

CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Agenda Setting/Committee/Voting Meeting January 5, 2012 Carlynton Jr.-Sr. High School Library – 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES

The Carlynton School District Board of Education held its Agenda Setting/ Committee/ Voting Meeting on January 5, 2012 in the library of the junior-senior high school. Those in attendance included President David Roussos, Vice President Betsy Tassaró and School Directors Joseph Appel, Sandra Hughan, Nyra Schell, Jim Schriver, Raymond Walkowiak and Sharon Wilson. Also present was Interim Superintendent Joseph Dimperio, Solicitor Janet Burkardt, Business Manager Kirby Christy, Director of Pupil Services Lee Myford and principals Laura Burns, Carla Hudson, Jacie Maslyk and Robert Susini. The audience was comprised of 14 individuals and two members of the press.

CALL TO ORDER – *The meeting was called to order by President Roussos at 7:41 pm.*

ROLL CALL - *The roll was called by Recording Secretary Michale Herrmann; Director Schirripa was absent. Dr. Dimperio led the pledge.*

President Roussos apologized for the late start of the meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD: *None*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Director Hughan moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2011 Reorganization Meeting as presented.

*And the minutes of the December 8, 2011 Committee/Voting Meeting as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.***

Minutes – Reorganization Meeting, December 8, 2011

Minutes – December 8, 2011

REPORTS:

- **Executive Session** – *President Roussos indicated that personal, contractual and legal issues were discussed in the closed session.*
 - **Principals' Reports** - *Each principal shared news about activities taking place in their schools; Mrs. Maslyk said several administrators and teachers are working together to submit the paperwork for the first round of a literacy grant. Should the district be selected, it could receive ample funding.*
 - **Director of Pupil Services' Report** – *Mrs. Myford reported that after-school tutoring is running smoothly and reiterated that bussing is provided at no additional cost to the district. She also shared that the Carnegie Rotary provided 22 Christmas dinners for elementary families; she and Sheree Lee coordinated the distribution.*
 - **Business Manager Report** – *Mr. Christy noted that Governor Gorbett placed a \$160 million freeze on state spending but the freeze excludes education. He also reported that PSERs rates will spike to 12.36 percent and he will allow for that as he*

begins planning the 2012-2013 school year budget. Mr. Christy said the increase is actually lower than expected, but warned the rate will continue to rise and could increase in the upcoming years to as much as 25 percent. Director Schriver asked what that would mean to the district in terms of millage. Mr. Christy said it could equal approximately \$1.2 million.

- **Superintendent's Report** – Dr. Dimperio announced he is witnessing an academic focus in schools as the staff prepares for the PSSAs.

Director Walkowiak shared some charts from Parkway West to illustrate projections for enrollment. He added that plans are in the works to offer a robotics program at the school next year. Also, the school will be hosting a career night on March 7 and Carlynton student Jessica Barton was named Student of the Month.

I. Miscellaneous

Director Tassaró moved, seconded by Director Walkowiak, to approve the list of field trip requests as presented and approved by administration:

- FT...Smoller/Veri...SS Works Cinema...Film Festival...1/11
 - FT...T.Obidowski...N.Allegheny HS...District Band Fest...1/11-13
 - FT...T.Obidowski...Chartiers Valley HS...WACA Band...1/17-18
 - FT...MBVeri...Carnegie Science Center...Science Bowl...1/25
 - FT...T.Obidowski...S.Fayette HS...WAMS Honors Band...2/9,11
 - FT...Smoller/Veri...Primestage Theater...Play...2/28
 - FT...T.Obidowski...Carrick HS...Jr. High District Band...3/2-3
 - FT...T.Obidowski...Deer Lakes HS...Jr. High Orchestra...3/9-10
 - FT...MBVeri...Comm.College West...Fluid Power Challenge...4/2, 5/8
 - C...R.Gevaudan...AIU...Instructional Coaches Mtg...1/5, 2/8, 3/7, 4/11 and 5/9
 - FT...MBVeri...Science Center...Science Bowl Competition...1/24
 - FT...R.Chenette...Eliz.For. HS...District Chorus...1/25
 - FT...W.Steiner...O'Reilly Theater...Shakespeare Performance...1/25
 - FT...R.Chenette...Eliz.For. HS...District Chorus...1/26
 - FT...R.Chenette...Eliz.For. HS...District Chorus...1/27
 - FT...R.Susini...Science Center...Performance Award/PSSA's...1/27
 - FT...Veri/Dzurenda/Steiner...O'Reilly Thr...Shakespeare Fest...2/10
- (Miscellaneous Item #0112-01 REVISED) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Director Tassaró moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the agreement between the district and Special Olympics/Carnegie Hotshots for the use of district facilities as a training site as specified in said agreement; (Miscellaneous Item #0112-02 REVISED) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Before voting, there was some discussion. Director Hughan asked if the organization was only Carlynton students. Mrs. Mishkin, coordinator for Special Olympics, was in the audience. She said a large part of the participants and volunteers are from the district but the number will change with varying activities. Director Hughan questioned if the action to approve the group would establish precedence. President Roussos said the policy indicates that the superintendent has the authority to override the facilities policy. Mrs. Mishkin indicated that all Special Olympics workers

Field Trip Requests

Special Olympics – Facilities Usage

are volunteers and are required to renew clearances every five years. Director Walkowiak offered that the greatest difference with this organization versus others is that the participants are not charged a fee to participate.

