

## CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Regular Voting Meeting

May 19, 2011

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

### MINUTES

The Carlynton School District Board of Education conducted its Regular Voting Meeting on May 19, 2011 in the library 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 and Principals Jacie Maslyk, Robert Susini and Christopher Very. The audience was comprised of 28 individuals and two members of the press.

**CALL TO ORDER** - *The meeting was called to order by President Brown at 7:30 pm and President Brown offered condolences to the family of former board member and president, Howard Ravenstahl, who passed away days earlier. Crafton and Carnegie choral students, who were selected to attend District Chorus, were asked to lead the pledge after performing a song from their repertoire.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD:** *Mrs. Carrasco, a Crafton parent and resident, asked the board's permission for the sixth grade to purchase a bike rack for Crafton Elementary, as a parting gift to the school. Dr. Panza said it would be taken into consideration and someone would get back to her.*

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Director McCartney moved, seconded by Director DiPietro, to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2011 Agenda Setting/Committee/Voting Meeting as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.**

### **REPORTS:**

- **Executive Session** – *President Brown stated that employment, legal and labor issues were discussed in executive session, all within the guidelines of board policy.*
  - **Principals' Reports** – *The principals mentioned highlights of activities and events occurring in their buildings, as well as some recent student achievements.*
  - **Director of Pupil Services' Report** – *Mrs. Myford offered thanks to Maggi Mishkin for overseeing a wonderful career day and noted that all training in the bullying prevention program is complete*
- **Superintendent's Report** – *Dr. Panza reviewed the calendar. He then said the development of the electronic device policy was continuing; John Recchio has completed the work on the balcony steps at Crafton and the building inspector will be contacted; a budget hearing will be held June 9 at 6 pm in the library; the bids for the surveys have been submitted and opened with bids ranging from \$8,600 to \$30,000 – this*

Minutes of the May 5, 2011  
Meeting

*will be on the next agenda for consideration; and the band is planning a fall festival with alumni, fireworks and a sky diver.*

- ✓ The minutes of the April 5, 2011 Parkway West Career and Technology Center Joint Committee Meeting were entered into record. (SC Item #0511-01)
- Pathfinder Report – Director Wilson reported that graduation was held in May; the Bethel Park School District has made a considerable donation of exercise equipment; and a new French drain has been installed.
- SHASDA – Director Schirripa said the SHASDA conference was held at the end of April and two district students proudly represented the district. She also gave credit to Dr. Panza for all of his fundraising efforts to benefit the conference and students in the South Hills area
- PSBA-Legislative – Director Walkowiak reported that Governor Corbett's budget has been amended and will be replace with an alternate bill to shift funds; he also mentioned a senate bill that will address furlough decisions and another that will place a lifetime ban on those (teachers/employees) with violent offenses.

## **BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD:**

### **I. Miscellaneous**

*Motion to approve the following:*

1. The list of conference and field trip requests as submitted and approved by administration:
  - C...L.Burns...IU 7, 1 and 3...Induction Requirements...9/20-21, 11/17-19 and 1/11-12
  - FT...D.Smith...Don Pablos Restaurant...LS Child Dev...5/24
  - FT...Carnegie Gr. 2...Pgh Zoo and Aquarium...6/2
  - \*FT...R.Pedersen...Northgate HS...District Band Festival...5/20-21
  - \*FT...R.Fusan...Independence Marsh...Wetland Eco-system...5/23(Miscellaneous Item #0511-01 \*REVISED)

*And the 2011-2012 Carnegie and Crafton Elementary Student Handbooks as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.***

*Prior to voting on the handbooks, Director Schell said she noticed that The Oleweus Bullying program was mentioned in the Crafton handbook, but not Carnegie. Carnegie principal Christopher Veri said it would be added before going to print.*

### **II. Finance**

Director Tassaro moved, seconded by Director McCartney, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2011 as presented;

The April 2011 bills in the amount of \$1,748,978.03 as presented;

The 2011-2012 proposed final budget in the amount of \$23,260,132 with a millage rate of 23.15 and to advertise the proposed final budget for a period of 30 days prior to the adoption of the annual budget. This amount represents a one mill decrease to the overall millage rate;

