

UNIONVILLE-CHADDS FORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
740 Unionville Road
Kennett Square, PA 19348
Telephone: (610) 347-0970; FAX: (610) 347-0976
Web Site - www.ucfsd.org

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Minutes
May 16, 2005

The May meeting of the Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board was held on Monday, May 16, 2005 in the Unionville High School LGI. Mr. Wandersee, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Wandersee requested that the group stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

The following members were present: Edward Wandersee, Keith Knauss, Kathleen Brown, Curt Baker, Stephen McClaskey, Edward Murray, Bruce Swayze, Corinne Sweeney, and Timotha Trigg. Also present were Dr. John Kenney, District Superintendent, Dr. Brenda O'Hern, Robert Cochran, David Dickens, Rich Hug, Thomas Marinelli, Dr. Jim Price, Maria Schwab, Bruce Vosburgh, Tim Minella, student representative, community residents, members of the press, and Denise Miller, recording secretary.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Melissa Jacono, Birmingham Township resident, inquired about changes for next year's calendar (i.e. inconsistencies of the spring break). Mr. Wandersee responded that changes were made to tie the break in with the PSSA testing. Mrs. Jacono asked about plans to change the rating systems for grades (A = 92 to 95). Dr. O'Hern responded that this has not been decided and has been discussed for several years. Mr. Wandersee suggested that Mrs. Jacono contact Dr. O'Hern to discuss this issue.

RESIDENTS' COMMENTS

Lou Minella, East Marlborough Township resident, thanked and congratulated the Board for its decision to support the high school guidance position and the administration for finding other things to cut in order to fund the position. Mr. Wandersee thanked Mr. Minella very much for his comments.

Mr. Wandersee announced that there would be an Executive Session regarding personnel immediately following this meeting for Board members in the District Office conference room.

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the Minutes for the April 18, 2005 Regular Meeting (pp. 3.a.1-11). Motion carried (9-0).

MINUTES APPROVED

The following committee meeting minutes were reviewed:

1. Curriculum Committee Meeting – May 9, 2005 (pp. 3.a.2.1-2)

Mr. Wandersee requested that the Secretary file the committee minutes.

3.a.34

The following financial statements and reports were reviewed:

1. General Fund Treasurer's Report – April, 2005 (p. 3.b.2)
2. 2004-2005 GF Function Revenue Analysis with Details of 6100's and 7000's as of April, 2005 (p. 3.b.3)
3. Year-to-Date Summary of Revenues for the Period Ending April 30, 2005 (p. 3.b.4)
4. 2004-05 General Fund Function-Object Expenditure Analysis as of April, 2005 (pp. 3.b.5-7)
5. Category Expenditures Analysis – April, 2005 (p. 3.b.8)
6. Year-to-Date Summary of Expenditures for the Period Ending April 30, 2005 (p. 3.b.9)
7. Capital Reserve Fund Report – April, 2005 (p. 3.b.10)
8. Capital Projects Fund Report – April, 2005 (p. 3.b.11)
9. Outstanding Projects Summary – April, 2005 (p. 3.b.12)
10. Construction Project Reports – April, 2005 (pp. 3.b.13-22)
 - a. Unionville Elementary School Project (pp. 3.b.13-14)
 - b. Chadds Ford Elementary School Project (pp. 3.b.15-16)
 - c. Pocopson Elementary School Project (pp. 3.b.17-18)
 - d. Stadium / Track Project (pp. 3.b.19-20)
 - e. Unionville High School HVAC Project (pp. 3.b.21-22)
11. Activity Account Reports
 - a. C. F. Patton Middle School Activities Account – January-March, 2005 (pp. 3.c.1-3)
 - b. Unionville High School Activities Balance Sheet – January 31, 2005-March 31, 2005 (pp. 3.c.4-7)
 - c. U-CF Cafeteria Service Profit & Loss Statement – March, 2005 (pp. 3.c.8-9)

Mr. Wandersee commented regarding the new financial statements and stated that the Board members had reviewed them prior to the meeting. Mr. Wandersee asked that the Secretary file the financial statements and the reports.

It was moved by Mr. Swayze and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the Bill List dated April 20, 2005 in the amount of \$1,247,621.75 (pp. 3.d.1-16).

