

SOUTHERN TIOGA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Boyanowski Administration Building
241 MAIN STREET, BLOSSBURG, PA 16912

MINUTES: BOARD OF EDUCATION—April 12, 2010

The meeting of the Board of Education of the Southern Tioga School District was called to order by Board President Barbara Shull, with the following members also present: Ivan Erway, Roxanne Landis, Stuart Crossen, Frank Kollar, Terry Osborne, Susan Jaquish, Gloria Schwab and Dan Berguson.

Also present were Mr. Kalata, Mrs. Crowell, Mrs. Perry, Mr. Jaquish, Dr. Drabick, Mr. Rotella, Mr. David, Dr. Kelly, Dr. Lindner and interested teachers and citizens.

The **Minutes** of the meeting held on March 8, 2010, were read by the Board. On motion of Mrs. Landis and second of Mrs. Schwab the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the minutes as presented.

The **Treasure's Report** was presented by Mrs. Perry, which included statements regarding the General Fund, Student Activities Fund, Scholarship Funds, Construction Fund, Capital Reserve Fund and Bank Note Series. She also requested permission to establish a Capital Project Fund account at First Citizen's National Bank to properly account for capital project funds. Ms. Shull responded that an action item will be added to this meeting to address Mrs. Perry's request. On motion of Mr. Crossen and second of Mr. Osborne the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the Treasure's Report as presented. **(EXHIBIT)**

The Board studied the **Bill List for the General Fund**. On motion of Mr. Berguson and second of Mr. Kollar the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the bill list as presented. **(EXHIBIT)**

The Board studied the **Bill List for the Capital Projects Fund**. Mrs. Perry reported that the PA Department of Education has requested that Capital Project Funds not be included in the General Fund. A request was also made to pay the remaining amount owed to Lobar to close out the W. L. Miller Elementary School Building Project which will allow the District to proceed with PlanCon J. Ms. Shull responded that an action item will be added. On motion of Mr. Kollar and second of Mr. Erway the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the bill list as presented. **(EXHIBIT)**

Mrs. Perry presented the **Food Service Report**. On motion of Mr. Crossen and second of Mrs. Schwab the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the **Food Service Report** as presented. **(EXHIBIT)**

The following correspondence items were read by the Board:

- A letter from Barbara Gaugler, Head Cook at Warren L. Miller Elementary School, informing the Board of her retirement effective at the end of the 2009/2010 school year.
- A letter from Rachael Schonher, Learning Support Paraprofessional at Mansfield High School, informing the Board of her resignation effective March 21, 2010.
- A letter from Ralph Hopkins, Jr., Custodian at North Penn High School, informing the Board of his resignation effective May 7, 2010.

- A letter from Mr. Francis Jaquish, Principal, Liberty High School, informing the Board of the resignation of Kevin Pletz, Jr. High Boys Basketball Coach, Liberty High School

On motion of Mr. Berguson and second of Mrs. Landis the Board voted 9 to 0 to accept the correspondence as presented.

On motion of Mr. Osborne and second of Mr. Kollar the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the **Building Use Permits** as presented. **(EXHIBIT)**

On motion of Mrs. Schwab and second of Mr. Crossen the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the **Field Trip and Conference Requests** as presented. **(EXHIBIT)**

Administrative Report

The **PlanCon K approval letter** from the PA Department of Education was read into the minutes by Mrs. Perry.

Citizen Recognition

A Covington Township resident presented information to the Board regarding the LERTA. He requested the Board to consider the impact on citizens of cost overruns, building projects, and pension funds before making a decision. Since the law allows each taxing authority to have its own LERTA, he recommended the Board consider 25% for four years.

Ann and Chad Chaborek, owners of Modern Color, referred to their request for the LERTA program. They hoped the Board would consider and act favorably upon their request.

Action Items

The Administration recommended approval of the following:

- Employing **Theodore Miller** as District Maintenance, start date to be determined. Mr. Miller will be employed at an hourly rate of \$21.75 plus benefits as defined by the CWA/STSD Agreement.
- Transferring **Sally Flack**, Librarian at Mansfield High School, to Social Studies Teacher at Mansfield High School, effective with the 2010/2011 school year.
- Entering into a supplemental contract with **William Swingle** to serve as Summer School Coordinating Teacher for the Summer 2010 Program in the amount of \$3,640.
- Adding the following persons to the 2009/2010 Substitute Employees List:
 - **Amanda Splain**, Elementary Teacher, retroactively to March 16, 2010.
 - **Carol Staudt**, Cafeteria Employee, retroactively to March 23, 2010.
- A request from **Barbara Stager**, Math Teacher, North Penn High School, for a professional development leave during the 2010/2011 school year, in accordance with Board Policy and the PA Public School Code.

- Requests for unpaid leaves of absence for medical reasons from the following cafeteria employees:
 - **Elaine Moyer**, Mansfield High School, retroactively to March 16, 2010 for up to 6 weeks.
 - **Tammy Faulkner**, Warren L. Miller Elementary School, retroactively to February 27, 2010, for up to 14 weeks.

