

**SOUTH MIDDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT
4 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, PA 17007**

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 15, 2008**

The South Middleton Board of Directors met on September 15, 2008, in the Board Room of the Iron Forge Educational Center for a Regular School Board Meeting. The President called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Secretary called the roll with all members present except as designated:

School Directors

Mr. Michael Berk

Mrs. Shelly Capozzi

Mr. Joseph Fay, Jr.

Mr. Mark Juliana - **Absent**

Mrs. Elizabeth Knouse

Ms. Pamela Martin

Mr. Paul Slifko, III

Mrs. Kimberly Vensel

Mr. Robert Winters

Administrative Staff

Dr. Patricia B. Sanker, Superintendent

Dr. Sandra J. Tippet, Assistant Superintendent

Janet Adams, Principal

Barbara Alitto, Director of Special Education

David Bitner, Assistant Principal – YBMS

David Boley, Principal – Rice

Shelly Lappi, Assistant Principal - Rice

Joseph Mancuso, Principal – BSHS

Sharonn Williams, Director of Instructional Technology

Dr. Fred Withum, Principal – YBMS

Student Representatives to the Board

Brendan D. VanGorder - **Absent**

Jayson Schaufert - **Absent**

Visitors

See attachment to the minutes.

Recording Secretary

Beth Scott

Solicitor

Philip H. Spare - **Absent**

INTRODUCTIONS AND RECOGNITION

Introduction of 2008-2009 New Administrators and Teachers

New administrators and teachers for the 2008-2009 school year were introduced and spoke to the Board of School Directors and the public about their educational background, experience and impressions of the District.

Recognition of Yellow Breeches Middle School

Mrs. Laura, teacher at Yellow Breeches Middle School, Ms. Foran, American Diabetes Association, and Mr. Thomas Merlie, community member, introduced students from Yellow Breeches Middle School who were instrumental in helping to raise funds for the American Diabetes Association. Yellow Breeches was the top school in Pennsylvania for raising funds, a total of \$19,030, and placed among the top ten in the nation.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Vensel, that the Board approves the minutes from the following meeting:

-September 2, 2008 – Regular Board Meeting

The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Slifko made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Knouse, to approve the following:

June

- 6.1 The Board approved the bills for June 2008 – Payment of bills is represented by checks #33297 to #33572 inclusive, in the amount of \$1,519,720.09.
- 6.2 The Board approved the Student Activity Funds – Pursuant to Section 511 of the Public School code, the reports of Student Activity Funds for June 2008, represented by checks #12858 to #12907 inclusive, in the amount of \$67,195.22, are enclosed with the financial report.
- 6.3 The Board approved requisitions payable from the Capital Reserve Fund (PSDLAF) for June 2008, represented by check #22110 in the amount of \$27,103.50.
- 6.4 The Board approved requisitions payable from the Construction Fund (PLGIT) for June 2008, represented by checks #11173 to #11175 inclusive, in the amount of \$27,924.34.

Board Meeting Minutes, 09-15-08, Page 3

July

- 6.5 The Board approved the bills for July 2008 – Payment of bills is represented by checks #33573 to #33870 inclusive, in the amount of \$1,067,643.32.
- 6.6 The Board approved the Student Activity Funds – Pursuant to Section 511 of the Public School Code, the reports of Student Activity Funds for July 2008, represented by checks #12908 to #12918 inclusive, in the amount of \$1,717.68, are enclosed with the financial report.
- 6.7 The Board approved requisitions payable from the Construction Fund (PLGIT) for July 2008, represented by check #11176, in the amount of \$44,995.90.

The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Mr. James Baker informed the Board and public that the annual Halloween Parade is scheduled for October 16, 2008, beginning at 7:00 p.m. He also stated South Middleton Township would want to assist the school district in the next American Diabetes Association Walk, especially making the walking trail available for school district use.

Mr. Thomas Merlie congratulated Yellow Breeches Middle School on the success of raising funds for the American Diabetes Association and Yellow Breeches was one of the first schools to participate in the program and was the impetus for the program to become nation-wide.

REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT, BUSINESS MANAGER AND ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Sanker thanked Mrs. Kim Vensel for her service to the school district as a School Director and extended her best wishes for future endeavors. She also recognized the Board Room Bulletin Board which was prepared by the 8th grade art class at Yellow Breeches Middle School. Dr. Sanker informed the Board and the public that the school district experienced telephone problems today due to a power outage over the weekend. The school district website has a public notice on the site announcing the problem, and parents of W.G. Rice Elementary School were notified by the emergency communication system, Connect-Ed, of the problem. Dr. Sanker and Mr. Winters attended the dedication program on Saturday of the new school, Hilltop Academy which is operated by the Capital Area Intermediate Unit.

Dr. Tippett stated that she has visited the new teachers' classrooms, and they are all off to a good start. The principals are already beginning formal observations of the staff. Dr. Tippett also announced that it is the mid-point for the Strategic Plan and a report will need to be submitted to the Department of Education.

Mr. Vensel stated that he will formally begin working for the school district in the position of Business Manager/Board Secretary beginning October 6, 2008; however, he has already met with Dr. Sanker to discuss an entry plan.

Board Meeting Minutes, 09-15-08, Page 4

Mr. Mancuso stated that Brad Schaufert participated in the "Boy Nation" program, sponsored by the American Legion. Brad was selected as a Boys Nation Senator from Pennsylvania and spent a week this summer in Washington D.C. and received instruction on the proper method of handling bills. Mr. Mancuso also stated the opening of school was successful and Homecoming will be September 25, 2008. Both student representatives to the Board are absent this evening due to athletic events.

Dr. Withum, Mrs. Adams, and Mr. Boley also commented that the school year was off to a good start.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Capozzi, that the Board approves the agenda of September 15, 2008 with all corrections as indicated. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Mrs. Knouse made a motion, seconded by Mr. Berk, to approve all of the following as a block motion:

The Board authorized the Principal of W. G. Rice Elementary School to complete the necessary scheduling and release arrangements to permit the Cumberland County Area Bible Club to conduct a released time religious instruction program off-campus for third grade students for one hour a week during the 2008-2009 school year.

The Board approved the following personnel items:

PROFESSIONAL STAFF

EMPLOYMENT

The Board employed the following personnel:

Name: Janet DeRosa
Address: 411 Glenn Avenue
Boiling Springs, PA 17007
Certification: English
Position: English Teacher – BSHS
(Short-Term Sub – Replacing Tracy Mersh – Childrearing Leave)
Salary: Masters, Step 1 - \$38,312 (pro-rated)

Board Meeting Minutes, 09-15-08, Page 5

Name: Tami White
Address: 21 Hemlock Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Salary: Bachelor's, Step 1 - \$37,912 (pro-rated)
Position: Learning Support Teacher – BSHS
(Short-Term Sub until position is filled – Open due to the transfer of Megan Capuano to Rice)
Certification: Emergency Certification – Special Education

Name: Elizabeth Alves
Address: 630 Hillcrest Drive
Carlisle, PA 17015
Certification: Elementary/Special Education/English
Position: Full-Time Learning Support Teacher – BSHS
(Replacing Megan Capuano)
Salary: Step 7, Masters - \$41,361
Starting Date: September 16, 2008

SUBSTITUTE TEACHER

The Board employed the following substitute teacher for the 2008-2009 school year:

Name: Shelly Hart
Address: 98 Oak Hill Road
York Springs, PA 17372
Certification: Elementary
Rate: \$90/day

GUEST TEACHER

The Board employed the following substitute teachers under the Guest Teacher Program for the 2008-2009 school year:

Name: Lisa Walker
Address: 111 Hope Drive
Boiling Springs, PA 17007
Interests: Elementary
Rate: \$90/day

Name: Mary Brunski
Address: 7 Hilltop Drive
Mt. Holly Springs, PA 17065
Interests: Elementary, Art, Spec. Ed., Library Science, Social Studies
Rate: \$90/day

LEAVE OF ABSENCE – CHILDREARING

The Board approved a request from Michelle McBride, Business/Computer teacher at Iron Forge Educational Center, for a childrearing leave of absence beginning approximately January 5, 2009

Board Meeting Minutes, 09-15-08, Page 6

through the end of the 2008-2009 school year, as per Article III, Section D, of the Articles of Agreement between the SMSD and the South Middleton Education Association.

