

CARLYNTON SCHOOL DISTRICT

Regular Voting Meeting October 20, 2011 Carlynton Jr.-Sr. High School Library – 7:30 pm

MINUTES

The Carlynton School District Board of Education held its Regular Voting Meeting on October 20, 2011 in the library of the junior-senior high school. Those in attendance included President Thomas Brown and School Directors Sandra Hughan, Ronald McCartney, David Roussos, Nyra Schell, Patricia Schirripa, Betsy Tassaró, Ray 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, Jacie Maslyk, Robert Susini and Regina Urso. The audience was comprised of 14 individuals and two members of the press.

CALL TO ORDER - *The meeting was called to order by President Brown at 7:30 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Crafton Elementary fourth grader Patrick Stacy.*

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

President Brown and Dr. Dimperio welcomed Regina Urso, who is serving as Interim Principal at Carnegie Elementary.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD: *None*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Director McCartney moved, seconded by Director Wilson, to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2011 Agenda Setting/Committee/Voting Meeting as presented. **By a voice vote, the motion carried 7-0-2; Directors Schirripa and Wilson abstained due to absence at the last meeting.**

REPORTS:

- **Executive Session** – *President Brown said the board held an executive session prior to the meeting to discuss labor, legal and other matters, as is allowable by school code.*
- **Superintendent's Report** – *Dr. Dimperio gave a report of the PSSA results. The elementary schools scored well across the board, making AYP. Some of the grades/subject areas in the junior-senior high school did not fair as well. Dr. Dimperio said preparations have already begun and will continue to address this issue and make improvements.*
 - **Principals' Reports** – *The principals shared information about happenings in their buildings. When Dr. Susini mentioned that only three students are attending the SAT Prep Course, President Brown questioned the low attendance when eight or more had originally signed up. President Brown said there appeared to be a lack of accountability. Discussion continued for some time regarding this matter.*

Minutes of the October 6,
2011 Meeting

- Director of Pupil Services' Report – Mrs. Myford provided the minutes of the last Pupil Services Committee meeting and updated the board on a grant she is currently writing.
- ✓ The minutes of the Parkway West Career and Technology Center Joint Operating Committee of September 6, 2011 were entered into record. (SC Item #1011-01)
- Pathfinder Report – Director Wilson reported that 87 students are enrolled in the school. A golf outing was held with many Pirate players and over \$10,000 was raised. The money will be used to enhance the sensory room. Lastly, a cooler project is underway.
- Parkway West CTC Report – Director McCartney said Open House will be held November 7 and will include the presentation and demonstration of projects and class work.
- SHASDA – Director Schirripa noted the speaker at the last meeting was Amy Norton of the Department of Education. Ms. Norton spoke about funding and warned everyone to remain cautious. Also, schools merger discussions remain on the frontline as well as consideration to fairer expectations and accountability with cyber schools.
- PSBA-Legislative – Director Walkowiak spoke of Governor Gorbett's outline regarding taxpayer funded vouchers and charter schools. Director Walkowiak said talk to increase the earned income tax is taking place, as is teacher evaluations with a rating system.

BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD:

I. Miscellaneous

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

- C...A.Mendiola... AIU3...Prof. Development...10/25, 12/9, 2/6, 5/11
 - C...J.Bigler...ASSET...Butterfly Module Training...10/27
 - C...M.Smoller...USCHS...South Hills Gifted Meeting...11/4
 - C...MBVeri...USCHS...South Hills Gifted Meeting...11/4
 - C...J.Sweeney...Westmoreland IU...Homeless Conference...11/15
 - C...L.Ramandames...Sheraton SS...Effective Practices...1/29-2/1/12
 - C...L.Zimmerman...Sheraton SS...Effective Practices...1/30-2/1/12
 - C...N.Tobin...Sheraton SS...Effective Practices...1/30-2/1/12
 - FT...C.Badger...Soliders & Sailors...Chemistry Demos...11/16
 - FT...M.Priore/Gr.6...Heinz Hall...Symphony...1/19
 - FT...M.Priore/Gr.4...Heinz Hall...Symphony...1/27
 - FT...M.Priore/Gr.2...Heinz Hall...Symphony...5/22
 - C...R.Mickolay... Warhol Museum...Continuing Ed-MAC...11/3
- (Miscellaneous Item #1011-01 REVISED)

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

II. Finance

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

The August 2011 bills in the amount of \$2,199,204.59 as presented;

