

TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Minutes of the Planning Meeting
October 2, 2008
Board Room – Trinity Hall
6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by President Dennis McWreath, followed by roll call and the pledge of allegiance.

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; Yvonne Weaver, Assistant Superintendent; James Shargots, Director of Fiscal Services/Board Secretary; Dennis Makel, solicitor; and Judy Walz, recording secretary.

Public Comment on Agenda Items

Steve Day, South Strabane Township, and Fawn Schooley, North Franklin Township, commented on the possible revision of Policy 903 dealing with the public's participation in Board meetings.

Communications

None

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

Director of Facilities – Mr. Kuzman

- A. Environmental testing – Cliff Shorts, Enspec – ENCLOSURE 8A
- B. Middle School roof – Andreas Dometakis, HHS DR – ENCLOSURE 8B
- C. Trinity South construction update – ENCLOSURE 8C

Superintendent's Report

- A. First reading of revised Policies 006 – Meetings and 903 –Public Participation in Board Meetings – ENCLOSURES 5A

After discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that Policy 903 not be revised.

- B. Capital Improvement projects and submission of PDE-3074(B) – ENCLOSURE 5B
- C. Use of Facilities Policy and Administrative Regulations -- ENCLOSURE 5C

Dr. Turnbaugh reported that he contacted the Acting Superintendent of Dubois Area School District concerning their use of an employment service for teacher recruitment. The Acting Superintendent indicated that Dubois Area uses PAEducator.net and does not use an employment service.

- E. ASCA Workshop (*October 16 meeting*)
- F. Administrative Goals – ENCLOSURE 5D

Dr. Turnbaugh indicated that the first CAC meeting will be held Wednesday, October 8 at 10:30 a.m. in the Board Room.

Assistant Superintendent's Report

- A. Recognitions: High School and Middle School Students of the Month (*October 16 meeting*)
- B. Terra Nova Results – ENCLOSURE 6A

Mrs. Weaver reported on all day kindergarten and the new math program. She also reported that consultants have been used for the new math program, Study Island at the Middle School and for literacy in the primary grades. Mrs. Weaver indicated that she and Dr. Turnbaugh would be visiting Frazier and Freedom school districts and invited board members to join them.

Business Manager's Report

- A. Addition of Trinity East Build a Better Playground Association to list of recognized groups – ENCLOSURE 7A
- B. Name Amwell Township as Earned Income and Mercantile Tax and Delinquent Earned Income and Mercantile Tax Collector for the calendar year 2009 (3% increase) – ENCLOSURE 7B
- C. Appoint Marjorie Day as Amwell Township Local Service Tax Collector for 2009 at 1.75%
- D. ATWA audit
- E. 2C Processors USA, LLC

Administrators/Supervisors' Reports – October 16 meeting

- A. Middle School Principal – *Mr. Minnick*
High School Principal – *Mr. Snoke*
 - Update on 4Sight testing, Directed Study and Reading instruction, College Board Prep Class
- B. Director of Food Service – *Mr. Sabol*
 - Point of Sale proposals

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Makel reported that he had no response from Range Resources concerning their agreement with ATWA.

President's Report

Mr. McWreath reported that he had contacted North Franklin Township concerning the school district's request for a reduction of building permits fees. The township indicated that there would be no reduction at this time.

The following elementary PTA/PFC presidents were appointed to the Community Action Committee: Leslie Alexas, Trinity West; Karen Richmond, Trinity South; Donna Connell, Trinity East; Wendy Briant, Trinity North.

Mr. McWreath discussed the possibility of using the local police department as a contracted service or School Resource Officer upon the retirement of the District's security officer.

Old Business

Mr. Puglisi commented on an article in the Observer-Reporter regarding the possible abolishment of the North Franklin Twp. Recreation & Business Improvement Authority. He reassured the Board that the Authority is stable and noted inaccuracies in the article. Mr. Makel noted that there was a misunderstanding regarding his comments cited in the article and that he had asked for a retraction.

New Business

Mrs. Fetcko reported that the District Leadership Team would like to request that the Board consider having at least four meetings, one in each of the elementary buildings, to encourage community participation.

Public Comment

Ken Bonnell, Canton Township, commented on the new math program.

Tamara Salvatori, South Strabane Township, also commented on the math program and questioned the Middle School cafeteria food shortage.

Mary Aber, South Strabane Township, asked what programs are in place for students who score in the advanced level of the PSSA.

Donna Connell, South Strabane Township, asked why the grading scale had been changed.

Mr. Keisling left the meeting at 9:30 p.m. prior to the executive session.

The Board met in an executive session from 9:40 – 11:35 p.m. to discuss personnel and contracts.

Personnel

1. Motion by Mrs. Fetcko and Mr. Miller to approve the following:

- A. Employment: Chelsey Miller, elementary teacher, effective date to be determined by the Superintendent; Melinda Rodriguez, elementary teacher, effective October 6, 2008; Diana Huffner-Wickstrom, elementary teacher, effective October 13, 2008; Emily Flower, elementary teacher effective date to be determined by the Superintendent; Donna Barron, special service aide, effective October 3, 2008

Casual Day-to-Day Substitutes: Marna Day, Ashley Crile, Bruce Grice, Travis Buri, effective September 22, 2008; Don Wall, effective September 24, 2008; Courtney Blackhurst, Ben Stewart, effective January 22, 2009; Shannon Kerr, effective October 6, 2008 (Policy #404 applies)

Sylvia Johnson, Cafeteria Monitor, effective October 6, 2008 (pending receipt of clearance); Donald Weisgarber, maintenance worker, effective November 1, 2008 (pending receipt of clearances); Rebecca Haught, crossing guard, effective date pending receipt of clearance – ENCLOSURES 12A

- B. Change of status: Melissa Oplanko from half-time to full-time special education teacher effective September 23, 2008
- C. Substitutes: William Smith, elementary teacher; Tasha Hrutkay, elementary teacher (Policy #404 applies); Marcia Coski, elementary teacher; Ashley Belcastro, elementary teacher; Connie Crowley, elementary teacher; Ryan Wachter, music and instructional technology teacher (Policy #404 applies); Alexander Frazier, custodian; Delight Seng, special service aide; Peggy Ward, special service aide; - effective October 3, 2008; Carol Painter, speech and language pathologist at \$200 per day, effective November 1, 2008
- D. Granting of tenure: Mary J. Laura effective October 16, 2008
- E. Resignation: Linda Comfort, cafeteria worker, effective September 22, 2008

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Motion by Mr. Puglisi, seconded by Mr. Clemens to approve the informal expulsion of student C.T. Motion carried: 7 ayes; 1 nay (McWreath).

Mr. McWreath appointed Mr. Chambers (Chairperson), Mr. Knapp and Mr. Clemens to serve on the TAESP contract negotiating committee.

3. Motion by Mrs. Fetcko, seconded by Mr. Chambers, to adjourn to an executive session to discuss personnel and contracts with no action to follow. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

James R. Shargots, Secretary
Trinity Area Board of Directors