Conference and Field Trip Requests

2011-2012 Elementary Student Handbooks

Treasurer's Report – April 2011

April 2011 Bills

2011-2012 Proposed Final Budget

*Director Hughan asked if the budget number is firm or variable. Business Manager Kirby Christy said voting on the number in the motion did not preclude the board from changing the final figure. Director Wilson stated that she had some reservations with the proposed final budget and questioned if she should vote “no” until after the budget hearing. Solicitor Ira Weiss said the motion was to approve a preliminary budget and any action does not indicate a final decision. He said the budget is advertised and open for discussion and variations, but noted that the number can not be raised beyond the index number stipulated by the state. Director Tassaro questioned a draft dated 4/11/2011 and the current numbers provided on a more recent document. Mr. Christy said the current document explains the differences. He went on to say that \$15,000 is for ASSET and the newer number represents the reduced millage rate and that once the proposed final budget is approved, discussion can take place for any changes. Dr. Panza referred her to page four of his cover letter provided in the board packet.*

The Software Maintenance Contract between the district and ProSoft Technologies for the 2011-2012 school year as presented at a base annual fee not to exceed \$20, 183.04; (Finance Item #0511-01)

Software Maintenance Agreement with ProSoft

The agreement with IN Community Magazines, Inc. for the 2011-2012 school year as presented at a base fixed fee not to exceed \$2,500 per issue for eight pages or \$1,250 for four pages; (Finance Item #0511-02)

IN Community Magazines Agreement

*Director Walkowiak asked for clarification of the number of magazine issues the district is committed to per year; Mrs. Herrmann said four (4).*

The April 2011 Athletic Fund Report as presented with an ending balance of \$4,996.38; (Finance Item #0511-03)

April 2011 Athletic Fund Report

The April 2011 Activities Fund Report as presented with an ending balance of \$32,075.52; (Finance Item #0511-04)

April 2011 Activities Fund Report

The Allegheny Intermediate Unit’s Notices of Adoption Policies, Procedures and Use of Funds as part of the IDEIA Application for the 2011-2012 school year as presented; (Finance Item #0511-05)

AIU’s Notices of Adoption Policies, Procedures and Use of Funds

The 2011-2012 Administrative Budget of the South Central Area Special Schools Jointure (Pathfinder) as presented. The budget represents no increase to the district. (Finance Item #0511-06)

2011-2012 Pathfinder Administrative Budget

*Director Hughan asked if Pathfinder assesses the district a fee similar to that of Parkway. Mr. Christy explained that because the district is a member of the Pathfinder consortium, the district pays nothing; Pathfinder’s budget is based on the money they make by leasing the building (unused areas) and payments from non-member school districts.*

And the 2011-2012 IDEA Component III Budget and Consortium Services through the Allegheny Intermediate Unit as presented. (Finance Item #0511-7) **By a ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion carried 9-0.**

IDEA Component III with AIU

### III. Personnel

Director DiPietro moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the following additions to the 2011-2012 Athletic Supplemental List as recommended and presented:

- J.Cayll Smith – Varsity Head Girls’ Basketball Coach
- Caitlin McManus – Varsity Head Swimming Coach
- Susan Brossman – Varsity Assistant Swimming Coach
- James Glaser – Varsity Girls’ Tennis Coach
- Emily Tupi – Varsity Head Volleyball Coach
- Megan Carpenter – Varsity Assistant Volleyball Coach  
(Personnel Item #0511-01)

2011-12 Athletic  
Supplemental Contracts

Director McCartney moved to table the following individuals for the positions of Summer Maintenance Helpers for the period of June 13 through August 19, 2011, in accordance with the terms of the Custodial/Maintenance Collective Bargaining Agreement and as presented:

- Greg Gazella
- Thomas Kelsey
- Gary Mitkoski  
(Personnel Item #0511-02)

**By a 9-0 voice vote, the motion was TABLED.**

Summer 2011 Maintenance  
Helpers - TABLED

Michael Dudicz as Summer Head Custodian for the period of June 13 through August 19, 2011, in accordance with the terms of the Custodial/Maintenance Collective Bargaining Agreement. (Personnel Item #0511-03)

