

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Planning Meeting Minutes  
January 3, 2008  
Board Room – Trinity Hall

The meeting was called to order by president, Dennis McWreath at 6:30 p.m. followed by the pledge of allegiance.

Board Members Present: Thomas Bodnovich, Gerald Chambers, Henry Clemens, Jenifer Fetcko, John Keisling, James Knapp, Dennis McWreath , Jeffrey Miller, Samuel Puglisi.

Others Present: Thomas Turnbaugh, Superintendent; James Shargots, Director of Fiscal Services/Board Secretary; Michael Brungo, solicitor; Judy Walz, recording secretary

Absent: Yvonne Weaver, Assistant Superintendent

Consent Agenda

Mr. McWreath asked for a motion to add item H-South Staffing to the Superintendent's Report, and to approve the agenda.

1. Motion by Jenifer Fetcko, seconded by James Knapp.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Turnbaugh made a statement regarding Trinity South. He discussed the structural problems that have occurred at the school and the options that the board will have to consider during the next year. He indicated that any comments regarding the closing of South were not accurate. Dr. Turnbaugh noted that Trinity South is in the budget for next school year and that the building is safe for students.

Public Comment:

Debi Yocca, Amwell Township, commented on fifth grade class size at Trinity South, suggested the board consider adopting a policy to put a cap on class size and presented the board with a petition calling for the addition of a fifth grade class.

Communications

Mr. McWreath indicated that board members would no longer have assigned seats at meetings.

Minutes, Treasurer's Report, Bill Lists, Cafeteria Report, Extracurricular Account, High School Activities Account, Middle School Activities Account and Officials Account - ENCLOSURES 4A, 4B, 4C, 4D, 4E, 4F, 4G and 4H.

Mr. Keisling questioned items discussed at the last executive session. He felt they did not meet the criteria of the Sunshine Law.

Superintendent's Report

- A. LJS Development Corporation Tower Proposal presentation by Louis Siyufy-ENCLOSURE 5B
- B. Communications to the Board- ENCLOSURE 5A
- C. NSBA Conference – March 29-April 1, Orlando, FL – ENCLOSURE 5C
- D. First reading of new Policy 146 – Student Services- ENCLOSURE 6A
- E. Recognition - Students of the Month (*January 17, 2008 meeting*)
- F. Student Representatives (*January 17, 2008 meeting*)
- G. Keystone Achievement Awards – Elementary and Middle Schools
- H. South Staffing

Director of Elementary Education

Elementary enrollment update- ENCLOSURE 8D

2. Motion by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Clemens, to authorize the administration to hire another full time teacher to fill a third fifth grade classroom at Trinity South. The board directed the administration to first survey the parents for volunteers to fill the new fifth grade. If not enough volunteered, the administration would select students to fill the class based on teachers' and administrators' knowledge of the students.

A roll call vote was taken: Aye: Bodnovich, Chambers, Clemens, Fetcko, Keisling, Knapp, McWreath, Miller, Puglisi. Naye: none

Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Keisling had asked for an amendment to the motion asking that the teacher's salary come from the money due South Strabane Township for the lease on the softball field. Mr. Bodnovich seconded the amendment. Before the vote, the amendment was withdrawn.

Business Manager's Report

- A. Preliminary Budget and calendar– 2008-09 –ENCLOSURE 7A
- B. Summary of Change Orders –ENCLOSURE 7B
- C. Gaming Revenues

Facilities Director:

- A. Schedule of building tours (Trinity North, South East, West and Middle School)
- B. Replacement of domestic hot water boiler – High School

Solicitor's Report

- A. Sunshine Law Summary – ENCLOSURE 9A

President's Report

Mr. Chambers was appointed as the SHASDA alternate.

Old Business

A vote was taken regarding adopting Modified Committee-of-the-Whole with standing committees. Aye: Keisling, Knapp, Bodnovich, Miller, Clemens, McWreath. Naye: Chambers, Puglisi, Fetcko

New Business

It was the consensus of the board that it will begin televising meetings. Mr. Puglisi reported on LERTA.

Public Comment

Fawn Schooly, North Franklin Township, thanked the board for adding the class at Trinity South.

Debi Yocca, Amwell Township, thanked the board for their decision to add the third fifth grade class.

Dr. Turnbaugh reminded the board that the contract with South Strabane regarding the softball field was approved by the previous school board.

Executive Session

The Board met in executive session at 9:00 with no action to follow.

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James R. Shargots, Secretary  
Trinity Area Board of Directors

JS/jw