Director Tassaró moved, seconded by Director Appel, to approve the Request for Proposal (RFP) for the high school auditorium stage curtain replacements as presented and to advertise for bids. (Miscellaneous Item #0112-03) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

President Roussos said it is hoped the work can be completed before the spring musical.

Director Tassaró moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to nominate David Roussos as a Trustee of the Western Region for the Allegheny County Schools Health Insurance Consortium, for a two year period effective March 29, 2012. (Miscellaneous Item #0112-04) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

President Roussos explained the aspects of the consortium, noting that its goal is to secure the best health benefits in the most cost-effective manner for all participants within the consortium.

II. Finance

Director Wilson moved, seconded by Director Schell, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of November 2011 as presented;

The November 2011 bills in the amount of \$1,504,731.04 as submitted;

The Borough of Rosslyn Farms Earned Income Tax Refunds as presented; (Finance Item #0112-01)

The November 2011 Athletic Fund Report as submitted with an ending balance of \$10,307.78; (Finance Item #0112-02)

The November 2011 Activities Fund Report as submitted with an ending balance of \$32,596.35; (Finance Item #0112-03)

*And the Carnegie Earned Income Tax Audit report for 2010 as submitted; (Finance Item #0112-04) **By a ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion carried 8-0.***

Director Tassaró moved, seconded by Director Schell, to terminate the agreement between the district and CDI Architect Group LLC dba L.R. Kimball Architecture entered into on October 7, 2010 in accordance with the terms of the agreement in part as outlined in Article 9.5. (Finance Item #0112-05) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

President Roussos and Director Schell explained that this action ends the agreement of Architect of Record with Kimball. Director Schriver noted that this is a clean break from the company as the district does not owe any additional fees. Mr. Christy confirmed; all invoices have been paid in full.

RFP – HS Auditorium Stage
Curtain Replacements

Nomination to Health
Insurance Consortium

November 2011 Treasurer's
Report

November 2011 Bills

Rosslyn Farms EIT Refund

November Athletic Fund
Report

November Activities Fund
Report

Carnegie EIT Audit Report for
2010

Terminate Agreement with
Kimball

III. Personnel

Director Appel moved, seconded by Director Tassaro, to approve the additions to the 2011-2012 Day-to-Day Substitute List as presented:

- Mary Ball – Elementary, Reading, Mid-Level Social Studies
- Gloria Perella – Elementary
- John Sapsara – Custodian

(Personnel Item #0112-01)

By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.

Director Appel moved, seconded by Director Schriver, to approve the following professional educators be named long-term substitutes for the second semester of the 2011-2012 school year, in accordance with the terms and agreements of the Carlynton Federation of Teachers Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement:

- Jamie Dobson
- Breann Kaufman
- Jocelyn Rowe

By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.

Director Appel moved, seconded by Director Tassaro, to reassign Jeannette Samansky to the permanent position of high school cafeteria worker due to the resignation of Lorraine Ganoe, as submitted, and in accordance with the terms and agreements of the Secretarial-Cafeteria-Aides Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement; (Personnel Item #0112-02) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Director Schell moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the leaves of absence for Employees #CFT12-01, #CFT12-02 and #CFT12-03 as submitted and in accordance with the terms and agreements of the Carlynton Federation of Teachers Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement. (Personnel Item #0112-03 REVISED) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Director Schell moved, seconded by Director Schriver, to approve the following tutors for the grade 11 after-school program for the 2011-2012 school year. Teachers will be compensated at their per diem rate.

- Doris Parson – Mathematics
- Wendy Steiner – Communication/Reading

(Personnel Item #0112-04) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

IV. Student Services

Director Schriver moved, seconded by Director Schell, to approve the addition of Daniel Crane to the list of approved drivers for Student Transportation of America (STA) for the 2011-2012 school year as submitted. All paperwork and clearances are on file. (Student Services Item #0112-01) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

V. Policy

Director Schriver moved, seconded by Director Schell, to present for review the modification to Policy No. 815.1 to include the updates as recommended by the State Attorney General for compliance with Employee Acceptable Usage in regards to technology. (Policy Item #0112-01) **By a voice vote,**

Additions to the 2010-2011 Day-to-Day Sub List

LTS for the Second Semester – Dobson, Kaufman and Jocelyn Rowe

Reassignment of Jeannette Samansky

Leaves of Absence

After-School Program, Grade 11 - Tutors

Addition to the STA Driver List for 2011-2012

Modification to Policy No.

the motion carried 8-0.

