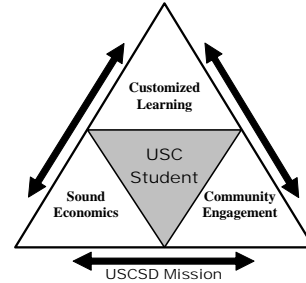


**UPPER ST. CLAIR TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA 15241**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2010 – 7:00 P.M
CENTRAL OFFICE BOARD ROOM**



PRESIDING: Amy L. Billerbeck, President

Notice having been advertised and posted and members duly notified, the regular meeting of the Board of School Directors was held on Monday, February 22, 2010, in the Central Office Board Room.

The following Directors were present:

Mrs. Amy L. Billerbeck, President
Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas
Mr. Frank J. Kerber
Mr. Bruce L. Kerman

Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr.
Mrs. Angela B. Petersen
Mrs. Rebecca Stern

School personnel in attendance:

Dr. Patrick O'Toole, Superintendent of Schools
Dr. Sharon Suritsky, Acting Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction/
Supervisor of Special Education
Dr. John Bornyas, Director of Operations, Community Relations & Special Projects
Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Literacy, Assessment & Professional Development
Ms. Frosina Cordisco, Director of Business & Finance
Mrs. Jean Toner, Director of Human Resources
Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology
Ms. Eloise Stoehr, Supervisor of Pupil Personnel
Mrs. Mary Ann Stabile, Stenographer
Mr. Edward R. Lawrence, Jr., Acting Solicitor

CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Billerbeck called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 pm.

STAR SPANGLED BANNER

Martina Caruso, high school student, sang the Star Spangled Banner.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR USC RESIDENTS

Mrs. Billerbeck requested a moment of silence for four young residents from Upper St. Clair. She stated that the School District and community is mourning the loss of David Rizzo (Class of 2009) and Derek Phillips (Class of 2008). She read a statement prepared by Dr. O'Toole where he states that the accidental death of the recent Upper St. Clair graduates was a shock to our school community. Mrs. Billerbeck extended heartfelt sympathy from the School District to the family and friends of David and Derek. Mrs. Billerbeck also stated that our thoughts and support are with those injured in the accident, Ryan Safka (Class of 2009) and Brenden Johnson (Class of 2010).

READING OF THE MISSION

Mr. Kerber read the following School District Mission Statement:

Developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens for a global society is the mission of the Upper St. Clair School District, served by a responsive and innovative staff who in partnership with the community provides learning experiences that nurture the uniqueness of each child and promote happiness and success.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: By Bolas: I move that the Board approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Mafrice, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

PRESENTATION OF KEYSTONE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS TO BUILDING PRINCIPALS

Dr. O’Toole presented Keystone Achievement Awards to the building principals. He explained that each school in the Commonwealth receives this award if they have met Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) targets for two consecutive years. These Keystone Achievement Awards are for the 2007-08 and 2008-09 school years. Dr. O’Toole noted that each of our buildings has received Keystone Achievement Awards since its inception.

RECOGNITION OF PAMELA DILLIE FOR RECEIVING NATIONAL BOARD CERTIFICATION

Dr. O’Toole and Dr. Bulazo recognized Pamela Dillie, 2nd grade teacher at Baker Elementary School, for receiving her National Board Certification as an Early Childhood Generalist by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. Mrs. Dillie was one of only 140 teachers in Pennsylvania to receive the NBPTS certification in 2009. Dr. O’Toole shared the requirements that a teacher must meet to receive their National Board Certification, and Dr. Bulazo shared the special qualities that Mrs. Dillie possesses.

STUDENT COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Alex Shogry, student council president, and Tuck Stapor, student council vice president, reported on the various high school and student council activities.

RESIDENTS’ COMMENTS – REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no residents’ comments at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: By Mafrice: I move the approval of the minutes of the January 25, 2010 regular Board meeting. Seconded by Petersen, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

MOTION: By Mafrice: I move the approval of the minutes of the February 15, 2010 Board meeting. Seconded by Petersen, and carried on unanimous voice vote. (Mrs. Bolas abstained.)

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: By Kerber: The Committee recommends and I move that the Board approve the following Consent Agenda items. Seconded by Bolas, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT PLAN CON PART H TO PDE FOR BOYCE

Authorize the School District to submit PlanCon Part H to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for Renovations & Additions to Boyce Middle School AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

APPROVAL TO SUBMIT PLAN CON PART H TO PDE FOR FORT COUCH

Authorize the School District to submit PlanCon Part H to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for Renovations & Additions to Fort Couch Middle School AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING.

APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL LISTINGS

Approve the following Personnel Listings, pending receipt of all paperwork:

Professional Staff - Leave of Absence

Jianina Duchi, High School, English – unpaid personal leave effective 2010-2011 school year
Dana Freedman, High School, Special Education - unpaid personal leave effective 2010-2011 school year

Tracy Smith, High School, Mathematics – unpaid personal leave effective 2010-2011 school year
Julie Mauder, Elementary, Boyce Middle School – Sabbatical Leave for Professional Development for the 2010-2011 school year

Amy O’Korn, Baker, Elementary - Unpaid Personal Leave beginning 3-11-10

Professional Staff – Resignation

Abby Perrin, High School, English effective the last day of teacher responsibility for the 2009-2010 school year

Elizabeth Hendrickson, High School, English effective the last day of teacher responsibility for the 2009-2010 school year

Professional Staff – Change of Status

Sharon Lepri, FROM (.5) (Long-Term Substitute for Pfender) Boyce, Special Education TO (1.0) (Long-Term Substitute for Pfender) Boyce, Special Education effective 2-15-10 through the last day of teacher responsibility for the 2009-2010 school year at \$44,200 prorated

Classified Staff – Leave of Absence

Heidi Joseph, Baker, Teacher Aide return from Unpaid Personal Leave effective 2-16-10

Classified Staff - Retirement

Janet L. Zucker, High School, Teacher Aide (English) effective 6-30-10

Classified Staff – Election

Joan Metzmaier, Boyce, Part Time Nutrition Center Worker effective 2-23-10 at \$9.95/hour

Classified Staff - Change of Status

Steve Mehalik FROM Maintenance TO High School, Maintenance Foreman, effective 2-1-10

Anne Watkinson FROM (.5) Ft. Couch, Teacher Aide (Special Education) TO (1.0) Ft. Couch, Teacher Aide (Special Education), effective 2-16-10 at \$15,500 (prorated)

Glaide Eakin FROM (.5) Boyce, Custodian TO (1.0) High School, Custodian at \$26,000 prorated effective 2-22-10

Extra Curricular Activities – New Appointments

Dom Frollini – Assistant Track Coach - \$2,911

Extra Curricular Activities – Reappointments

Glenn Wayland – Middle School Girls Basketball Assistant Coach - \$2,183

Extra Curricular Activities – Resignations

Rebecca Findley – Middle School Girls Track Coach effective 2-17-10

District Substitute List - Additions

Professional:

Kelly Dykstra – Social Studies/ English effective 2-4-10

Christina Zedreck – Social Studies effective 2-5-10

Classified:

Nancy Chace – Aide / Secretary effective 1-26-10

Karen Wasniewski – Nutrition Center effective 2-1-10

District Substitute List – Deletions

Classified:

Joan Metzmaier – Nutrition Center Worker effective 2-22-10

Edward Proudley – Custodian effective 2-15-10

MIDDLE SCHOOLS RENOVATION PROJECT

APPROVAL TO REQUEST BIDS FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS OPTIONS

MOTION: By Stern: The Superintendent recommends and I move that the Board authorize the School District to request bids for the following capital projects options. Seconded by Petersen, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

- High School Main Entrance Security
- Replacement of High School Pool-Pac (HVAC)
- Foundation and Structural Repairs to High School Pool
- Repairs/Replacement of High School Track
- Cook School Athletic Field Grading/Seeding

APPROVAL TO REQUEST PROPOSALS FOR ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN DEVELOPMENT AND OPINION OF CONSTRUCTION COST

MOTION: By Petersen: The Superintendent recommends and I move that the Board authorize the School District to request proposals for architectural design development and opinion of construction cost for the following capital project options. Seconded by Mafrice, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

- Fort Couch Middle School Athletic Field
- Boyce Middle School Athletic Field
- High School Athletic Complex

APPROVAL TO BEGIN PLANNING PROCESS FOR BOYCE MIDDLE SCHOOL ATHLETIC FIELD

MOTION: By Petersen: The Superintendent recommends and I move that the Board authorize the School District to begin the planning process with the Township Planning Commission for the Boyce Middle School Athletic Field. Seconded by Mafrice, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDERS

MOTION: By Bolas: The Superintendent recommends and I move that the Board approve the following change orders for the Middle Schools Renovation Project AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING. Seconded by Petersen, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