Conference and Field Trip Requests

Treasurer's Report – September 2011

September 2011 Bills

<p>The Borough of Carnegie Real Estate Tax Refunds for October 2011 as presented; (Finance Item #1011-01)</p> <p>Continuation in the Western Pennsylvania Natural Gas Consortium as presented and to authorize the appropriate school district official to sign any agreements relating to the purchase and supply of the district's natural gas requirements; (Finance Item #1011-02)</p> <p><i>Director Schirripa said this agreement will result in a \$9,957 reduction, or savings, each of the next three years.</i></p> <p>The September 2011 Athletic Fund Report as presented with an ending balance of \$6,722.56; (Finance Item #1011-03)</p> <p>The September 2011 Activities Fund Report as presented with an ending balance of \$25,787.41; (Finance Item #1011-04)</p> <p>Continuation of the Rental Service Agreement with Iron City Uniform for maintenance and custodian uniforms. (Finance Item #1011-05)</p> <p><i>And</i> the purchase of parts for the HVAC system at the junior-senior high school as presented at a cost not to exceed \$25,000. By a ROLL CALL VOTE, the motion carried 9-0.</p>	<p>Carnegie Borough RE Tax Refunds – October 2011</p> <p>Continuation in the Western PA Natural Gas Consortium</p> <p>September 2011 Athletic Fund Report</p> <p>September 2011 Activities Fund Report</p> <p>Uniform Rental Service Agreement</p> <p>Parts for the HS HVAC System</p>
<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">▪ Shannon Glaser – Elementary▪ Yvette Rose – Special Education, K-12▪ James Rupert – Elementary/Special Education (<i>returning</i>)▪ Lauren Dietz – Secondary Guidance Counselor (Personnel Item #1011-01 REVISED) <p>William Harris for the position of high school after school study hall teacher, on an as-needed basis, and to be compensated at the teacher's per diem rate, per the terms of the Carlynton Federation of Teachers Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement; (Personnel Item #1011-02)</p> <p>The following individuals to fill the position of after-school facilitators of the 2011-2012 Carnegie Towers Power Hours program. The program will run two (2) hours per week, on Tuesday and Thursday, as presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Mary-Anne Clark▪ Brian Harewicz▪ Lysie Merglowski (Personnel Item #1011-03) <p><i>Director Brown noted the program is funded by a grant from The Grable Foundation.</i></p> <p>The following individuals to fill the positions of after-school tutors at Carnegie and Crafton Elementary Schools with a primary focus on developing math and reading skills. The program will run three (3) days per week for 18 weeks. Teachers will be compensated at the per diem rate, per the terms of the Carlynton Federation of Teachers Collective Bargaining Unit</p>	<p>Additions to the 2011-2012 Day-to-Day Substitute List</p> <p>After School Study Hall Teacher – William Harris</p> <p>After School Facilitators for the Carnegie Towers Power Hour Program</p> <p>After School Tutors for Carnegie and Crafton Elementary Schools</p>

Agreement:

- Jeanine Butts, Carnegie
- Nancy Tobin, Carnegie
- Jessica Bigler, Noreen Kelly and Anna Kostrick, Crafton (*shared*)
- Nina Kovanis, James Nagorski and Janet Supko, Crafton (*shared*)
(Personnel Item #1011-04)

And a secondary after-school program for at-risk students for the 2011-2012 school year, to be operated four days a week, one hour per day. The program would include busing and will be funding through ACCESS monies; (Personnel Item #1011-05) **By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.**

Director Hughan moved, seconded by Director Roussos, to approve the anticipated posting for two (2) educators to facilitate an after-school program for students for the 2011-2012 school year, for four days a week, one hour per day. Teachers will be compensated at the per diem rate, per the terms of the Carlynton Federation of Teachers Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement;

The Leave of Absence request of Employee #CFT11-12 and Employee #SCA11-13 as presented; (Personnel Item #1011-06)

A secondary after-school tutoring program for academic achievement for students in grades 7-8 during the 2011-2012 school year, to be operated four days a week, one hour per day. The program would be funded through local dollars at an approximate cost of \$4,000 and will include busing; (Personnel Item #1011-07)

Director Schirripa asked how students will know to attend the tutoring opportunity, given the issue with the SAT Prep Course. Mrs. Myford said teachers will refer students for participation. She said if not enough students are attending, it will be opened to assist others. President Brown asked how many students are expected to attend. Mrs. Myford said the program can accommodate as many as 30 students per day. President Brown said he would like to receive a follow-up report, documenting the numbers and something to indicate whether or not the program has or has not been successful. Mrs. Myford said she could do that. Director McCartney said that such reports have illustrated that the SAT Prep Course has been successful.

The anticipated posting for four (4) educators to facilitate an after-school tutoring program for academic achievement for students in grades 7-8 during the 2011-2012 school year, for four days a week, one hour per day. Teachers will be compensated at the per diem rate, per the terms of the Carlynton Federation of Teachers Collective Bargaining Unit Agreement;

The unpaid technology internship for Kyle Gardinier for a total of 240 hours under the supervision of the technology department as presented; (Personnel Item #1011-08)

President Brown asked that this employee be required to sign an Acceptable Use Policy and questioned where the student is from. Dr. Susini said he was from Pittsburgh Technical Institute. Director Schirripa questioned confidentiality and asked why the board was not informed before that these technology internships are taking place.

