

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting  
May 15, 2008  
Board Room – Trinity Hall  
6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm by President Dennis McWreath, 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 (participated via telephone between 8:30 – 8:55 p.m.) and Samuel Puglisi.

Others present: Thomas Turnbaugh, Superintendent; Yvonne Weaver, Assistant Superintendent; James Shargots, Director of Fiscal Services/Board Secretary; Michael Brungo, solicitor; and Judy Walz, recording secretary.

John and Mark Campbell of Campbell Insurance Agency made a presentation to the Board regarding their interest in becoming the insurance broker for the district.

Adoption of the Agenda

1. Motion by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Clemens to approve the agenda with the following additions:  
by Mr. Bodnovich under New Business - screening of professional candidates by an employment agency and by Mr. Keisling under New Business - meeting of the Personnel Committee and, under Old Business - grouping of Middle School students.  
Motion carried: 6 ayes; 2 nays (Puglisi, Chambers)

Communications

None

2. Motion by Mr. Puglisi, seconded by Mrs. Fetcko to approve the 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  
Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent's Report

3. Motion by Mr. Clemens, seconded by Mr. Puglisi to approve the first reading of revised Policy 624 – Capital Reserve Account – ENCLOSURE 5A  
Motion carried unanimously.
4. Motion by Mrs. Fetcko, seconded by Mr. Clemens to approve the second reading of the following revised policies:
  - Policy 006 - Meetings - ENCLOSURE 5B
  - Policy 217 - Graduation Requirements– ENCLOSURE 5CMotion carried: 7 ayes; 1 nay (Keisling)
5. Motion by Mr. Puglisi, seconded by Mrs. Fetcko to approve the Challenge Program – ENCLOSURE 5G  
Motion carried unanimously.
6. Motion by Mr. Clemens, seconded by Mr. Knapp to approve the IU on-line summer school program – ENCLOSURE 5I  
Motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Turnbaugh reported on his meeting with representatives of South Strabane Township regarding his request for a one year extension to the agreement at no additional cost due to the inability of the District to use the softball field due to the field retaining water.

## Assistant Superintendent's Report

### Recognitions:

- Students of the Month
  - March Students of the Month: Hunter Bigler, middle school; Ashley Aquilino, high school
  - April Students of the Month: Lindsey Stough, middle school; Bethany Songer, high school
- Student Representatives: Shane Rumbaugh; Kellyn Black, alternate

7. Motion by Mrs. Fetcko, seconded by Mr. Clemens to waive fees associated with the use of district facilities for the after school program offered by the Cameron Wellness Center – ENCLOSURE 6A  
Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Weaver reported on the status of the Little Hiller Academy summer program as well as College Board test scores- ENCLOSURE 6B; elementary enrollment and staffing – ENCLOSURE 6C; the enrollment of full day kindergarten – ENCLOSURE 6D; and teacher observations– ENCLOSURE 6E .

## Business Manager's Report

Tom Kinney of HT Capital Markets presented options to the board concerning debt reduction – ENCLOSURE 7A

Mr. Shargots discussed the payment of real estate taxes using a credit card – ENCLOSURE 7B

8. Motion by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Puglisi to award the bid for the projection system in high school auditorium to A-1 Electric Service, Inc. in the amount of \$327,000 –ENCLOSURE 7C  
Motion carried unanimously.
9. Motion by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Puglisi to award IU bids - ENCLOSURE 7E  
Motion carried unanimously.
10. Motion by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mrs. Fetcko to approve the Industrial Appraisal contract for the high school – ENCLOSURE 7F  
Motion carried unanimously.
11. Motion by Mr. Puglisi, seconded by Mr. Clemens to name the bank depositories for 2008-09 school year – ENCLOSURE 7G  
Motion carried unanimously.
12. Motion by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Bodnovich to approve the Pro-Soft Technologies contract for 2008-09 – ENCLOSURE 7I  
On a roll call vote, motion carried: 5 ayes (McWreath, Puglisi, Chambers, Fetcko, Knapp); 3 nays (Bodnovich, Clemens, Keisling)
- Mr. Shargots presented a budget comparison between Trinity Area School District and the state average of per pupil revenue and expenditures– ENCLOSURE 7K
13. Motion by Mr. Puglisi, seconded by Mrs. Fetcko to approve the preliminary General Fund Budget for 2008-09 school year – ENCLOSURE 7H
14. Motion by Mr. Keisling, seconded by Mr. Bodnovich to amend the motion to lower millage to 102 mills.
15. Motion by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Miller to close debate on the amended motion.  
Motion carried: 5 ayes (Chambers, Fetcko, Knapp, McWreath, Miller, Puglisi); 3 nays (Clemens, Bodnovich, Keisling)