<u>School</u>	<u>Change Order No.</u>	<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Boyce	B-1	Mucci Construction	\$9,101.68
Fort Couch	A-1	American Contracting	\$9,317.74

APPROVAL OF REVISED CHANGE ORDER PROCESS

MOTION: By Stern: The Superintendent recommends and I move that the Board approve the following revised change order process for the Middle Schools Renovation Project, with the complete document ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING. Seconded by Bolas, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Change Order Approval Scale	Description	Authorization	Amount
Level 1	Change orders that occur throughout the project.	Central Office Administrator Assigned to the Project	< \$25,000
Level 2	Change orders that occur throughout the project.	Superintendent	< \$50,000
Level 3	Change orders that occur throughout the project which may feasibly be addressed at a Scheduled Board meeting or Special Board meeting without causing extra expense to the District.	Full Board	> or = \$50,000
Level 4	Change orders of an emergency nature over \$50,000	School District Construction Team (two School Board Directors appointed to the project, central office administrator assigned to the project, architect and construction manager) and Superintendent	>\$50,000

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

COMMENDATIONS & RECOGNITIONS

MOTION: By Bolas: The Superintendent recommends and I move the approval of the following Commendations & Recognitions. Seconded by Petersen, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

District

In recognition of their volunteer efforts, Cherie Dixon and Vicki McKenna are commended for being awarded the Pennsylvania PTA Honorary State Life Membership.

K-12

Congratulations to the following students whose Reflections entries were honored at the PTA Region 3 Level. A total of 1,560 entries were received with the top 3 in each category and division receiving honors. These entries have now moved on to the State PTA Level.

Visual Arts

2nd Place	Meaghan Welch	Ft. Couch
3rd Place	Karra Beck	High School

Literature

2nd Place	Richa Mahajan	Streams
3rd Place	Emily Critelli	Ft. Couch
3rd Place	Rishabh Kewalramani	Ft. Couch
3rd Place	Bruno Perdigoto	High School

Film Production

1st Place	Frank Perryman	High School
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Photography

3rd Place	Meghan Haverlack	Baker
1st Place	Anna Zacur	Boyce

High School

Congratulations to Zoe Weiner and Renee Becker for each achieving 2nd Place in the SkillsUSA Regional Competition in the Culinary Arts at Parkway West.

Congratulations to the 2010 National Merit Semifinalists who have advanced to Finalist standing:

Kevin Egeland
 Matthew Karashin
 Kristina King
 Chelsea Lane
 Mengyuan (Kathryn) Lin
 Molly Patterson
 Arvind Prasad
 Hirsch Singhal
 Michelle Szucs
 Jennifer Thompson

Kristina King and Michelle Szucs are commended for being selected as candidates for the United States Presidential Scholars Program, which recognizes and honors some of our nation's most distinguished graduating seniors.

Congratulations to Dan Ryave for being selected to participate in the PMEA Region State Chorus Festival to be held at Butler High School on March 10 – 12, 2010. Dan is enrolled in the high school Choral Program under the direction of Lorraine Milovac.

Ft. Couch

Fort Couch Middle School won 3rd place in the 16th Pittsburgh Regional Future City Competition, and also received special awards for “Best Housing Development and Layout,” and “Best Use of Green Construction”. The three students who represented the Future City team at the competition were: Robert Burke, Brinda Doshi, and Virginia White. The students involved in Future City were able to incorporate many ideas inspired by the motivating presentation given by Mr. Dave McLean, of Graves & McLean, and Mr. Joseph Brennan, of P.J. Dick Construction. The Fort Couch Future City team was mentored by Mr. Joseph Brennan.

Ft. Couch/Boyce

Fort Couch and Boyce Middle School students participated in the school-level competition of the Scripps National Spelling Bee on February 4, 2010. Six Fort Couch students finished at the top:

Eric Baumann in 6th Place,
 Yawaswi Duvvuru in 5th Place,
 Brinda Doshi in 4th Place,
 Deepikaa Sriram in 3rd Place,
 Julia de la Parra in 2nd Place, and
 Eva Roy as School Champion.

Five Boyce students finished at the top:

Betsy Boal in 5th Place,
 Eyram Akabua in 4th Place,
 Raahema Durrani in 3rd Place,
 Devon Garcia in 2nd Place, and
 Sam Chaudhari as School Champion.

