

CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Special Session Voting Meeting

May 23, 2016

Carlynton Jr.-Sr. High School Library – 6:30 pm

MINUTES

The Carlynton School District Board of Education held a special session voting meeting May 12, 2016 in the cafeteria of the junior-senior high school. In attendance was President Jim Schriver, Vice President Joe Appel, Treasurer Marissa Mendoza and Directors Monica Dugan, Antriece Hart, George Honchar, Leanne O'Brien, Nyra Schell and Kelly Zaletski. Also present was Superintendent Gary Peiffer, Solicitor Tony Giglio and Administrators Marsha Burleson, Carla Hudson, Michael Loughren, Hillary Mangis and John McAdoo. The audience was comprised of 83 individuals.

CALL TO ORDER - *The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by President Schriver; Principal Michael Loughren led the pledge. The roll was called by recording secretary Michale Herrmann; all board members were present.*

Dr. Peiffer made an announcement that the board had made a decision to retain the elementary school counselor. He then facilitated a PowerPoint that provided an overview of school code and regulations with the standard of organization. Dr. Peiffer said the Department of Education has rolled out a multi-tiered system that would affect the RtII positions.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD: *A number of parents and teachers spoke out about the plans for the abolishment of several positions on the agenda. Parents Jennifer Glover, Jamie Harvey, Jolynne Dougherty, Christine Simcic, Shawn Spragg, Lisa Smith, Lisa Bonifield, Michelle Robb and student Jessica Vogliano spoke in support and praise of Gifted Facilitator Cindy Eddy, expressing that the abolishment of positions would bump Mrs. Eddy out of the position.*

Parent Becky Heffner asked what could be done to effect positive change rather than losing good teachers.

Parent Lynn Brady, teachers Jim Nagorski and Shannon Vitali-Guay asked for the RtII positions to stay in place, explaining that the teachers in these positions have touched students and made a difference in closing gaps. Parent Jeanine Schultz said test scores will drop when support is removed from students. Teacher Jamie Sonnie provided data about library use, saying she is not advocating for her job, but for the students. Parents Rachel Engle, Jolynne Dougherty, Emily Palladino, Lisa Bonifield and Mary Beth Snyder spoke in support of the library.

Former student Alexander Popichak added that the teacher support system and the resources of the library are valuable to all students.

Michelle Robb encouraged board members to think outside the box and to use parents to seek creative solutions rather than cutting jobs.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Director Schell moved, seconded by Director Zaletski, to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2016 Voting Meeting as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.**

Minutes of May 12, 2016
Meeting

REPORTS:

- Executive Session – *President Schriver reported that personnel items were discussed in the closed session.*
- Administrative Reports
 - Superintendent Report – *Dr. Peiffer said he respected the passion and dedication of the parents at the meeting.*

I. Miscellaneous

Director Honchar moved, seconded by Director Dugan, to approve the agreement between the District and Robert Morris University for a Dual Enrollment curriculum for Advanced Placement Chemistry students to earn college credit. (Miscellaneous Item #0516-01) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.**

Dual Enrollment with Robert Morris - Chemistry

II. Personnel

Director Schell moved, seconded by Director Zaletski, to approve the following resolution: WHEREAS, as a result of substantial decline in class or course enrollments and/or to conform with standards of organizations or educational activities required by law or recommended by the Department of Education and upon recommendation of the Superintendent and concurrence by the Board of School Directors of the Carlynton School District; and WHEREAS, in accordance with the requirements of Section 1124 of the PA Public School Code of 1949 as amended, the following positions shall be abolished beginning with the 2016-2017 school year:

Realignment of Staff

A roll call vote was taken for each line item:

- One (1) Elementary Keyboarding position; **By ROLL CALL vote, the motion carried 9-0.**
- ~~One (1) Elementary School Counselor position;~~ REMOVED
- Two (2) Response to Intervention and Instruction (RtII) positions; **By ROLL CALL vote, the motion carried 6-3 with Directors Hart, Honchar and Schell voting NO.**
- One (1) High School Librarian position; **By ROLL CALL vote, the motion carried 5-4 with Directors Dugan, Honchar, Mendoza and Schell voting NO.**

The Board hereby directs the administration to conduct an analysis of the staffing needs based upon the above action and to recommend any furloughs or demotions that may be necessary. The Superintendent is further directed to provide the appropriate notifications to the Department of Education.

Director Mendoza moved, seconded by Director Appel, to approve the following resolution: WHEREAS, the Board wishes to provide for a more efficient and cost effective program. NOW THEREFORE, the following position shall be abolished beginning with the 2016-2017 school year:

Realignment of Staff

- One (1) High School Secretarial position.

The Board hereby directs the administration to conduct an analysis of the staffing needs based upon the above action and to recommend any demotions or furloughs that may be necessitated. **By a ROLL CALL vote, the motion carried 9-0.**

Director Schell moved, seconded by Director Appel, to approve the recommended individuals for the positions of summer custodial helpers as submitted; (Personnel Item #0516-01)

Summer Custodian Helpers

And to post for the position of a Title 1 Reading teacher at the elementary level.
By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.

Title 1 Reading Position

OLD BUSINESS: *None*

NEW BUSINESS: *None*

OPEN FORUM: *Carnegie Mayor Jack Kobistek said veterans of Carnegie were honored by Carnegie Elementary students and staff earlier in the day by lining the street while holding American flags and welcoming the veterans as they traveled by bus into the borough.*

President Schriver said he hopes the board and parents can think outside the box to make a better experience for all students.

Parent and teacher Tracy Post said she is frustrated by the board's action and the elimination of a library. She suggested other ways to cut costs, such as eliminating the proposed parking area across the street from Crafton Elementary School.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss, Director Appel moved, seconded by Director Hart, to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 pm. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kirby Christy, Board Secretary

Michale Herrmann, Recording Secretary