On a roll call vote, motion to lower millage to 102 mills failed: 5 nays (Miller, Puglisi, Chambers, Fetcko, Knapp), 4 ayes (Bodnovich, Clemens, Keisling, McWreath)

On a roll call vote, the original motion to approve the preliminary General Fund Budget for the 2008-09 school year – ENCLOSURE 7H carried: 6 ayes (Puglisi, Chambers, Fetcko, Knapp, McWreath, Miller), 3 nays (Bodnovich, Clemens, Keisling)

#### Buildings and Grounds Committee Report

16. Motion by Mr. Clemens, seconded by Mr. Knapp to approve the Capital Improvement Plan – ENCLOSURE 9A  
On a roll call vote, motion carried: 8 ayes (Chambers, Clemens, Fetcko, Keisling, Knapp, McWreath, Miller, Puglisi)  
1 nay (Bodnovich)

#### Personnel

17. Motion by Mr. Puglisi, seconded by Mr. Knapp to approve the following:

- Employments: Tracey Vorum, Special Service Aide, effective May 16, 2008 at the contractual rate; Ursula Spencer & Sherma Caroselli, cafeteria workers, effective May 16, 2008 at the contractual rate - ENCLOSURE 14A
- Department Representatives as follows: Kristian Damaska Middle School Language Arts; Buffy Biernesser, Middle School Social Studies; Judy Basey, Middle School Science; Christine White, Middle School Math; Nita Houston, District Family and Consumer Science; Elizabeth Husk, Business Education, Janice Sonson, Special Education, Dana Ledger, Elementary Math at the contractual rate, effective 2008-09
- Substitutes: Lauren Rose, Special Service Aide, effective May 5, 2008; Rebecca Kania, van driver, effective May 16, 2008; Betty Montgomery, cafeteria worker, effective May 16, 2008  
Motion carried unanimously by those members present.

#### Solicitor's Report

Mr. Brungo discussed Board members' participation by speaker phone indicating that any member who participates by any electronic means is considered present at a meeting.

#### President's Report

Mr. McWreath appointed Mr. Chambers and himself to the Amwell Township Water Authority and asked Mr. Shargots to inform the Amwell Township supervisors of the recommendations. He also informed the board of a meeting of the ATWA on 5/22/08 @ 2:00 and requested that they attend.

#### Old Business

Mr. Keisling asked the administration to consider grouping students in the Middle School based on the student's reading level.

#### New Business

Mr. Knapp reviewed Trinity School District's standings in the 2008 Guide to Western PA Schools and complimented the administration for the improvements.

Mr. Puglisi commended Mr. Dalton on the Hall of Fame event and congratulated Mr. Chambers on his induction.

18. Motion by Mr. Keisling, seconded by Mr. Bodnovich to call a meeting of the Personnel Committee to review the hiring policy and teacher observations.  
Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Bodnovich questioned the possibility of an employment agency identifying candidates for professional positions.

Public Comment

Brian Dunst, South Strabane Township discussed the Varsity Boys Soccer Coach vacancy.

Penny Caleffe, Canton Township, commented on her experience concerning teacher observations and her opinion of grouping students.

19. Motion by Mr. Knapp, seconded by Mr. Chambers to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m  
Motion carried unanimously.

The board met in an executive session to discuss personnel and contracts with no action to follow.

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James R. Shargots, Secretary  
Trinity Area Board of Directors