

CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Voting Meeting September 15, 2011 Carlynton Jr.-Sr. High School Library – 7:30 pm

MINUTES

The Carlynton School District Board of Education held its Regular Voting Meeting on September 15, 2011 in the library of the junior-senior high school. Those in attendance included President Thomas Brown, Vice President Patricia Schirripa and School Directors Sandra Hugan, Ronald McCartney, David Roussos, Nyra Schell, Betsy Tassaro, Ray Walkowiak and Sharon Wilson (via Skype). Also present was Solicitor Ira Weiss, Business Manager Kirby Christy, Director of Pupil Services Lee Myford and principals Laura Burns, Jacie Maslyk, Robert Susini and Christopher Very. The audience was comprised of 49 individuals and two members of the press.

CALL TO ORDER - *The meeting was called to order by President Brown at 7:48 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Carlynton High School Junior Lindsay Lawrence.*

ROLL CALL – *The roll was called by Recording Secretary Michale Herrmann; all board members were in attendance.*

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD: *None*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Director McCartney moved, seconded by Director Hugan, to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2011 Agenda Setting/Committee/Voting Meeting as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0-1, with Director Roussos abstaining because he was not present for the September 1 board meeting.**

Minutes of the September 1,
2011 Meeting

REPORTS:

- **Executive Session** – *President Brown explained the board was in executive session prior to the meeting to discuss labor, legal and other matter, as is permitted by school code*
 - **Principals' Reports** – *Dr. Susini shared information about the upcoming parent night*
 - **Business Manager Report** – *Mr. Christy reported that PSER's showed a substantial earning on investments in their latest report, which will help to alleviate costs associated with future rates that could potentially sky-rocket. He also distributed the Rosslyn Farms Earned Income Tax Audited report by Hosack, Specht, Muetzel and Wood and said it will be on the next agenda for approval.*
- **Parkway West CTC Report** – *Director McCartney said the districts did not find favor with Parkway's plan to maintain a fund balance. He also noted that two students were recognized as 9th and 12th in the nation in the Skills USA competition.*
- **SHASDA** – *Director Schirripa said the first SHASDA meeting will be held in the following week. She reported that the AIU plans to create*

a mosaic mural in its lobby thanks to funds through the Grable Foundation and participation of 16 students from each school district in the IU consortium. At President Brown's prompting, she explained her role as a member of the AIU Board.

- PSBA-Legislative – Director Walkowiak read a portion of a PSBA executive summary that offered research to indicate that smaller schools have a greater rate of achievement and student success.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD:

I. Miscellaneous

Director McCartney moved, seconded by Director Tassaró, to approve the field trip and conference requests as reviewed by administration and presented:

- C...L.Zimmerman...AIU3...Prof. Development...9/22
- C...S.Donnely...ASSET Inc...Training...9/22
- C...S.Kosko...AIU3...Acquire Strategies...9/22
- C...N.Martin...CV High School...AP Workshop...10/11
- C...M.Campbell...ASSET Inc...Changes/Science Modules...10/11-12
- C...J.Dobson...ASSET Inc...Training...10/13-14
- C...J.Sapsara...ASSET Inc...Training...10/13-14
- C...M.Campbell...ASSET Inc...Training...10/27
- C...M.Campbell...ASSET Inc...Training...12/8-9
- FT...T.Obidowski...Mt. Lebanon HS... Band Fest...9/24
- FT...Carnegie Grade 1...Triple B Farm...Working Farm...10/5
- C...C.Rex...ASSET...Prof. Dev....10/11-12, 11/16, 1/26, 2/9
- C...N. Kelly...ASSET...Prof. Dev....10/11-12, 11/16, 1/26, 2/9
- C...J.Sweeney...Pgh. Marriott North...Child Accounting...10/28
- C...B.Palonis...Burrell HS...PA Science Cur. Council...11/18
- FT...C.Eddy/T.Longo...City Theatre...Play Performance...9/30
- FT...M.Smoller...Phipps Conservatory...Eco Challenge...9/30
- FT...M.Smoller...Duquesne U...Calcu-solve...10/4
- FT...M.Mishkin/F.Zebrasky...Montour HS...Health Prog...10/4
- FT...M.Smoller...Duquesne U...Calcu-solve...10/5
- FT...B.Palonis...Beaver Cty Conservation...Wetland/Eco...10/21
- FT...C.Eddy/T.Longo...Carnegie Music Hall...ENCORE...11/16
- C...R.Gevaudan...AIU...Tech Coach Prof. Development...9/29

(Miscellaneous Item #0911-01 REVISED) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.** (Director Wilson was offline at the time of the vote).

