

CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Voting Meeting March 18, 2010 Carlynton Jr.-Sr. High School Library – 7:30 pm

MINUTES

The Carlynton School District Board of Education conducted its Regular Voting Meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2010 in the cafeteria of the junior-senior high school. Those in attendance included President Thomas Brown, Vice President Patricia Schirripa and School Directors Thomas DiPietro, Sandra Hughan, Ronald McCartney, Nyra Schell, Betsy Tassaró, Raymond Walkowiak and Sharon Wilson. Also present was Superintendent Michael Panza, Solicitor Ira Weiss, Business Manager Kirby Christy, Director of Pupil Services Lee Myford and Principals Jacie Maslyk, Robert Susini, Courtney Tempest and Christopher Very. The audience was comprised of four individuals and three members of the press.

CALL TO ORDER - *The meeting was called to order by President Brown at 7:30 pm. A moment of silence was held for Linda Marches, wife of former board member and past president Gary Marches. Crafton Elementary student Sara LaScola led the Pledge of Allegiance. She was selected to do so because of improved grades during the first nine weeks of school, which earned her a \$100 savings bond from the Crafton-Ingram Rotary.*

ROLL CALL – *The roll was called by Recording Secretary Michale Herrmann. All board members were present for the meeting.*

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD: *None*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Director Wilson moved, seconded by Director Hughan, to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2010 Agenda Setting/Committee/Voting Meeting as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 7-0-2 with Directors DiPietro and Tassaró abstaining.**

REPORTS:

- **Executive Session** – *President Brown announced that employment, labor and personnel issues were among the items discussed in executive session.*
 - **Principals' Reports** – *Mrs. Maslyk and Mr. Very thanked Mrs. Utchell for facilitating kindergarten registration and making the process run smoothly. The principals also provided dates of upcoming events. Dr. Susini called attention to the success of junior Montana Trombetta, a wrestler who finished seventh in the state. Dr. Susini distributed a list of course electives for the 2010-11 school year for board members to peruse.*
 - **Director of Pupil Services' Report** – *Mrs. Myford announced that a rescheduled (due to snow) parent workshop will be held March 25, addressing the harmful youth culture*
 - **Business Manager Report** – *Mr. Christy called attention to the PSER's website with projected rates, noting that long-term*

Minutes of the March 4, 2010
Meeting

refinancing is likely. He also provided a detailed copy of the 2010-2011 district budget to all board members.

- Superintendent's Report – Dr. Panza reviewed the calendar of upcoming events, calling attention to the following items:
 - The band uniform and transportation bids have been advertised
 - As Superintendent of Record at Parkway West CTC, he will travel to Lehigh Career and Technology Center with Parkway Director Jack Highfield, for a tour
 - A letter from the Secretary of Education was read, commending the district on its spotless audit
 - He attended an Act 77 meeting to learn more about an energy performance program for “high performance buildings”
 - The Feasibility Study information has been posted on the District website. Times have been set for Kimball to meet and speak with teachers and two public meetings have been scheduled: March 31 and April 14
- Secretary's Correspondence – The minutes of the February 2, 2010 Parkway West CTC Joint Committee were entered into record. (SC Item #0310-1)
- Pathfinder Report – Director Wilson passed around four pamphlets for everyone to view regarding different types of training offered through Pathfinder
- Parkway West CTC Report – Director Hughan congratulated Jerica Close for being selected a Student of the Month at Parkway; also, the Parkway National Honor Society induction will be held April 20 at South Fayette High School
- SHASDA – Director Schirripa made reference to the upcoming SHASDA Conference in April. Two Carlynton students, Yolanda Adams and Jessica Yeager, will be honored
- PSBA-Legislative – Director Walkowiak reported on several House Bills, among them: HB 101 – The Department of Education must provide for development of economic education and personal financial literacy programs; HB 592 – deals with legislative budget and finance issues and addresses the offering of online courses and other learning resources; HB705 – establishing parent involvement programs and policies in school districts and the school health services task force; HB 1324 – a bill to toughen penalties for public officials who violate the Sunshine Act; and HB 2026 – a bill to appropriate funding for more dating violence curriculum in schools. Director Walkowiak also mentioned an article in the PSBA magazine that calls attention to the \$1 trillion shortfall for retirement benefits.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD:

I. Miscellaneous

Director McCartney moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the modifications to the 2009-2010 school year calendar in regards to snow make-up days as follows:

- January 8 snow day to be recovered April 1
- February 8 snow day to be recovered April 5

Modifications to the 2009-10
School Year Calendar – Snow
Make-Up Days

- February 9 snow day to be recovered June 4
- February 10 snow day to be recovered June 7
- February 11 snow day to be recovered June 8
- February 12 snow day to be recovered June 9
- February 26 snow day to be recovered June 10
- Faculty clerical day to be recovered June 11
- And issue a request to the State to waive days for the members of the Class of 2010;

Dr. Panza explained that the June 4 graduation date was not changed because announcements and invitations have already been printed and plans to celebrate were already in place by many. He stressed that academics will continue through the end of the extended school year. Director Schell questioned the status of the waiver for seniors. Dr. Panza said he has not heard anything but local papers have published that those schools using their facilities as community warming centers during the snow storms will receive waivers.

