

## CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Voting Meeting

November 16, 2015

Carlynton Jr.-Sr. High School Library – 7:30 pm

### MINUTES

The Carlynton School District Board of Education held its regular voting meeting November 16, 2015 in the library of the junior-senior high school. Those in attendance included President Jim Schriver and School Directors Joe Appel, Antriece Hart, Marissa Mendoza, David Roussos, Nyra Schell, Betsy Tassaró and Sharon Wilson. Also present was Superintendent Gary Peiffer, Solicitor Anthony Giglio, Business Manager Kirby Christy, Administrators Brian Durica, Hillary Mangis, Ed Mantich and Dennis McDade and Principals Marsha Burleson, Carla Hudson and Michael Loughren. The audience was comprised of 15 individuals and one member of the press.

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**CALL TO ORDER** – *The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by President Schriver; members of the Carlynton Girls' and Boys' Ensembles led the Pledge of Allegiance. The roll was called by recording secretary Michale Herrmann; Director Walkowiak was absent.*

*The Ensemble members, led by choral director Rebecca Chenette, performed a musical number from their repertoire.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD:** *Dr. Joseph Dimperio commended board members David Roussos, Betsy Tassaró, Ray Walkowiak and Sharon Wilson, adding that they have enriched his life and made his job easier when he served as acting superintendent in the past.*

Director Roussos moved, seconded by Director Appel, to make Dr. Joseph Dimperio an honorary Cougar. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

**RECOGNITION and RECEPTION:** *The four members of the Board, David Roussos, Betsy Tassaró, Ray Walkowiak and Sharon Wilson, who will leave their posts at the end of the month, were recognized and applauded. Members of the board who will remain in service made kind remarks about the departing school board members. High school teacher Michael Kozy praised the board on behalf of the educational staff, expressing that the board set an unmatched culture by working together for the betterment of the district. Dr. Peiffer said the board collectively was responsible and instrumental in numerous gains and successes by setting sound goals and objectives.*

*President Schriver acknowledged audience member Linda Sheariss who informed the board that 85 members of the National Honor and National Junior Honor Societies made 45 blankets for the Wrapped in Love organization. Over a four-year period, students have made and donated over 250 blankets to ailing patients.*

*President Schriver recessed the meeting at 7:53 pm for a reception to honor school directors David Roussos, Betsy Tassaró, Ray Walkowiak and Sharon Wilson.*

*The meeting was reconvened at 8:17 pm.*

**DISTRICT WEBSITE PRESENTATION** – *With the help of a smart board, Michale Herrmann displayed the new website and its features, announcing an expected launch date in early December.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Director Tassaró moved, seconded by Director Mendoza, to approve the minutes of the November 2, 2015 Agenda Setting/Committee/Voting Meeting as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 5-0-3, with Directors Hart, Schell and Wilson abstaining due to absence.**

Minutes of November 2, 2015 Meeting

**REPORTS:**

- Executive Session – *President Schriver said personnel items were discussed in the closed session.*
- Administrative Reports
  - Superintendent's Report – *Dr. Peiffer reported that the state has reached a tentative budget deal with a target approval around Thanksgiving. The district has enough funds in its budget to sustain itself through March. The state budget proposes the elimination of property taxes with intent to raise the sales tax from 6 percent to 7.25 percent, hoping this will raise \$2 billion with an estimated \$350 million for public education. The state is also proposing to eliminate the Act 1 index which will compromise a school district's ability to raise revenue.*
  - Principals – *Elementary principals Marsha Burleson and Carla Hudson distributed newsletters and highlighted events and activities taking place in their schools. Mrs. Hudson noted that the 21<sup>st</sup> Century program has begun with 83 students; 25 are bussed from Crafton Elementary and one is attending from St. Phillip School, with the remainder from Carnegie Elementary. She said 38 students are attending the BJWL after-school program. High school principal Michael Loughren said the school plans to distribute Thanksgiving baskets, is planning a Breakfast with Santa, and is kicking-off the winter sports season.*
  - Special Education and Pupil Services – *Dr. Mangis reported that school psychologists offered a bullying information night for parents and the guidance office offered a well-attended financial aid night. The Pupil Services staff is preparing for Child Count, which drives funding, and the department will be issuing an online survey in the weeks ahead.*
  - Maintenance and Grounds – *Mr. McDade said the fields and buildings have been winterized. Four pine trees at Crafton Elementary will be removed. The boulders at the Crafton Athletic Field are not preventing truck drivers from making ruts along the curb so he will be bringing in larger and heavier boulders. Giant Eagle is covering the cost. In closing, Mr. McDade said he is working on the 2016-2017 school year budget and prioritizing by need.*
  - Technology – *Mr. Durica said the contract for a new SIS system should be on the next agenda. He is working to find a new eRate consultant and the Wifi is being expanded into the wings of the high school building. Mr. Durica is also planning for the next school year budget by gathering pricing on items.*