II. Finance

Director Tassaró moved, seconded by Director Hughan, to approve the August 2011 Athletic Fund Report with an ending balance of \$239.22 as reviewed by administration and presented; (Finance Item #0911-01)

The August 2011 Activities Fund Report with an ending balance of \$25,722.68 as reviewed by administration and presented; (Finance Item #0911-02)

The elevator maintenance agreement with Eastern Elevator Service and Sales Co. for a three-year period at a cost of \$4,284 per year; (Finance Item #0911-03)

Conference and Field Trip Requests

August 2011 Athletic Fund Report

August 2011 Activities Fund Report

Elevator Maintenance Agreement

<p>And the Borough of Carnegie Real Estate Refunds as presented. (Finance Item #0911-04) By a ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion carried 9-0.</p>	Carnegie RE Tax Refund
<p>Director Walkowiak moved, seconded by Director Schell, to issue payment to L.R. Kimball for services rendered in the amount of \$10,200 as presented. By a ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion carried 8-0-1, with Director Roussos abstaining.</p> <p><i>Before voting, Directors Schell and Walkowiak indicated the payment was for additional work completed in March, beyond the scope of the feasibility study, to address a need to an existing wall at Carnegie Elementary.</i></p>	Payment to L.R. Kimball
<p>III. Personnel</p> <p>Director Tassaro moved, seconded by Director McCartney, to approve the following additions to the 2011-2012 Day-to-Day Substitute List as reviewed by the administration and presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ellen Hultz – Clerical or Lunchroom/Playground Aide▪ *Roxanne Bluman – Elementary/Special Education▪ *Harold Kaufman – <i>returning</i>▪ *Margaret McManus – Elementary▪ *Sean Welsch – Elementary/Special Education <p>(Personnel Item #0911-01 REVISED)</p>	Addition to the 2011-2012 Day-to-Day Substitute List
<p>Recall paraprofessional Michael Schneiderlochner from furlough, effective immediately, under the terms of the Secretarial-Cafeteria-Aides Bargaining Unit Agreement.</p>	Recall from Furlough – Michael Schneiderlochner
<p>The additions to the 2011-2012 Athletic Supplemental List as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Thomas McMullen – Junior High Head Girls’ Basketball Coach▪ Dean Caivano – Junior High Head Boys’ Soccer Coach <p>(Personnel Item #0911-02)</p>	Additions to the 2011-2012 Athletic Supplemental List
<p>The retirement of Ruth Charles, Carnegie Elementary Lunchroom/Playground Aide, effective September 12, 2011 as submitted; (Personnel Item #0911-03)</p>	Retirement – Ruth Charles, LR/PG Aide
<p>And the resignation of Maureen Nelson as Carnegie Elementary In-School Suspension Monitor as submitted. (Personnel Item #0911-04) By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.</p>	Resignation – Maureen Nelson, IS Suspension Monitor
<p><u>UNFINISHED BUSINESS:</u> <i>Director Schell asked for updates on an earlier requested field trip request and the inspection/repair progress to the playgrounds at the elementary schools. Dr. Susini said the field trip was still being considered and the teacher was coordinating parent volunteers; he indicated that Mr. Recchio was taking the necessary steps to make the updates to the playgrounds and would submit a document to the insurance company to report the completion of the work.</i></p>	
<p><u>NEW BUSINESS:</u> <i>At this time, the following motion was made:</i></p> <p>Director Roussos moved, seconded by Director Walkowiak, to appoint Dr. Joseph Dimperio to the position of Interim Superintendent of the Carlynton School District, effective September 16, 2011, as presented. By a ROLL</p>	Motion to Appoint Dr. Dimperio as Interim Superintendent

CALL VOTE, the motion carried 5-4, with Directors Brown, Hughan, McCartney and Schirripa voting NO.