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. McClaskey and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the Bill List dated April 20, 2005 for Collegium Charter School in the amount of \$11,915.04 (p. 3.d.17).

Motion carried (8-1-1). Mr. Murray abstained.

It was moved by Mr. Swayze and seconded by Mr. McClaskey to approve the Budget Transfers for May, 2005 as on the attachment (p. 3.b.1).

Motion carried (9-0).

**FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

BILLS PAID

**BILL PAID-
COLLEGIUM
CHARTER
SCHOOL**

**BUDGET
TRANSFERS**

Mr. Knauss reported that the Unionville High School HVAC Project is moving along nicely. There were some minor problems with odors and cool rooms but they were addressed and we're moving forward. We had hoped to have prices for classroom furniture for the four modular classrooms but have not received all of the quotes yet. We will have them for the June Board meeting. All of the suppliers have indicated that it could be here by August.

Mr. Knauss stated that East Marlborough Township is proceeding with the roundabout at Route 82 and Doe Run Road. There will be a closure on June 15th that will not affect the arrival to school but will affect the return home for that day. Our Transportation Department is aware of this. The township has requested that we post a detour route on our website. We will do so as soon as we receive the information from the township engineer.

Mrs. Brown stated that there were several Curriculum items for Board approval this evening.

It was moved by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the K-5 Elementary Social Studies Program as on the attachments (pp. 5.a.1-3).

Mrs. Brown commented that we are approving the K-5 social studies curriculum tonight and are not approving the textbooks. This has been part of the district's cycle for curriculum review. The Elementary Social Studies Committee, including teachers and administrators, has reviewed the current curriculum that was originally developed in 1995 and there were considerable redundancies. Also, it did not meet the Pennsylvania Academic Standards in history, geography, economics, civics and government. We outlined a draft curriculum and received Board approval in October, 2005. We are returning now after the pilot and asking for Board approval of the curriculum.

Mr. McClaskey stated that he has some concerns about the current social studies curriculum as it is written. It is somewhat deficient in the area of history as he compared what we have to the Pennsylvania Standards. Basically, there are four categories with four standard statements for a total of 16 different areas. The curriculum, as written, only identifies seven of the 16 standards at grade 3. He feels that not all of the standards are being addressed. Also, there are no independent measurement tools that we're going to be using to measure whether or not we're performing. The PSSA does not measure social studies. We used to test with TerraNova. He has a problem approving a \$20,000 item for something without a measurement tool. At this point, he would probably vote no for this item.

Mrs. Trigg stated that she understood we were not approving materials tonight and this was not a financial vote. Dr. O'Hern responded that there is some curriculum writing that is in the proposal, along with training and development. Materials are separate and would be on the June agenda for approval.

FACILITIES:

**UHS HVAC
Project**

**Roundabout-
Rt. 82 & Doe
Run Road**

CURRICULUM:

**K-5 Elementary
Social Studies
Curriculum**

Curriculum (Continued)

Mrs. Trigg asked about the possibility that the history piece could be reviewed for the possible inclusion of additions in that area. Dr. O'Hern responded that it's dynamic and always changes, pending review. Mrs. Schwab, Director of Elementary Education, stated that the social studies curriculum was developed by a K-12 committee of teachers. When they put that scope and sequence together, the intention was to cover the Pennsylvania Standards at some point during those years. In some areas, you may find that there are some deficiencies but they would be picked up at other levels. The purpose was to eliminate redundancy.

Mr. McClaskey commented regarding what students should know and be able to do at four grade levels, starting with grade 4. He saw that they touched seven of them by 3rd grade (for history). Mrs. Brown stated that we couldn't cover all of the Standards in history, geography, economics and government. Each one would be a course in itself. Until the state can come up with a test that works, it would be pretty impossible in the amount of time we teach social studies to cover all of them.

Dr. O'Hern commented that we have to make sure they are covered K-12. It's a positive for this district that we are able to design our curriculum as our educators see fit because we don't have a test driving this curriculum. She feels comfortable that it is covered and covered well, K-12.

Mrs. Schwab stated that another comment is that the state develops anchors for each of the subject areas. If you look at them in the area of science, they don't always cover all of the Standards either necessarily, and not having the specific anchors, it's very hard to say that these are the areas we need to emphasize.

