

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Minutes of the Planning Meeting  
May 1, 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 and roll call.

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

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

Absent: Yvonne Beverina Weaver, Assistant Superintendent

Adoption of the Agenda

Motion by Mr. Clemens, seconded by Mr. Keisling to approve the agenda with the following additions:

Added by Mr. Bodnovich: under New Business - Pittsburgh Business Times and under Old Business - bleachers for the band. Added by Mr. Keisling: under Old Business - permission for the elementary and middle school principals to group students by ability. Added by Mr. McWreath: under President's Report - appointment of a representative to the District Leadership Team.

Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Brian Dunst, South Strabane Township, spoke regarding the hiring of a boys soccer coach.

Communications

Mr. Shargots read a letter from Patricia Hazen, IU 1, thanking the District for arranging for student Mark Higgins to perform at the Intermediate Unit Convention.

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

Superintendent's Report

- A. First Reading of revised Policy 624 – Capital Reserve Account – ENCLOSURE 5A
- B. Second reading of following revised policies:
  - Policy 006 - Meetings - ENCLOSURE 5B
  - Policy 217 - Graduation Requirements– ENCLOSURE 5C
- C. Recognition of Brandon Swarrow, high school English teacher – ENCLOSURE 5D
- D. Hiring the Best – ENCLOSURE 5E
- E. AR 325 - Professional Appearance Guidelines – ENCLOSURE 5F
- F. Challenge Program – ENCLOSURE 5G
- G. IU on-line summer school program – ENCLOSURE 5I

Assistant Superintendent's Report - (May 15 meeting)

- A. Recognitions:
  - Students of the Month (March and April)
  - Student Representatives
- B. After school program – ENCLOSURE 6A
- C. Little Hiller Academy
- D. College Board test scores- ENCLOSURE 6B

Business Manager's Report -

- A. HT Capital - Tom Kinney
- B. Payment of real estate taxes using a credit card
- C. District procedures for tax rebate
- D. Awarding of bid for projection system in high school auditorium - ENCLOSURE 7C
- E. IU bid awards - ENCLOSURE 7E (revised Middle School paper bid)
- F. Industrial Appraisal-high school - ENCLOSURE 7F
- G. Name bank depositories for 2008-09 school year - ENCLOSURE 7G
- H. Preliminary General Fund Budget for 2008-09 school year – ENCLOSURE 7H

1. Motion by Mr. Bodnovich, seconded by Mr. Keisling to request the administration to prepare a reduced budget of 99 mills.  
Motion failed; 7 nays, 2 ayes (Bodnovich, Keisling)
2. Motion by Mr. Bodnovich, seconded by Mr. Keisling to apply \$4 million to the debt.  
Motion failed; 1 aye (Bodnovich), 8 nays
3. Motion by Mr. Chambers to keep budget intact, applying \$1 million in Capital Reserve to the debt.  
Motion was withdrawn for lack of a second.

- I. Pro-Soft Technologies contract for 2008-09 – ENCLOSURE 7I
- J. Act 48 of 2003 –ENCLOSURE 7J

Administrators/Supervisors' Reports

- A. High School Assistant Principal – Mr. Orr
    - Parking Lot Fees and Use of Funds – ENCLOSURE 8A
  - B. Director of Athletics/Activities – Mr. Dalton
    - Sponsorship Procedures and Fee Schedule – ENCLOSURE 8B
4. Motion by Mr. Chambers, seconded by Mr. Bodnovich to require money from sponsorships at athletic events be earmarked to offset expenses in the athletic department.

After discussion, the motion and second were withdrawn.

- Event sponsor survey – ENCLOSURE 8E
- Softball team's use of South Strabane Field
- C. Elementary Principal – Mr. Braden
  - Fifth grade reading program – ENCLOSURE 8C
  - Attendance by township – ENCLOSURE 8D

Personnel

5. Motion by Mr. Clemens, seconded by Mr. Chambers to appoint HHSDR Architects and Engineers as District Architect, effective July 1, 2008  
Motion carried unanimously.

Buildings and Grounds Committee Report – Mr. Miller

- A. Capital Improvement Plan – ENCLOSURE 9A
- B. Trinity South bid – ENCLOSURE 9B

6. Motion by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mr. Knapp to award the bid for repairs to Trinity South to Waller Corporation for general construction and to McKean Plumbing for plumbing construction.  
Motion carried; 6 ayes, 3 nays (Keisling, Bodnovich, McWreath)

Solicitor's Report

- A. PSBA Article – ENCLOSURE 11A

President's Report

- A. Contract comparison – ENCLOSURE 12A
- B. Announced that an Executive session was held at 5:00 p.m. to discuss personnel.
- C. Appointment of Mrs. Fetcko to the District Leadership Team

Old Business

7. Motion by Mr. Keisling, seconded by Mr. Miller to permit the Middle School principal to group students by ability to enhance academic progress.  
Motion failed; 5 nays, 4 ayes (Keisling, Miller, Clemens, Bodnovich)

New Business

Mrs. Fetcko reported on the Classrooms for the Future event, Flip the Switch – ENCLOSURE 12B

Dr. Turnbaugh indicated that he would arrange for the CFF video to be presented at 6:00 p.m. before the next board meeting.

8. Motion by Mr. Keisling, seconded by Mr. Bodnovich to allow parents of elementary students to request that their child attend the school in their township of residence, pending approval of the building principal.  
Motion failed; 5 nays, 4 ayes (Keisling, Bodnovich, Clemens, Miller)
9. Motion by Mr. Bodnovich, seconded by Mr. Miller to purchase copies of the Pittsburgh Business Times 2008 Guide to Western Pennsylvania Schools for Board members.  
Motion carried unanimously.
10. Motion by Mr. Bodnovich, seconded by Mr. Chambers to provide temporary bleachers for the band at Hiller Field.  
Motion failed: 6 nays, 3 ayes (Bodnovich, Clemens, Keisling)

Public Comment

None

The board met in Executive Session to discuss personnel and a confidential student matter from 10:05 until 11:05 p.m.

11. Motion by Mr. Bodnovich, seconded by Mr. Keisling to appoint Dennis Makel as District Solicitor effective July 1, 2008.  
On a roll call vote, motion carried; 5 ayes (McWreath, Miller, Bodnovich, Clemens, Keisling), 4 nays (Knapp, Puglisi, Chambers, Fetcko)
12. Motion by Mr. Miller seconded by Mr. Bodnovich to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 p.m.  
Motion carried unanimously.

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James R. Shargots, Secretary  
Trinity Area Board of Directors