Summer 2011 Head  
Custodian – Michael Dudicz

*And* the following individuals be employed as Summer Custodial Helpers for the period of June 13 through August 19, 2011:

- Olivia Barger
- Shane Isasky
- Ryan Laepple
- Grant Schuler
- Kristopher Williams
- Alex Gearhart
- Allen Weigner  
(Personnel Item #0511-04)

**By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.**

Summer 2011 Custodial  
Helpers

Director Walkowiak moved, seconded by Director Hughan, to eliminate the Classrooms for the Future Coaching position. **By a 5-4 ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion carried.**

Eliminate CFF Position

*Prior to the vote, there was considerable discussion. Director Walkowiak questioned this action, given that technology has become the forefront of education. He urged others to consider maintaining the position. Director Wilson said she agreed, adding that the district has invested in software and hardware and the position benefits students. President Brown noted that the state funding for the position has been eliminated and an earlier agreement or posting said the position would be available as needed. He added that he has heard that a number of other school districts are also eliminating the position. Going on, President Brown said that a new position in technology will allow the person holding the CFF position to pick up two classes at the high*

school and travel to the elementary buildings. Dr. Panza concurred, stating the goal is to infuse technology into the elementary schools. He said the aides will work with the technology staff to pick up some of the components. Director Tassaro asked if the aides teach in the labs or do they offer support. The principals said the aides support the teachers and they are valuable to education as technology changes. Director Schell said that the CFF coach has attended training and has offered updates to the staff. She said she believes the CFF position is valuable as technology changes. Director Tassaro asked the principals if eliminating the CFF position would be a benefit to the elementary schools. Mrs. Maslyk said that with this change of a new position, the elementary schools would actually receive more time and instruction with a technology teacher. Director Walkowiak suggested changing the schedule of the CFF coach. Director Schell said she would like to see a "Plan B" rather than eliminating the position entirely.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Director Wilson said that since the board has learned that the district is in a financially healthy position, and we have cut back on taxes, she believes it is also time to give back to the students and the educational process. She said she has compiled a list of items that she has heard mentioned at committee meetings as being needed and believes they should be articulated. Items on the list included the elementary and a secondary technology coach, a full time art teacher at both elementary schools for better integration of the arts into other courses, continuation of the part time mental health counselor at the high school, and an additional psychologist at the high school for testing because Mrs. Myford serves in more of an administrative position. Going on, Director Wilson said she has been told that ACCESS funding is available to cover the cost and said that an additional guidance counselor at the high school would offer support to the guidance department and be an asset to the students, especially those in the lower grades. Director Wilson suggested a committee be formed to discuss in-school suspension since she believes the current process does not work. She said that money should be set aside and the policy changed. Dr. Panza said that contractual issues would need to be considered. Director Wilson said there are other needs in terms of maintenance, such as the roof at Crafton Elementary, the high school track and the tennis courts. All of this, she said, would enhance the educational value for students.

Director DiPietro asked where the ACCESS funds come from. Mrs. Myford said they are similar to a fee for a service or they are earned as needed. Dr. Panza asked if ACCESS will remain at the same rate as in the current or past years. Mrs. Myford said she did not know as the funds are based on needs of students.

Director Walkowiak said that while looking at the balcony at Crafton a while back, he was made aware of an issue at the power source where a puddle of water has formed on the floor. He asked if this will be addressed. Dr. Panza said a rubber mat has been put down. Director Walkowiak asked if this was a stop-gap measure and questioned where the water was coming from. Dr. Panza said it was a stop-gap and the water is seeping from a wall. Dr. Panza said all of this can be discussed and a decision can be made to address certain issues while remaining responsible to the taxpayers.

Director Hughan asked if there is a way for those who are handicapped to enter Carnegie Elementary since the front entrance has several steps. Mr. Very said

*the side entrance is used with a buzzer at the door.*

*Director Wilson reminded everyone about the science showcase at Carnegie Elementary on Monday evening, May 23.*

**NEW BUSINESS:** *None*

**OPEN FORUM:** *None*

**ADJOURNMENT:** With no further comments or business to discuss, Director Hughan moved, seconded by Director McCartney, to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 pm. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Kirby Christy, Board Secretary

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Michale Herrmann, Recording Secretary