Mr. McClaskey feels that the primary textbook is very deficient in the area of history. Dr. O'Hern responded that this was true with each grade level that we looked at and that is why each one comes with a box of materials and not just one text. We have a smorgasbord of materials in each grade that teachers will use to teach the content at which the Board looked.

Mr. Baker asked if there was significant risk when the anchors become known that we will have a need near-term for an evaluation of the curriculum? Should this be placed outside of the normal curriculum review cycle? Mrs. Schwab responded that there is no indication that the state is prepared to develop a PSSA in social studies. They've spent a number of years developing the science test and that may not be ready for a number of years. The No Child Left Behind legislation includes the areas of reading, math and science for testing. Science will not be operational for at least two more years and she does not see them putting together a test for social studies soon.

Motion carried (8-1). Mr. McClaskey voted nay.

**K-5 Elementary
Social Studies
Curriculum
(Continued)**

Curriculum (Continued)

It was moved by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the Middle School Elective Encore Courses as follows (pp. 5.b.1-19):

1. Advanced Wood Working
2. Making Art with Tiles
3. Sculpture
4. Voice (Singing) Performance Class
5. Music Keyboarding
6. Convenience Food and Your Health

Mrs. Brown stated that students in the middle school would be given a choice to take one of these or the existing class in the middle school.

Mrs. Trigg commented that these are not semester-long classes. They would take the place of the art classes that students currently have at the middle school. It would be an option that is contingent upon meeting enough students signing up for them. In response to Mr. Wandersee's question, Dr. O'Hern stated that this change does not include any new personnel. In response to Mr. McClaskey's question, Dr. O'Hern responded that this option would be offered only to 8th graders for next year.

Motion carried (9-0).

Dr. O'Hern stated that the textbooks and the materials for the Elementary Social Studies Program are available for review by Board members at the District Office.

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to vote on the attached resolution (p. 6.b) to opt into Act 72 of 2004.

Mr. Murray read the attached resolution. Mr. Wandersee emphasized that a yes vote is to opt in to Act 72 and a no vote is not to opt in. We are making history in Chester County with this vote tonight. The Kennett, Octorara and Coatesville school districts are also voting this evening.

Mr. Wandersee commented that we have received a petition to say no to Act 72 with approximately 38 names included. The petition was circulated to Board members.

Mrs. Brown commented that there are a lot of ways to look at and think about Act 72. As a Board member, you think about how it's going to affect the school and also have to look at how it will affect our taxpayers. Mrs. Brown's family has lived in this area forever and she sympathizes with people who have seen the area change from farmland to something else. Some people who have moved here say they are sitting on a lot of money but this is immaterial because they don't want to move. Three-hundred dollars is a joke if you call that property tax reform. She is disgusted with the legislators for

**Middle School
Elective Encore
Courses**

FINANCE:

**ACT 72
RESOLUTION**

**ACT 72
RESOLUTION
(Continued)**

putting this on our plate and calling it tax reform. That \$300 will be eaten up by the amount of things we are allowed to raise the taxes for and just inflation. The Governor said to them in a meeting that if they couldn't get around Act 72, they weren't doing a good job. That makes the whole thing a joke. Why should she opt in to something that is not benefiting senior citizens and others in the district? She'd like everyone to go back to the legislators and say they should give us something that is real property tax reform.

Mrs. Brown mailed 1,000 post cards to people in East Marlborough requesting their comments and received about 50 responses. Very few of the respondents were asking to opt in to Act 72. She will not vote in to Act 72 and feels badly for people who really thought this was going to be a property tax reduction.

Tim Minella, student representative, commented that Act 72 is the absolute wrong thing for kids in this district. It would be unfair to the Board members who would have to act as public relations people to explain every single tax increase and convince the citizens about referendum voting.

Mr. Knauss commented that as with most issues, the decision on Act 72 is neither black nor white but gray. He likes the addition of gambling money to reduce real estate taxes. Why give it to the states? He is neutral on the ability of the electorate (not the Board) to decide on an earned income or a personal income tax to replace up to 50% of the real estate tax burden. Mr. Knauss has a strong dislike for back-end referendum. As part of Act 72, any proposed school tax increase would be subject to voter referendum. The voters get up or down approval of outside tax increases.