On motion of Mr. Crossen and second of Mrs. Schwab the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the recommendations.

The Administration recommended approval of the following:

- **Winter game attendants** for Mansfield High School.
- Entering into a supplemental contract with **Chris Cummings** to serve as Assistant Girls Track Coach, North Penn High School, in the amount of \$2,241.
- Entering into a supplemental contract with **Mitch Stetter** to serve as Jr. High Boys Basketball Coach, Liberty High School, in the amount of \$1,611.
- Entering into a supplemental contract with **Brett Upham** to serve as Assistant Jr. High Boys Basketball Coach, Liberty High School, in the amount of \$1,183.
- **Andrea Doebler-Gregory** as a volunteer for the tennis program at Liberty High School.

On motion of Mrs. Landis and second of Mrs. Jaquish the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the recommendations.

The Administration recommended approval of the following:

- Entering into a contract with **Howard Wattles Co. Electrical** contractors to install lighting at the entrance of Smythe Park in the amount of \$1,600.
- A **Section 356 Agreement** to request taxpayer information from the Department of Revenue for use in enforcing the local tax on earned income.

On motion of Mr. Osborne and second of Mr. Kollar the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the recommendation.

The Administration recommended approval of the following:

- Changing the date of the 2009/2010 sixth grade graduation from May 26th to June 2nd.
- Providing homebound instruction to a Blossburg Elementary School student retroactively to March 25, 2010, for five hours per week for six weeks.
- Providing homebound instruction to a Mansfield High School student retroactively to March 25, 2010, for five hours per week for six weeks.
- Providing homebound instruction to a Mansfield High School student retroactively to March 10, 2010, for five hours per week for six weeks.

On motion of Mr. Berguson and Mr. Erway the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the recommendation.

A resolution adopting the **District Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Program** to provide for tax exemptions for certain properties in deteriorated areas of the district was presented for Board approval.

The Board deliberated over the resolution and reviewed the information presented to the Board. Mr. Kollar commented that he does not have a problem with local businesses, but he does have a problem with the large businesses participating. Ms. Shull reviewed the five year schedule in the LERTA resolution. Mr. Kollar asked if there is any bar that makes it impossible to handle educational funds in this manner. Mr. Osborne stated the same reservations regarding big businesses, but if the small businesses are successful they will pay taxed on their earned income. Mrs. Shull commented, if we have money needed to cover costs, I would not want to charge our individual tax payers those costs. It was clarified that no matter how the Board voted at this meeting, it would not tie the Board's hands to revisit the matter. Mrs. Jaquish inquired about voting on each individual request. Mr. Kalata responded that you would have to have a reason to grant one request but not another. Mr. Robert Blair from TCDC confirmed that no other municipalities were voting on individual requests, nor did he recommend it.

Mr. Crossen proposed tabling the matter. Since a motion had already been made, the Board voted on the matter. On motion of Mr. Osborne and second of Mr. Crossen the Board voted 1 to 8, with Mr. Osborne voting yes and all other members dissenting.

Ms. Shull asked if any board members were interested in a revised time schedule regarding LERTA. Mr. Crossen was the only member interested.

The Administration recommended approval of a request from **Bus Contractor Joseph Guillaume** for an update to vehicle/van #076 from a 1997, 10 passenger van, to a 2009, 8 passenger van, effective March 31, 2010, due to damage sustained in an accident. On motion of Mrs. Schwab and second of Mr. Berguson the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the recommendation.

The Administration recommended establishing a Capital Reserve account at First Citizens National Bank. On motion of Mr. Kollar and second of Mrs. Jaquish the Board voted 8 to 1, with Mr. Osborne abstaining.

The Administration recommended authorizing payment to Lobar, Inc., in the amount of \$10,482.18 from the Capital Projects Account to close out the Warren L. Miller Elementary School Building project. On motion of Mr. Osborne and second of Mrs. Landis the Board voted 9 to 0 to approve the recommendation.

Board President Barbara Shull made the following announcements:

Board Work Sessions(s)

- Monday, May 3, 2010, at 6:30 PM, North Penn High School Library
- Monday, June 7, 2010, at 6:30 PM, North Penn High School Library

Next Board Meeting(s)

- Monday, May 10, 2010, 6:30 PM, Liberty High School Auditorium
- Monday, June 14, 2010, 6:30 PM, Liberty High School Auditorium

Executive Sessions(s)

- Monday, February 8, 2010, at 5:30 PM, North Penn High School Library, RE: Confidential
- Monday, April 26, 2010, at 4:30 PM, Boyanowski Admin. Bldg. Conference Room, RE: Labor

On motion of Mr. Kollar and second of Mrs. Schwab the Board voted 9 to 0 to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted

Penny L. Crowell, Board Secretary