

Regular Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood
Board of Education
March 3, 2008

A Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of South Orange-Maplewood was held in the District Meeting Room at the Administration Building, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, on March 3, 2008.

Board President Mark Gleason called the meeting to order at 7:35 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. Eastman, Mr. Gleason, Ms. Karriem,
Dr. Payne-Parrish, Mrs. Wren-Hardin
Absent: Mr. Laine

8 MEMBERS PRESENT

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Cast members Jake Esformes and Hayley Rutledge from the Columbia High School musical, *Once on This Island*, invited the Board of Education members to attend the show. Erica Philpot sang a song from the production with backup singers, Evan Johnston and Crystal daSilva.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gleason declared the minutes of the Executive and Public Sessions of February 25, 2008 and notes from February 27, 2008 meeting approved.

BOARD RECOGNITION

1. The 16th annual South Orange-Maplewood School District Music Marathon, under the direction of Mr. Nicholas Santoro, director of fine arts, k-12, was held on March 1, 2008 with more than 1200 students performing to raise money for the district's music department. The event, held at South Orange Middle School, which ran for more than seven hours, featured the following district student groups:
Choruses:
Clinton Chorus, directed by Barbara Eames
Jefferson Chorus, directed by Tom Booth
Seth Boyden Chorus, directed by Risa Yesowitz
South Mountain Chorus, directed by Ebony Wiggins
Tuscan Chorus, directed by Claire Van Tine
Maplewood Middle School Chorus, directed by Regina Bradshaw
South Orange Middle School Chorus directed by Rebecca Martin
South Orange Middle School Musical *Damn Yankees* Preview, led by
Liz Harris, musical director and Dan Savarese, stage director
Columbia High School Chorus, directed by Matthew Russell
Columbia High School Musical *Once On This Island* Preview, led by
Matthew Russell, musical director, and Michael Healy, stage director
Orchestras:
All-District Elementary School Orchestra,
directed by Jennifer Iordache

All-District Grade 6 Orchestra, directed by Rita Marcus
All-District Grade 7/8 Orchestra, directed by Bill Cook
Columbia High School Orchestra, directed by Todd Van Beveran

Bands:

All-District Grade 6 Band, directed by Ann Mendoker
All-District Grade 7/8 Concert and Jazz Bands,
directed by Don Tighe
CHS Concert and Jazz Bands, directed by Peter Bauer

Technical support for the Music Marathon supplied by Dan Savarese

Fundraising efforts supported by the Columbia High School Music
Parents Association (CHSMPA) – Tricia Tunstall and Debby Jacoby, co-
chairs

2. The Columbia High School musical, *Once On This Island*, under the stage direction of Michael Healy and the musical direction of Matthew Russell, will feature the vocal, acting, instrumental, art and technical talents of a number of Columbia High School students. The community is invited to attend on March 14th, 15th, 28th and 29th at 8:00 pm and on March 16th and 30th at 2:00 pm in the Columbia High School auditorium.
3. The South Orange Middle School musical, *Damn Yankees*, under the direction of Liz Harris, musical director, and Dan Savarese, stage director, will feature the acting and musical talents of many South Orange Middle School students. The musical will be produced on April 12th and 13th in the South Orange Middle School Auditorium.
4. The Columbia High School Girls' Basketball Team, under the direction of Coach Johanna Wright, will compete in the Group IV, Section II state finals, at Cranford High School, on Tuesday, March 4th at 8:00 pm. The Columbia Team will play the Watchung Hills High School Team for the title.
5. The Columbia High School Girls' Fencing Team, coached by Holly Buechel, will compete for the State Championship at Morris Hills High School on March, 6th at 7:00 pm. The Columbia Team will play Bernards High School for the state title.
6. The Columbia High School Boys' Fencing Team, coached by Daryl White, will compete against Ridge High School for third place in the state finals at Morris Hills High School on March 6th at 4:30 pm.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

The following people voiced their concerns about the Underhill Field renovation project: Ruth Lowenkron, Maplewood Resident; Dave Landry, Maplewood Resident; Graham Babbitt, South Orange resident

Their concerns are property values, extended hours of noise, parking issues, and security.

DISCUSSION

2008-09 Proposed Budget

Superintendent Osborne reported that written approval of the budget has not yet been received from New Jersey Department of Education. The Board will have to delay the discussion and vote of the final budget until its next meeting on March 17, 2008.