Mr. Knauss quoted the Governor in his 2004 budget address when he lamented that "Pennsylvania homeowners have been hard hit by repeated tax increases over the past decade." He has a point. Twelve Chester County school districts have raised taxes an average of 5.5% over the last six years. Unionville-Chadds Ford raised theirs 5% per year. Maybe the legislators are rightly providing voter control over out-of-control school spending via a back-end referendum.

However, a closer look might suggest a different cause and an alternate solution. The first clue is that none of the 12 districts were able to keep spending below the inflation index. Isn't there at least one district that could get it right? Either all school boards are reckless spenders or there might be other justifiable factors driving spending. That leads us to salaries and benefits (80% of our budget is in wages). We can't blame it on the teachers; they have just kept pace with inflation with the private sector. We have well-paid teachers but dedicated, effective teachers. The increase in the number of employees, both teachers and administrators, has grown much faster than the number of students.

**ACT 72
RESOLUTION
(Continued)**

The overriding factor of legislative mandates is to fully comply with them, which has added staff (i.e. No Child Left Behind, English As a Second Language, Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act, Integrated Pest Management, Act 48 Professional Development, Charter Schools, Wellness Policy dealing with cafeteria nutrition). Mr. Knauss was merely pointing out that they are mandates with which we must comply with your money.

He would recommend that the legislators introduce one hand to the other so they can work in concert. Either provide state funds to cover the mandates, stop passing new mandates, or remove expectations so local tax rate increases can stay below inflation. Act 72 is the mother of all unfunded mandates. It would tie up the administrators and Board members for months each year to educate the public as to why a yes vote on a referendum was necessary; time that could be better used improving the students' education. One bright light about Act 72 is that it is not a mandate. The legislators have allowed us to opt out of it. He will vote no.

Dr. Sweeney stated that she supported the slots bill and stated that there are simple ways to use the funds in Pennsylvania but Harrisburg created a very complicated system. She will not approve it.

Mr. Murray commented that Act 72 was approved by the Senate on July 3, 2004, when there could be no public comment (at 2:00 a.m.). The House also voted on July 4, 2004 at 2:00 a.m., under darkness. He believes it was the mission to slow the growth of student cost by imposing the back-end referendum. However, there is no evidence that this will control the cost/student as Mr. Knauss aptly pointed out. There are many expenditures that are beyond our control. It's also important to note that the states of Delaware, Maryland, New York and New Jersey all have a higher cost per student and all have referendum voting. The Act does supply a small amount of property tax relief but it can't be done on the backs of income earners, which could be four times what it is now. The primary cause for high taxes is due to the increased expenditures that we don't control. He will also vote against Act 72.

Mrs. Trigg stated that those who spoke before her covered a lot of the topics. She has always been pleased to live in a community with such a high level of education and sophistication. It's asking a lot to ask the community to wade through this and be able to come up with an informed decision. She has received a lot of very thoughtful correspondence and she appreciates that. She will also vote no.

Mr. Swayze commented that enough had been said about the Act. He supports property tax relief but in addressing the Pennsbury Township supervisors, he feels he was successful in convincing them that Act 72 was not the way to go. They encouraged him to try to design alternative plans for tax relief in the district. Mr. Swayze is glad to look at different proposals but this should be done on a statewide basis.

**ACT 72
RESOLUTION
(Continued)**

Mr. Baker stated that the most significant issue for him is that of local control. It's a matter of principle and he will oppose any legislation that encroaches on local control of our schools. There is also the absence of clarity regarding what happens with the allocations of the opt out funds, the inability for us to address the multiple county districts, and the inability statewide to address how the exceptions would be applied so that districts have no way of knowing whether or not they'd find themselves in back-end referendum.

Since this is a decision that will last a lifetime, we're being asked to make that decision without the ability to conduct appropriate due diligence. It is not the role of school directors to be in the wealth allocation business. It's not the role he was elected to address. This will address our decision making for years to come simply because we will be cognizant of and acting with full knowledge of the back-end referendum. Hence, we will no longer be making good financial decisions for the district but rather attempting to manipulate our way around Act 72.

There is a question of home value vs. tax savings. The strength of our school district is probably the best wealth creation vehicle for most of our residents. People want to live here because we are one of the best districts in the commonwealth. In a situation where there is no conceivable benefit for the district, limited near-term benefit to our homesteaders and farmsteaders, and possible detriment to the wealth creation of our community, he cannot support it. It's bad legislation.