- Food Services – Mr. Graff said he and Dr. Peiffer are in the process of developing a survey for parents and Aramark is generating a survey for students. A new computer system will help with accounting and inventory and the Community Eligibility program at Carnegie has increased meal participation. Likewise, the food service program is now feeding about 80 students in the after-school program.

➤ Committee Reports

- Pathfinder Report – Director Mendoza said the school is utilizing rental space with community connections and repairs will be made to the school's elevator.

## I. Miscellaneous

Director Hart moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the additions to the 2015-2016 Conference and Field Trips Requests as submitted. (Miscellaneous Item #1115-01 REVISED) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Conference and Field Trip Requests

## II. Finance

Director Schell moved, seconded by Director Tassaro, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of October 2015 as presented;

Treasurer's Report – October 2015

The October 2015 bills in the amount of \$2,112,407.54 as presented;

October 2015 Bills

*And* the October 2015 Food Services Report as presented by Aramark Educational Services. (Finance Item #1115-01) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

October 2015 Food Services Report

## III. Personnel

Director Schell moved, seconded by Director Hart, to approve the additions to the 2015-2016 Day-to-Day Substitute List as presented; (Personnel Item #1115-01)

Additions to the 2015-2016 D-D Sub List

The additions to the 2015-2016 Athletic Supplemental List as presented:

- Boys Basketball Coach, grade 7 – Michael Donovan
- Girls Basketball Coach, grade 9 – Frank Zebrasky (Personnel Item #1115-02)

2015-2016 Athletic Supplemental Additions

*And* the Leave of Absence request for employee CFT1516-09; (Personnel Item #1115-03) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Leave of Absence Request – CFT1516-09

## IV. Student Services

Director Hart moved, seconded by Director Mendoza, to approve the Carlynton Marching Band spring trip to Chicago, IL, May 20-22, 2016 as submitted; (Student Services Item #1115-01)

Carlynton March Band Spring Trip – May 2016

*And* the addition to the list of bus drivers for the 2015-2016 as submitted by Student Transportation of America. (Student Services Item #1115-02) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Addition to STA Bus Driver List

## V. Policy

Director Tassaro moved, seconded by Director Hart, to approve the first reading of Policy No. 824, Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries, as presented. (Policy Item #1115-01 First Reading)

Director Roussos moved, seconded by Director Hart, to amend the motion to reflect Director Schell's comments regarding necessary corrections. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

*The original motion, with amendment, was then voted upon. By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.*

**OLD BUSINESS:** *Director Schell said the board discussed the role of technology in education at the workshop on November 7. They also discussed the changes in education as well as the need to move forward.*

*Dr. Peiffer said the meeting effectively directed a strategic plan for the district.*

**NEW BUSINESS:** *Two motions were made:*

Director Appel moved, seconded by Director Roussos, to approve a four percent salary increase for Business Manager Kirby Christy for the 2015-2016 school year retroactive to July 1, 2015. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Director Roussos moved, seconded by Director Mendoza, to approve a four percent salary increase for Superintendent Gary Peiffer for the 2015-2016 school year retroactive to July 1, 2015. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

*Board members held discussion regarding the budget process and whether they will stay at the index or seek exception to referendum. Director Roussos said he believes the board should seek exception. Action must be taken in January to reserve the right to seek exemption to referendum.*

*Mr. Christy said the district's index was set at 3.1 percent which would generate about \$383,000 per month. Mr. Christy said PSERs will consume much of that amount due to the pension issue, a challenge for all school districts in the state.*

**OPEN FORUM:** *Director Wilson said she is both humbled and privileged to have served on the school board. She implored the incumbents to make decisions which are best for the students.*

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further business to discuss, Director Mendoza moved, seconded by Director Hart, to adjourn the meeting at 9:34 pm. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Kirby Christy, Board Secretary

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Michale Herrmann, Recording Secretary

Policy No. 824 – First Reading

Salary Increase – Business Manager Kirby Christy

Salary Increase – Superintendent Gary Peiffer