Dr. Dimperio summarized the recommendations made by the Attorney General during a recent audit. Mr. Mickolay, Director of Technology, explained that the policy change will provide a safety measure. Dr. Dimperio said the district is complying with the findings in the report and will work toward updates regarding all observations named in the audit. Director Schell asked if the student policy would also be changed; Mr. Mickolay said it was not required. The policy will be posted on the district website for review.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: *Director Wilson asked if a committee had been formed to look at the issue of Out-of-School Suspension. Director Schell suggested it be discussed at the education committee meetings.*

Director Walkowiak said that given the board's decision to end the building project and disassociate itself from Kimball, he would like to get an update of facility needs from John Recchio and bring those needs before the board to begin prioritizing. President Roussos said he was thinking along the same line and suggested it be wise to appoint a school director to work closely with Dr. Dimperio and Mr. Recchio to begin formulating a list of needs throughout the district. He believed Director Walkowiak would be a good person for the job. Director Walkowiak agreed.

Director Schell said the board needs to look at the district overall in terms of the physical plant and the academics. She pointed out areas where staff is lacking in numbers, adding that the right improvements and additions can raise test scores and improve morale. Director Schell suggested the principals work together to compile a list of goals and needs to guide the board in a direction that would benefit all. Director Walkowiak agreed, stating that the administration, along with Dr. Dimperio, could look at the full scope and determine the greatest needs. Director Wilson said this is the best time to review all aspects of the district as the budget is being pulled together. The board can then determine how to make the best use of funds within the means of the district, she added.

Mr. Christy said a preliminary budget will be presented by May 31 with a rough draft ready in April. Director Schell said it is important to begin conversation about the budget now. Director Schriver said that in talking with other school personnel, it is important to realize that things that once worked may not now, especially in terms of technology. He suggested that through technology, the district can reach out to universities and other resources.

Director Schell said she would like to see a more formalized topic at meetings under Old Business for discussion about the budget.

NEW BUSINESS:

Board members began to discuss the hiring of a firm to conduct the search for a new superintendent. Three different search firms made a presentation to board members in December: The Pennsylvania School Board Association, the Allegheny Intermediate Unit and Tri-State Area School Study Council with the University of Pittsburgh. Many board members offered favorable comments about all three presentations and stated their reasoning for favoring one firm over the other. The general consensus led to Tri-State Area School Study Council based on its credentials, networks, local connection with the University of Pittsburgh and fee structure. The fees of the firms ranged from no cost to \$10,000. Tri-State fell into the mid-range. Director Hughan questioned the need

to pay for the service, noting that the AIU has always provided great services and they do not charge a fee. Directors Schell and Walkowiak said that Tri-State appears to have a greater pipeline to candidates through the university and they offered references to back up their work. Director Wilson added that the firm maintains a connection with candidates across the state and they can formulate or design a recruitment plan to best suit the needs of the district.

Director Walkowiak moved, seconded by Director Wilson to approve Tri-State Area School Study Council from the University of Pittsburgh to conduct the superintendent search for the Carlynton School District. **By a ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion carried 7-0-1 with Director Hughan abstaining.**

Director Hughan said she abstained because she was unable to attend the presentations. Board members agreed to a fee of \$5000 for the service, a \$300 membership fee and reasonable costs for incidentals such as advertising and mailings.

The administrators were dismissed at 9:05 pm.

OPEN FORUM: Director Hughan asked if technology planned to offer adult computer classes again. Dr. Dimperio said he would look into it.

Director Schriver called attention to the accolades Jake Trombetta received for mathematics curriculum he has written and asked that the curriculum be reviewed and considered for use throughout the department.

Parent Virgil Sams questioned the procedure for notifying parents when a child receives detention. He said he and his wife were aware their son was given an after-school detention, but because he usually stayed after school for tutoring, thought he could ride home on the tutoring bus. The son was denied access to the bus and he wanted an explanation. Members of the board and administration offered a brief explanation and Dr. Dimperio said he would reach out to Mr. Sams the following day to resolve the matter.

Director Wilson said some valid points were made in the discussion about the detention issue and said the district needs to reach a sound resolution. She reiterated her feelings about the process by which detention leads to out-of-school suspension, stating that the process is ineffective.

Director Wilson also commented on the representation of good district news in the latest issue of the InCarlynton-Montour community magazine.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business to discuss, Director Hughan moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 pm, seconded by Director Schell. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kirby Christy, Board Secretary

Michale Herrmann, Recording Secretary

Tri-State Area School Study
Council – Superintendent
Search Firm