Hayes who read their essays on recycling.

Mr. Gleason thanked the students and promised to continue to encourage recycling throughout the district.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Hannah Gibbons Clinton Student	Presented a petition to have a bike rack installed at Clinton School [list on file in Board Secretary's office].

PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Crawford read a statement regarding the superintendent's salary. There were no comments from the public [on file in Board Secretary's office].

DISCUSSION

Underhill Field

- § \$1.5 million needed for new turf and track
- § \$200,000 needed to install lights
- § \$350,000 shortfall at this point to move project forward with deferred lighting
- § Fred and Paul Profeta were introduced. Paul was in the Columbia High School class of 1962; Fred was in the class of 1957.
Summarized the broad based fundraising effort.
- § Requested naming rights to the new field in honor of their parents, noting that his mother was a former guidance counselor in the district for thirty years.
- § The Rutgers study is due in the next few days.

Comments regarding naming rights included:

- § "Underhill Sports Complex" will remain.
- § A donation of \$250,000 would name turf field
- § Donors of \$25,000 would have their names on a Hall of Fame plaque

Superintendent Osborne shared his strong commitment to being a good neighbor by including community input. The facilities usage policy should be expanded to include "good neighbor" consideration. The Board of Education does not support abandoning the lighting phase of the renovation.

Board of Education Meeting Calendar for 2008-2009

- § The schedule is reduced to one meeting per month
- § Additional meetings may be called if needed
- § Amend the calendar to move meeting from August 18 to August 25, 2008.

Committee Structure

Dr. Payne-Parrish reviewed the Board Goals progress

§ Significant progress has been made toward meeting all Board Goals during the year.

A retreat around goals for the 2008-09 school year is planned for June 14, 2008, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Mr. Osborne, Mr. Gleason, Dr. Payne-Parrish, Ms. Crawford will plan the retreat.

Summer Facilities Work and programming Update – Mrs. Milanette

Mrs. Milanette reported on all the projects that will be done in the district during the summer and the personnel and program moves that will be necessitated because of the projects [a complete list of projects is on file in the Board Secretary's office].

ITEMS FOR ACTION

MOTION made by Dr. Payne-Parrish, seconded by Ms. Crawford, that the Board of Education approves the following:

2385A. Retirements – Read by Mr. Bennett

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Mingin, Dr. Margaret	Director of Media Technology DIST – 1.0 FTE	7/1/08
Sharp, Valerie	T Social Studies MM – 1.0 FTE	5/1/08

2385B. RESIGNATIONS

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	EFFECTIVE DATE
Gnutti, Andrew	504 Instructional Aide TUS – 1.0 FTE	7/1/08
Vader, Lauren	T Lang. Arts/SS SOM – 1.0 FTE	7/1/08
Wernick, Kenneth	T Special Education MONT – 1.0 FTE	7/1/08

2386. Amends the 2007-08 School Calendar to designate Thursday, May 8, 2008, as a full day and Thursday, May 22, 2008 as a four-hour day
for middle school students only.

2387. Adopts the attached public meeting calendar for the 2008-09 school year [on file in Board Secretary's office].

2388A. Approves applications to the New Jersey Department of Agriculture for Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program grants up to 10,000 a year for each selected school.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board President, Superintendent and Board Secretary are authorized to execute and deliver any
necessary contracts and reports on behalf of the Board.

2388B. Approve the following attendance and related travel expenses:

BOARD MEMBER	EVENT	DATE	Location	Estimated Cost (\$'s)
Rowland Bennett	NJSBA Meeting	5/17/08	Plainsboro, NJ	42

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approve the above event to be work related and within the scope of the work responsibilities of the of the attendee and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthering of efficient operation of the school district and is fiscally prudent, and in compliance with N.J.S.A. 18A:12-24 and 24.1 of the School Ethics Act.

