

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

**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 12, 2009**

The South Middleton Board of Directors met on January 12, 2009, 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. Derek Clepper

Mr. Joseph Fay, Jr.

Mrs. Elizabeth Knouse

Mr. Mark Juliana - **Absent**

Ms. Pam Martin

Mr. Paul Slifko

Mr. Robert Winters

Administrative Staff

Dr. Patricia B. Sanker, Superintendent

Dr. Sandra J. Tippet, Assistant Superintendent

Janet Adams, Principal – IFEC

David Bitner, Assistant Principal – YBMS

Mark Correll, Assistant Principal - BSHS

Barbara Alitto, Director of Special Education

Joseph Mancuso, Principal – BSHS

Sharonn Williams, Director of Instructional Technology

Dr. Fred Withum, Principal – YBMS

Student Representatives to the Board

Brendan D. VanGorder

Jayson Schaufert

Visitors

See attachment to the minutes.

Board Secretary

Richard R. Vensel

Solicitor

Philip H. Spare

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INTRODUCTIONS AND RECOGNITION

Dr. Sanker introduced and recognized Nicholas L. Mazarella, 11th Grade art student and the recipient of the 2008 District Holiday Card Design Award.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Mr. Winters made a motion, seconded by Mr. Fay, that the Board approves the minutes from the following meetings:

- December 2, 2008 – Regular Board Meeting
- December 2, 2008 – Organization Meeting

The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Mr. Winters made a motion, seconded by Mr. Berk, to approve the following:

November 2008

The Board approved the bills for November 2008 – Payment of bills represented by checks #34703 to #34988 inclusive, in the amount of \$1,293,268.67.

The Board approved the Student Activity Funds for November 2008 – Pursuant to Section 511 of Public School Code, represented by checks #12989 to #13015 inclusive, in the amount of \$26,635.88, are enclosed with the financial report.

The Board approved requisitions payable from the Capital Reserve Fund (PSDLAF) for November 2008 represented by check #22113 in the amount of \$5,408.00.

The Board approved requisitions payable from the Construction Fund (PLGIT) for November 2008 represented by checks #11183 to #11185 inclusive, in the amount of \$14,922.86.

The motion passed unanimously.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION - None

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

Dr. Sanker acknowledged the Bulletin Board prepared by the Yellow Breeches Middle School. She also spoke about the winter sports programs and congratulated the teams on their success. On Thursday, January 15, 2009, Yellow Breeches Middle School will be visited by a team of evaluators for the Schools to Watch program.

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Dr. Tippet spoke about the upcoming in-service day for teachers, the cook book that was recently produced by the Graphics Department of Boiling Springs High School, and that ESL testing begins today.

Mr. Vensel gave an update on the progress of the stadium project.

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS

A letter was received (dated December 12, 2008) from Barbara Nelson, Pennsylvania Department of Education, acknowledging receipt of notification by South Middleton School District that the rate of increase for all proposed tax rates is less than or equal to the school district's index.

TOPIC DISCUSSION – Establishing 2009 Board Goals - Tabled until next meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Capozzi, that the Board approves the agenda of January 12, 2009, with all corrections as indicated. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Capozzi, that the Board approves the 2009 Board Committee Assignments and Appointments as submitted by the Board President, Pamela Martin, as per South Middleton School District Policy No. 005, Section 5. **The motion passed unanimously.**

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

The Board acknowledged that Board President Pam Martin attended the PSBA workshop on Saturday, January 10, 2009 titled "Board President Training Camp" at no cost as a result of the earlier purchase of the Board Development Value Pass.

The Board approved School Director Michael Berk to attend the Pennsylvania Educational Technology and Expo Conference in Hershey, PA on February 10, 2009, at a cost of \$89.00.

The Board designated the Carlisle Sentinel and the Harrisburg Patriot News as the newspapers of general circulation for the District for 2009.

The Board approved charging the following fees associated with access to public records through the Right to Know Records Policy. (Additional information provided in Appendix 1A – Schedule of Fees.

Paper copy standard size – **25¢ per page.**

Electronic copying – **25¢ per page** (pages to be attached to e-mail).

Certified copy – **\$5 per certified copy.**

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Mailing – actual mail cost.

The district may waive fees in circumstances it deems appropriate.

[Fees representing actual reasonable costs may be charged for staff time in cases where substantial time is required to comply with the request or for other costs not listed, subject to legal counsel opinion that the charges are permissible under applicable law.]

The Board approved the listing of Seniors, as presented by the High School Principal, as candidates for graduation in June 2009 upon meeting the graduation requirements as established and adopted by the South Middleton School District Board of School Directors in compliance with the Commonwealth's guidelines.