Underhill Field

A review of the Public Hearing regarding Underhill Field was discussed. Mr. Osborne thanked members of the neighborhood for their input.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

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

2363A. 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)
Barbara Burgess MMS	Battelle Developmental Inventory Review	5/1/08	New Providence, NJ	166
Katie Costello	Debbie Miller Conference Staff Development Resources	3/19/08	Newark, NJ	199
Marianne Hess	Debbie Miller Conference Staff Development Resources	3/19/08	Newark, NJ	199
Lovie Lilly CHS	CAPA Regional Workshop	3/7/08	Edison, NJ	12
*Line Marshall CHS	CAPA Regional Workshop	3/7/08	Edison, NJ	12
*Mani Arguelles CHS	CAPA Regional Workshop	3/7/08	Edison, NJ	12
Patricia Barker CO	CAPA Regional Workshop	3/7/08	Edison, NJ	12

*Hannah Edelman CHS	CAPA Regional Workshop	3/7/08	Edison, NJ	12
James Memoli CO	CAPA Regional Workshop	3/7/08	Edison, NJ	12
*Mark Richmond CHS	Good Ideas in Teaching Precalculus	3/17/08	Piscataway, NJ	165
*Michael Drechsel Clinton	Diffusing Power Struggles with Students and Parents	3/20/08	Randolph, NJ	165
*Nicole Bradley CHS	NJ Writing Alliance Conference	4/4/08	Lakewood, NJ	45
*Carly Orpurt CHS	Innovations in Teaching Writing	4/4/08	Lakewood, NJ	45
*Danielle Levine CHS	Innovations in Teaching Writing	4/4/08	Lakewood, NJ	45
Brian Osborne	AERA 2008 Annual Meeting	3/27/08	Rockville Center, NY	515
Kristopher Harrison MMS	AERA 2008 Annual Meeting	3/27/08	Rockville Center, NY	455
Lovie Lilly CHS	AERA 2008 Annual Meeting	3/27/08	Rockville Center, NY	455
*Katherine Simpson CHS/SOMS	Engaging Students with Words	3/14/08	Newark, NJ	180
*Christine Witter CHS	NJSHA & NJIDA	3/14/08	Hillsboro, NJ	180
*Pam Noonan CHS	Rutgers Pre-Calculus	3/17/08	New Brunswick, NJ	180
*Beth Dalzell CHS	Innovations in Teaching Writing	4/4/08	Lakewood, NJ	45
*Renee Gruenwald SOMS	Emotional Disability or Social Maladjustment	3/13/08	NY, NY	229

* Substitute Coverage Required

2363B. Award the contract for replacement of the elevator at South Orange Middle School to Slade Elevator of Mountainside, New Jersey, for the lowest responsible bid of \$170,600.

2364. BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Board of Education amends the 2007-08 school calendar to designate Monday, April 28, 2008, through Thursday, May 1, 2008, as four-hour days for middle school students (grades 6-8) only.

HEARING OF INDIVIDUALS AND DELEGATIONS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Crawford praised the Music Marathon at South Orange Middle School over the weekend.

Mr. Gleason proposed that the next meeting would include a five-minute update from each committee chair. He asked for feedback about the use of a consent agenda for Board of Education meetings, and asked members to read Chapter 10 of the Carver book, about the consent agenda format to be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Osborne praised the talent in the student body at the Music Marathon and at Tuscan School over the weekend, and expressed his appreciation for the amount of work that was needed to make the events successful.

Future Public Board Meetings – Read by Mr. Gleason

The Board of Education and Board of School Estimate will meet on Wednesday, March 5, 2008, at 7:00 pm in a Workshop Session in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ to discuss the proposed 2008-09 budget. No action will be taken.

The Board of Education will hold a Special Public Meeting on Monday, March 10, 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 on Monday, March 17, 2008, at 7:00 pm, in Closed Session 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 meet in Closed Executive Session on Tuesday, March 18, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. in the Superintendent's Office at 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation. No action will be taken.

The Board of School Estimate will meet on Wednesday, March 19, 2008, at 7:00 pm in the District Meeting Room, 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, NJ to hold a Public Hearing on the 2008-09 Budget and to levy the 2008-09 school tax. 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, March 28, 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 Dr. Payne-Parrish, that the Board of Education meet in Executive Session prior to the March 17, 2008 public meeting to discuss personnel, legal and Special Education matters and negotiations, the nature of which will be made public at a future date. Motion unanimously approved.

MOTION made by Ms. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board of Education adjourn. Motion unanimously approved at 8:42 p.m.

Karla Milanette, Board Secretary