2388C. WHEREAS, the following employees have requested approval for the indicated work-related travel; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at stated function was previously approved by the employees' supervisor and superintendent as work-related and within the scope of the work responsibilities of the attendee; and

WHEREAS, the attendance at the function was approved as promoting delivery of instruction or furthering efficient operation of the school district; and fiscally prudent;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education approves the attendance and related travel expenses for the following work-related events:

EMPLOYEE	WORKSHOP/CONFERENCE	DATE	Location	Estimated Cost (\$'s)
Vanessa Carney	On-Field Management of Athletic Injuries	6/5/08	Mercerville, NJ	94

2389. Approves the assignment of the student listed below as a tuition-free student for the 2007-08 school year. The students' parents shall be responsible for providing transportation for the children to and from Clinton Elementary School.

<u>Student No.</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Grade</u>
0CYS	Clinton	K
0DTA	Clinton	5

ROLL CALL: Motion 2385A, 2385B, 2387, 2388A-C, 2389 passed; 8 yes, 0 no.

Motion 2386 passed as amended; 8 yes, 0 no.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Topic</u>
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David Landry Underhill Field Neighborhood Spokesman	Appreciates the Board and Administration listening to neighborhood concerns and asked the Board to reconsider installation of lighting. Questioned the cost of \$250,000 being worth a few hours of extended playing time. Suggested other alternatives be explored.
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Sheila Belt Regarding leveling, a phone survey was taken of South Orange Resident 190 parents representing 260 secondary students. Time to present the results to the Board was requested. Mr. Eastman was delegated by the Policy Committee to receive the findings by the beginning of June.

NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent Osborne noted that this week is National Teacher Appreciation Week and commented on the great work of teachers in the district and phenomenal activities going on with parent groups showing their appreciation.

Mr. Gleason mentioned an upcoming SOMEF event.

Mr. Bennett announced the Athletic Hall of Fame will be on Thursday, May 8.

It is an appropriate role of the Board of Education to monitor under policy governance, therefore, the Board requested that data be gathered to measure and monitor the impact of the revised high school schedule on students.

Future Board Meetings – *Read by Mr. Bennett*

The Board of Education will hold a Special Public Meeting on Monday, May 12, 2008, at 7:00 pm, in the Superintendent's Office at 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. At the meeting, the Board will consider a motion to recess into Closed Session to hold a Student Discipline Hearing. Action will be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in Closed Session on Monday, May 19, 2008, at 7:00 pm, in the Superintendent's Office to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters to be announced at a later date. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in Public Session at 7:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. Action will be taken.

Members of the public are invited on Monday, May 19, 2008, at 7:30 pm to submit public comments regarding proposed salary increases for the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction and the Business Administrator. The Board, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b), the Open Public Meetings Act, shall not publicly discuss personnel matters and shall not respond to comments made by members of the public. Please be aware that the individuals who are the subject of this hearing retain the right of privacy and retain all rights regarding defamation and slander according to the laws of New Jersey. The Board shall not be held liable for comments made by members of the public. Immediately following the public hearing, the Board will vote on the proposed increase.

The Education Liaison Committee of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education, the Township of Maplewood and the Township of South Orange Village will meet on Friday, May 30, 2008, at 7:30 am in the Superintendent's Office at 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ, to discuss issues pertinent to the school district and to the two municipalities of South Orange and Maplewood. No action will be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in Closed Session on Monday, June 2, 2008, at 7:00 pm, in the Superintendent's Office to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters to be announced at a later date. Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in Public Session at 7:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. Action will be taken.

The Board of Education will hold a Special Public Meeting on Monday, June 9, 2008, at 7:00 pm, in the Superintendent's Office at 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. At the meeting, the Board will consider a motion to recess into Closed Session to hold a Student Discipline Hearing. Action will be taken.

The Board of Education will meet in Closed Session on Monday, June 16, 2008, at 7:00 pm, in the Superintendent's Office to discuss personnel and legal issues, negotiations and other matters to be announced at a later date.

Immediately following the Closed Session, the Board of Education will meet in Public Session at 7:30 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ. Action will be taken.

The Education Liaison Committee of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education, the Township of Maplewood and the Township of South Orange Village will meet on Friday, June 20, 2008, at 7:30 am in the Superintendent's Office at 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ, to discuss issues pertinent to the school district and to the two municipalities of South Orange and Maplewood. No action will be taken.

MOTION made by Ms. Crawford, seconded by Mrs. Daugherty, that the Board of Education adjourn. Motion unanimously approved at 9:55 p.m.

Karla Milanette, Board Secretary