The Board approved the letter of agreement form between Pennsylvania Counseling Services and South Middleton School District. This letter of agreement is a standard requirement for both chemical dependency and mental health treatment facilities. (see attachment)

The Board approved the following personnel items:

PERSONNEL

PROFESSIONAL

LEAVE OF ABSENCES

The Board approved a request from Amanda Kemp, 6th grade teacher at Yellow Breeches Middle School, for a childrearing leave of absence beginning approximately March 12, 2009, until 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.

The Board acknowledged receipt of notification from Tracy Mersch, English teacher at Boiling Springs High School, that she will return from her childrearing leave of absence on January 19, 2009.

EMPLOYMENT

The Board employed the following professional staff:

Name:	Rhonda Pine
Address:	179 Lakeview Drive Carlisle, PA
Certification:	Elementary
Position:	Long-Term Substitute – 5 th Grade Teacher – IFEC (Replacing Amy Santana – maternity leave)
Salary:	Bachelor's Degree, Step 1 - \$37,912 (pro-rated)

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SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

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

Name: Kenneth Stoltz
Certification: Spanish

Name: Heather White
Certification: Elementary

GUEST TEACHERS

The Board employed the following substitute teachers for the 2008-2009 school year through the Capital Area I.U. Guest Teacher Program:

Name: Susan Gehman
Interests: English, Health/PE, Math, Music, Spec. Ed., Elementary

Name: Sean Hurley
Interests: All Subjects, Grades 6-12

Name: Shira Horowitz
Interests: Art, Science, English, Health/PE, Library Science, Music
Social Studies

MENTOR TEACHER

The Board approved the following mentor teacher for the 2008-2009 school year at a salary of \$488.

<u>Mentor Teacher</u>	<u>Inductee</u>	<u>Year of Program</u>
Norton, Alberta	Patton, Katie	1

EXTRA DUTY - ATHLETICS

The Board approved the following athletic extra duty positions for the 2008-2009 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Step</u>	<u>Exp.</u>	<u>Uts.</u>	<u>Sal.</u>	<u>Long.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Spisak, Steve	Assist. Jr. High Wrestling	19	20	15	\$1,980	\$400	\$2,380
Kemp, Matt	Volunteer Assist. Wrestling	0	0	0	0	0	0

The motion passed unanimously.

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CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Mr. Jim Baker reported that the South Middleton Township Board of Supervisors decided not to change the rate of pay for the tax collector.

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

Brendan Van Gorder, Student Representative to the Board, reported on the success of the recent food drive campaign, and the recent increase in network bandwidth was greatly appreciated.

Jayson Schaufert, Student Representative to the Board, reported on the recent success of the boys' and girls' swimming teams. The boys' swimming team remains undefeated.

Mr. Clepper extended best wishes to Dr. Withum and the Yellow Breeches staff on Thursday during the Schools to Watch evaluation.

Mr. Berk commented on the Yellow Breeches Middle School reports, and thanked Ms. Williams for her work with the Internet.

Mr. Fay also commented on the report provided by Dr. Withum for the upcoming evaluation by the Schools to Watch team, and also complimented Mrs. Predmore on the Early Childhood newsletters. He also commented on the Board for their forward thinking in setting goals.

Mr. Slifko also extended his best wishes for the evaluation of YBMS on Thursday, and commented on the Graphics Arts Department and the recent publishing of a BSHS cookbook.

Mrs. Knouse commented how nice it was to have on two familiar teachers returning to substitute for the District.

Mr. Winters congratulated Dr. Withum and the entire staff on their dedication and hard work at YBMS, and also thanked Mr. Merlie and Dr. Withum for their work with the American Diabetes Association walk.

Mrs. Capozzi also congratulated Dr. Withum and the staff at YBMS.

EXECUTIVE SESSION AND ADJOURNMENT

The Board went into an Executive Session for a Legal Matter and Personnel items at 8:10 p.m. The Board resumed Regular Session at 9:37 p.m.

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Knouse, that the Board accepts the resignation of Marc Thorne, Social Studies teacher at Boiling Springs High School, effective January 12, 2009, and approves the Agreement and Release. **The motion passed unanimously.**

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Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Winters, that the Board hereby authorizes the Administration to work with Public Financial Management, Inc. as Financial Advisor, and Stock & Leader as Bond Counsel and Solicitor to proceed with the bond issue in the amount not to exceed \$10,000,000, to refinance its 2001 General Obligation Bonds and a portion of its 2003 General Obligation Bonds at a minimum net present value debt service savings of 2% of the refunded bonds (approximately \$200,000) and with the savings spread over the life of the issue. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Clepper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Berk to adjourn the meeting and it was unanimously approved. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard R. Vensel
Board Secretary