Congratulations to these students and best of luck to Eva and Sam as they continue on to the next level of the competition, on March 20, 2010, when the Western Pennsylvania Spelling Bee will be held at the new Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED 2010-11 SCHOOL CALENDAR

MOTION: By Kerman: The Committee recommends and I move that the Board approve the Proposed 2010-11 School Calendar AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING. Seconded by Mafrice, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLAN

MOTION: By Petersen: I move that the Board approve the establishment of a Development Plan Ad Hoc Committee and Charge as follows. Seconded by Stern, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Committee Membership: Representatives from the Board, community, Community Foundation, staff, and PTA.

Committee Charge: To provide input and recommendations to the administration by April 30, 2010 for the creation and structure of a sustainable development program to fund new and existing educational and student-related programs and facilities.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION REGARDING STAFFING

MOTION: By Petersen: I move that based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools, the District staff be increased by the following positions effective March 1, 2010. Seconded by Bolas, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

2.0 – Part-Time Security Guard Positions @ \$15.00/hour

REQUEST APPROVAL TO SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR ACT 80 DAYS

MOTION: By Kerber: I move that the Board authorize the School District to submit an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Education for Act 80 days for the 2009-10 school year (August 24, August 25, October 12, and February 15). Seconded by Bolas, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

MATTERS OF INFORMATION

THANKS AND APPRECIATION TO CRISIS TEAM AND HIGH SCHOOL STAFF

Dr. O’Toole publicly thanked the School District Crisis Team and the High School staff for their leadership and support in dealing with the difficult circumstances resulting from the accident involving young USC residents.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

APPROVAL OF TREASURER’S REPORT – INCLUDING SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

MOTION: By Mafrice: I move the approval the Treasurer’s Report AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING, including budget transfers, if known, and approved total of the Bill List and Check File Listings as follows. Seconded by Bolas, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

Fund 10 (General Fund) - \$1,623,150.26
Fund 31 (Capital Reserve Fund) - \$4,005.50
Fund 36 (Middle School Project Fund) - \$1,476,050.60

APPROVAL OF 457 DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

MOTION: By Bolas: I move that the Board authorize the adoption of a Resolution establishing the Section 457(b) Deferred Compensation Plan for Public Schools and Adoption Agreement AS ATTACHED TO THE PERMANENT RECORD OF THE MINUTES OF THIS MEETING. Seconded by Petersen, and carried on unanimous roll call vote.

MATTERS OF INFORMATION

PA STATE AUDIT UPDATE

Ms. Cordisco reported that Board members are invited to attend a meeting with the state auditors to review the recently audited school years ending June 30, 2007 and June 30, 2008.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

RESIDENTS’ COMMENTS STATEMENT

Mr. Lawrence explained that he prepared a draft statement to be read prior to residents’ comments and recommended that the Board review the statement to be read at future meetings.

Mrs. Billerbeck explained that Mrs. Petersen suggested a crawl line be placed on the Board taping prior to it being cablecast, however, that process would delay the cablecast, as well as increase staff members’ time. She requested Mr. Lawrence to draft a statement that could be read prior to and after residents’ comments. Mrs. Billerbeck recommended that discussion regarding the draft statement be added to the March Committee of the Whole meeting.

Mr. Kerman suggested a revision to the draft statement.

Mrs. Billerbeck stated that both draft statements would be discussed at the March meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Mrs. Billerbeck announced that executive sessions were held on the following dates:

- February 15, 2010 – Negotiations & Personnel Matters
- February 22, 2010 – Personnel Matters

RECOGNITION OF JEAN TONER, DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES

Dr. O’Toole recognized Jean Toner, Director of Human Resources, for her dedicated years of service to the School District. He explained that this was Mrs. Toner’s last week of work and last Board meeting prior to retiring. Dr. O’Toole stated that Mrs. Toner established many processes and procedures and developed a human resources office with a private industry standard. He added that Mrs. Toner has been an excellent counselor to the administrators in dealing with human resources issues. Dr. O’Toole publicly thanked Mrs. Toner for her assistance to him, wished her much happiness in her retirement, and thanked her for all that she has done for the School District.

Mrs. Billerbeck stated that on behalf of the Board of School Directors that they would miss her many contributions and noted that Mrs. Toner has been a great asset to the School District.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved, seconded, and carried on unanimous voice vote that the meeting adjourn at approximately 8:15 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – PERSONNEL MATTERS

The Board adjourned into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

Amy L. Billerbeck, President
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Frosina C. Cordisco, Secretary
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Submitted by: Mary Ann L. Stabile
School Board Stenographer