Prior to voting, there was considerable discussion. Director Roussos indicated that a contract between the district and Dr. Dimperio would be similar to the one approved by the board in December 2004, with the following changes:

- *A daily rate of \$450, up from the rate of \$400 agreed upon seven years ago*
- *A change in title (“Acting Superintendent” to “Interim Superintendent”)*
- *A change of the ratification date to September 15, 2011*
- *A change of start date to September 16, 2011*

Director Roussos offered high praise for Dr. Dimperio, reviewing some of his credentials and saying he did a fine job for the district in the same capacity several years ago. Director Schirripa said she disagreed. She said that another gentleman was interviewed as a potential candidate as well, and she was impressed with his credentials. Director Schirripa went on to state the candidate is highly recognized, well-educated and well-known as an interim superintendent in nearby school districts. She added that Dr. Dimperio has not served as an interim for several years. Director Walkowiak recognized that the board is split on the decision of the best person to fill the position, but noted that a vote will move the district forward. He said that commencing with a search for a superintendent is critical. President Brown agreed that the board needs to act swiftly to begin a search, adding that he believed the candidate mentioned by Director Schirripa would be the best person for the position. Director McCartney concurred. Director Schell stated that Dr. Dimperio has an acute and engaging relationship with staff and he is familiar with the operations of the district. The vote was then made on the motion.

On another note, Director Schirripa said that in light of the petition on the part of the residents of Rosslyn Farms, and subsequent action, she believed it created a conflict and felt she should resign her leadership position as vice president of board. Director Schell said she was sorry Director Schirripa felt that way, although she did not understand the need to resign as vice president. Director Schirripa said she personally believes it is the right thing to do. Director Roussos echoed the comments of Director Schell, adding that he respected her decision. President Brown said he was shocked and saddened by the decision.

Director McCartney said he respectfully did not agree with her decision.

Director Hughan moved, seconded by Director Roussos, to accept the resignation of Director Schirripa and vice president of the board. By a voice vote, the motion carried 6-3 with Directors Brown, McCartney and Schell voting NO.

Director Tassaro suggested it might be nice to include the aides, cafeteria staff and other personnel in the in-service day program regarding the Olweus bullying program.

Director Hughan said that while researching a real estate site, she found that 91 homes were listed as “for sale” in the three boroughs that comprise the district. She offered that perhaps new families moving into

Resignation as VP of the Board – Director Schirripa

the district will increase the enrollment in schools and said she welcomed the change.

At this point, the administrators were excused from the meeting and Director Wilson signed offline. 8:45 pm.

OPEN FORUM: *High school transition coordinator Maggi Mishkin came forward to indicate she was still interested in acquiring the use of the facilities to operate a Special Olympics program. As coordinator, she said the rosters change with every sport, and she offered some general numbers in terms of participants and mentors, and their residency. She asked what her next step would be. President Brown said she should complete and submit a facility usage form, and indicated that the statistics would most likely require the organization to pay something for facility usage. Director Schell asked if special rates could be established for organizations such as this, with special needs children. Director Tassaro agreed, adding that district students could benefit by volunteering with the program. Director Schell said the matter should be investigated further to find a compromise or resolution.*

Carnegie resident Amanda Kolle said she had a question about the Pre-K Counts program in Carnegie. She was directed to Director Schirripa, who holds a board position within the AIU-sponsored program. Director Schirripa offered to meet with Mrs. Kolle concerning the matter and suggested they speak following the meeting.

Attorney Leslie Michel, spokesman for the Little Cougars, came forward to call attention to a recent confrontation at the Crafton Athletic Field between the Little Cougars and the varsity boys' soccer coach. The incident occurred over the use of the field. Mr. Michel said he spoke with President Brown about the incident (prior to the meeting) and discussed compiling a contact list should any altercations arise in the future. President Brown said he would work with Mr. Michel to develop a resolution.

ADJOURNMENT: *With no further business to discuss, Director McCartney moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 pm, seconded by Director Hugan. By a voice vote, the motion carried 8-0.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kirby Christy, Board Secretary

Michale Herrmann, Recording Secretary