After School Tutoring Program at the Secondary Level for At-Risk Students

Anticipated Posting of the After School Tutoring Program at the Secondary Level

Leaves – Employees #CFT11-12 and #SCA11-13

Secondary After-School Tutoring Program for Academic Achievement

Posting for the Secondary After-School Tutoring Program for Academic Achievement

Unpaid Technology Internship

And the following addition to the 2011-2012 Athletic Supplemental List as reviewed by administration:

- Keith Huebner – Varsity Assistant Football Coach
(Personnel Item #1011-09)

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

Director Tassaro asked if this individual has been working with the team all season. Dr. Susini said yes, as a volunteer. Dr. Susini said the gentleman was not sure if the coaching position would interfere with his job; hence the delayed approval as a coach. It was also noted that Athletic Director Dave Oddi will determine how much of the contracted stipend the coach will be paid.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Director Wilson brought up an earlier discussion to develop a procedure for interviewing candidates for positions. Dr. Dimperio said he would discuss the matter with the administrative team during a meeting on Monday.

Director Schell asked about an earlier requested field trip and Dr. Susini said volunteer chaperones will be recruited and the request will be resubmitted. Director Schell also questioned if the mulch had been spread at the Carnegie Elementary playground. Mrs. Urso said it was done and the PTA was considering the purchase of more mulch due to soggy conditions.

Discussion then began regarding the Facility Usage Policy and Special Olympics. Director Schell said the policy information she provided earlier, with the highlighted paragraph in green ink, was distributed to initiate discussion. Director Wilson said she reviewed the policy and believes changes are necessary. Director Schirripa said many of the athletes in Special Olympics are adults. She said she learned that the North Allegheny program pays a \$2000 fee and raises the money by fundraising. Referring to Camp AIM, Director Schell pointed out that a rate was established for their program, as opposed to a fee per participant. President Brown quoted the annual rates paid by Camp AIM, noting the district sends its students at no cost, which reaps a savings of \$19,000. Director Schell said she appreciates that fact; she is only trying to indicate that an agreement with Special Olympics could be a reflection of the Camp AIM agreement. Director Wilson and others said the two can not be compared. Director Roussos said he recalled that the Camp AIM fee agreement was an approximate calculation of the district costs for use of electricity, the pool, etc. Director Tassaro asked the solicitor if policy could be changed and Solicitor Burkardt said yes. Director Schell said the policy says the superintendent has the power to tweak or make a decision on a per organization basis. The discussion continued for some time with the following resolution: Ask the superintendent to meet with Mrs. Mishkin of Special Olympics, work on an agreement, and bring it back to the board. President Brown said he would also like to know the ages of the athletes, their residency and the money available within the organization. Director Tassaro said Special Olympics is currently held in a city school and some of the district students benefit. She said she believes reciprocity should be considered, especially since our schools are public schools, funded by public tax dollars. Dr. Dimperio said he understands what he is to do and he will meet with Mrs. Mishkin.

On another matter, Director Schell said the reality of today's economy and the reallocation of funds needs to be addressed in terms of technology. She

Addition to the Athletic
Supplemental List

said technology can pull together common threads and benefit the district as a whole. Director Wilson asked when a technology committee meeting was scheduled. Dr. Dimperio said he would ask Mr. Mickolay to consider some dates and agrees that many technology issues need to be addressed. Director Hughan again brought up the computers in the library that were not working. Mr. Sacco, in the audience, said there has been a problem with the wireless connection.

Director Roussos brought forward the fact that the board took action earlier in the year to close the elementary schools and consolidate. He said there has been no further discussion or action for several months and he made an appeal to those in favor of consolidating to reconsider that action and make a motion to “kill” the project or move forward. President Brown and Directors Hughan, McCartney and Schirripa, who voted in favor of the consolidation, said they were not willing to reopen the matter.

NEW BUSINESS: *Director Roussos reported a recent incident when the girls’ soccer team played a game at Avonworth and the game did not begin until 10 pm. He admitted games were backed up because of rain, but said the lateness of evening, on a school night, was not acceptable. President Brown said he believed it is the decision of the host school to decide whether or not the game will be played. He asked that the athletic director be directed to check into the matter and report back.*

OPEN FORUM: *Rosslyn Farms resident Steve Trbovich said he would like the board to consider establishing a PR department in the school district. He said there is little positive news in the media, but he knows there are many good things happening. Director Schirripa agreed that there is much to promote and said she brought home a few things to share with the PR person (Michale Herrmann). Mr. Trbovich said he has seen the newsletters but much of the information is old news. Director Hughan said the publicized information of graduates each year and the colleges they are accepted into, some very prestigious, testifies to the quality of education and provides good public relations material. Directors Roussos and Wilson indicated that only a portion of Mrs. Herrmann’s position is designated to PR. Dr. Dimperio said a newsletter/magazine is coming out soon and Director Schirripa said the board recently approved an agreement with the InCommunity magazine company.*

ADJOURNMENT: *With no further business to discuss, Director Hughan moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 pm, seconded by Director Roussos. By a voice vote, the motion carried 9-0.*

Respectfully submitted,

Kirby Christy, Board Secretary

Michale Herrmann, Recording Secretary