Draft 3 of the 2010-2011 school year calendar as presented.

Director Walkowiak asked if the proposed snow date on May 27th was realistic. Dr. Panza explained it would be used as a buffer if it appeared that school would be pushed into another week.

2010-11 Calendar

Conference and Field Trip Requests as submitted and reviewed by administration:

- FT...MBVeri...Crafton to Carnegie...Computer Challenge...3/17
 - FT...M.O'Neil...Sto-Rox MS...WACA Honors Band...3/19-20
 - C...S.Lee ...Highmark Caring Place...AC Counselors Assoc...3/24
 - C...R.Cygan...Four Points Sheraton...Inclusion Workshop...3/26
 - C...A.Bunch... Four Points Sheraton...Inclusion Workshop...3/26
 - C...R.Foltz... Four Points Sheraton...Inclusion Workshop...3/26
 - FT...S.Barnes...The Chadwick...SAP Leadership...3/26
 - FT...Car 6th g. Tchrs...Riverquest...Environmental Studies...5/5
 - FT...Car 4th g. Tchrs...Meadowcroft...Colonial Times...5/13
 - FT...R.Pedersen...Keystone Oaks SD...District Band...5/14-15
 - FT...MBVeri...Duquesne U...Calculus Comp...5/21
- (Miscellaneous Item #0310-1)

Conference and Field Trip Requests

*And the Settlement Agreement in the matter of CA No. 09-1345 as recommended by the district solicitor. (Miscellaneous Item #0310-2) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.***

II. Finance

Director Schell moved, seconded by Director DiPietro, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of February 2010 as presented;

Treasurer's Report – February 2010

February 2010 bills in the amount of \$1,676,682.21 as presented;

February 2010 Bills

Director Walkowiak thanked Mr. Christy for enlightening him on several questions he had about the finance documents. President Brown also thanked Mr. Christy for being "more than accommodating to inquiries."

<p>The 2010-2011 Allegheny Intermediate Unit Program of Services Budget as presented; (Finance Item #0310-1) <i>Director Hughan asked that costs be included in such motions, noting that the full AIU program budget is \$3,817,800 and the district's share is about \$21,000.</i></p> <p>The January 2010 Cafeteria Operating Report as presented and submitted by Aramark Education Services; (Finance Item #0310-2)</p> <p>And participation in the 2010-2011 Allegheny Intermediate Unit IDEA Component III Consortium as presented. (Finance Item #0310-3) By a ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion carried 9-0. <i>Director Schell remarked she appreciates the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and the resources it provides.</i></p>	<p>2010-11 AIU Program of Services Budget</p> <p>January 2010 Cafeteria Operating Report</p> <p>2010-11 AIU IDEA Consortium</p>
<p>III. Personnel</p> <p>Director Tassaro moved, seconded by Director DiPietro, to approve the additions to the 2009-2010 Day-to-Day Substitute List as follows and recommended by administration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ John Stavish – Technology Education ▪ Stephen Buches – Elementary Education, English 7-9 (Personnel Item #0310-1 REVISED) <p>And the Intermittent Leave of Absence for employee CFT10-21 as requested. (Personnel Item #0310-2) By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.</p>	<p>Addition to Day-to-Day Sub List</p> <p>Intermittent LOA – Employee CFT10-21</p>
<p>IV. Policy</p> <p>The first reading of Policy No. 104, Policy No. 251 and Policy No. 718 as presented. (Policy Item #0310-1) PLACE ON AGENDA</p> <p>Director McCartney moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the final reading of the 700 series of the board policies as presented with recommended modifications. By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.</p>	<p>Policies 104, 251 and 718</p> <p>700 Policy Series – Final Reading</p>
<p><u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS:</u> <i>None</i></p>	
<p><u>NEW BUSINESS:</u> <i>None</i></p>	
<p><u>OPEN FORUM:</u> <i>Director Wilson shared information about the upcoming Relay for Life golf outing on May 1 and distributed registration forms.</i></p> <p><i>Crafton resident Marta Pletz came before the board with concerns about the “rumored” consolidation of the elementary schools. She made several comments and offered researched information addressing the quality of smaller schools. She asked the board to think the matter over carefully before making any decisions.</i></p>	

Rev. Ed Bowen generously presented a check in the amount of \$1,150 for the elementary schools to purchase supplies for the physical education curriculum.

Crafton resident Jim Schriver called attention to a comment made by Kimball at the first open public meeting, referring to when the architects said the age of the buildings were an issue. He said he believes there are a number of complexities and issues surrounding the consolidating of the elementary schools and asked if any consideration was given to the information he provided at a former meeting entitled “Save Our Town, Save Our Schools.” Dr. Panza said he reviewed the information closely and found that once a cursory look of the facilities is given, a fee is associated with any further studies. Both Dr. Panza and President Brown stated they have given due diligence to the issue and will continue to research and explore all options to decide what is ultimately best and makes the most sense for the district and its students. Director Schell added that presently there are no plans to consolidate, adding the district is seeking to find a balance. She offered that she has found research that indicates that cosmetic improvements also enhance student achievement, referencing brighter lighting and bigger spaces, and how student morale or pride increases in such settings.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to discuss, Director Hughan moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 pm, seconded by Director McCartney. **By voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.**