RESIGNATION

The Board accepted the resignation of Deborah Schrock from the position of Business Education teacher at the Boiling Springs High School, effective sixty days from September 10, 2008.

CLASSIFIED

EMPLOYMENT - SUBSTITUTE AIDE

The Board employed the following substitute classroom aide for the 2008-2009 school year:

Name: Penny Feeser
Address: 120 Stonehedge Drive
Carlisle, PA 17015
Rate: \$9.17/hr.

RESIGNATION

The Board accepted the resignation of Cathy Myers from the position of Special Education Aide at the Yellow Breeches Middle School, effective September 25, 2008.

The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL OR ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Facilities Committee

Mr. Slifko reported at the last Facilities meeting, UGI was given permission to proceed with the Right-of-Way at W.G. Rice Elementary School, subject to final review by the school district solicitor. The committee also discussed the trees on school property that need to be trimmed, and reviewed the information on bids that will be received regarding the lighting at Ecker field.

Education Committee – No Report

Capital Area Intermediate Unit

Mr. Winters stated that a copy of the minutes was included in board packet. Please let him know if you have any questions. He also stated that he attended the building dedication of Hilltop Academy. The architects, Crabtree and Rohrbaugh did a good job with the facility.

Board Meeting Minutes, 09-15-08, Page 7

Capital Area Tax Bureau

Mr. Winters reported that the Executive Committee met and reviewed four options for the Capital Area Tax Bureau to be able to compete and be successful under Act 32. The committee choose option four, to stay with CAPTAX and invest in technology. Mr. Winters also reviewed a report which outlined the total cost of collecting the EIT tax for South Middle School District from 1983 to 2008. During that time the gross IET distributions totaled \$30,753,722, resulting in a net total cost of collection for CAPTAX of \$197,078.

Cumberland Perry Vocational Technical School – No Report

Legislative Report

Mr. Berk reported that the Department of Education recently announced that it will revert to the originally posted PSSA testing schedule for the 2008-2009 school year, and will not be using the revised scheduled that was announced in August.

It is expected that the State Board of Education will meet the week of September 15, 2008, and it is also the week the General Assembly will return to Harrisburg. PDE has employed a vendor to study and to assess the authentic assessments submitted by school districts across Pennsylvania to determine the rigor of graduation requirements.

Recreation and Parks Report

Mr. Fay stated the September 18, 2008, meeting was cancelled and the next meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2008.

South Middleton Township – No Report

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION – None

RECOMMENDATIONS OR QUESTIONS FROM SCHOOL DIRECTORS AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES TO THE BOARD

Mrs. Vensel commented that she has enjoyed working with the Board over the past months and she enjoyed meeting the new staff at the reception prior to the board meeting. She also congratulated Yellow Breeches and their work with the American Diabetes Association.

Mr. Berk wished Mrs. Vensel well and thanked her for her service. He also enjoyed meeting the new staff at the reception prior to tonight's meeting. He attended the Open House for Iron Forge Educational Center and commented that the Board needs to start looking at renovating the facility.

Mr. Fay commented that he thought Mr. Kenyon, new band director, was doing a good job with the band, and he congratulated Yellow Breeches and Mr. Merlie for their work with the American Diabetes Association.

Board Meeting Minutes, 09-15-08, Page 8

Mr. Slifko wished Mrs. Vensel well and thanked her for her service to the Board. He also congratulated Yellow Breeches and their work with the American Diabetes Association.

Mrs. Knouse commented that she enjoyed meeting the new staff at the reception.

Mr. Winters commented that he also enjoyed the reception and was glad to see a male teacher in Kindergarten. He wished Mrs. Vensel well. He also agreed that Iron Forge Educational Center should be considered for renovations.

Mrs. Capozzi extended her best wishes to Mrs. Vensel and enjoyed meeting the new staff.

EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

The Board went into an Executive Session for a Legal Matter and Personnel items at 8:27 p.m. The Board resumed Regular Session at 8:58 p.m.

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Vensel to adjourn the meeting and it was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Scott
Recording Secretary