Mr. McClaskey stated that he also cannot support it as currently written. He does support property tax reform but this is not the way to do it. This is truly not tax reform, and when the state can accept referendum on their end, he would then be willing to support it.

Mr. Wandersee commented that if you opt into Act 72, you are truly gambling on gambling (until 2008-09 based on his latest information). Regarding earned income tax, we don't know where it may end up some day. We have asked legislators a year ago how they were going to clarify the two-county school districts and were assured they would solve the problem. We still have not received a solution to that problem. We could do tax equalization, but it's not a legally-sanctioned alternative under Act 72 and could leave us open to a law suit.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Baker -	No	Mr. Murray -	No
Mrs. Brown -	No	Mr. Swayze -	No
Mr. Knauss -	No	Dr. Sweeney -	No
Mr. McClaskey -	No	Mrs. Trigg -	No
		Mr. Wandersee -	No

Motion defeated (0-9).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Knauss to approve the bid award recommendations for art, athletics, health and physical education, general supplies, science and technology as on the attachments (pp. 6.c.1-3).

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the bid award recommendation for the Chester County Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Board Custodial Supplies Bid #2456-1 for 2005-2006 as on the attachment (p. 6.c.4). Mr. Murray stated that these are the lowest prices available as negotiated by the Chester County I.U.

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the Lease Agreement with DeLage Landen for two (2) Kyocera KM-7530 copiers provided by Executive Imaging Systems in the total amount of \$2,083 per month for 63 months (for Hillendale Elementary and the District Office) as on the attachment (pp. 6.3.1-4). Mr. Murray stated that this is state contract pricing.

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the attached resolution authorizing the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2005, in the aggregate principal amount of \$6,640,000 for the purpose of providing funds to pay the costs of designing, acquiring, constructing, furnishing, and equipping renovations, additions and/or improvements to facilities owned and operated by the School District and to pay the cost of issuing and insuring the bonds (as on the attachments – pp. 3.d.1-26).

Mr. John Frey, Public Financial Management, reviewed the Series of 2005 Bond issue to fund the high school capital projects in the amount of \$6,640,000. Final pricing was completed last Friday with RBC Dean Rauscher. Mr. Frey stated that we're at or near the low on rates. Long-term interest rates have declined slightly.

He reviewed the construction costs on page two of the Bond Sale Document as provided by the school district. The debt service schedule was reviewed (p. 3), including the principals' payments (ranging from 3 to 4.35%) Interest movements and time have proven favorable for the district over last month. Mr. Frey commented regarding the sources and uses of the funds and the cost of issuance with a yield of 4.06%. He reviewed the overall debt service for the district on p. 5. Mr. Frey stated that they were pleased with the results and requested questions from the Board if there were any questions.

BID AWARDS:

**Art/Athletics/
Health-
Phys.Ed./
General
Supplies/
Science &
Technology**

**C.C.I.U. –
Custodial
Supplies**

**Lease
Agreement-
Copiers**

**General
Obligation
Bonds –
Series of 2005**

Mr. Tim Anderson, Pepper, Hamilton, LLP, stated that the Board had before them a resolution authorizing transactions and all actions necessary to process the transactions described by Mr. Frey. It is in all manner and form standard.

In response to Mr. McClaskey's question, Mr. Cochran stated that approximately \$13,000 (higher than what we have right now) was put into the 2005-06 budget. It has no impact on the millage because of the rounding.

In response to Mr. Wandersee's question, Mr. Frey stated that the interest rates achieved by RBC were very competitive in the marketplace and also the underwriting discount charged was the lowest that we've been charged in the school district.

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the school lunch prices for the 2005-06 school year as follows:

- a. Elementary Lunch - \$1.80
- b. Secondary Lunch - \$2.00

Mr. Wandersee stated that this represents a 20-cent increase. The Food Service Director provided a presentation at the Work Session and indicated that we have not raised our prices for seven years.

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Brown to approve the following personnel item (agenda item 7.a):

- a. Professional Conferences
 - 1. Approve attendance at (4) Professional Conferences as on the attachment (p. 7.a.1)

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the following personnel items (agenda items 7.c. through 7.k):

- c. Resignations (3)
 - 1. Edmund Johnson – Bus Driver, effective April 28, 2005
 - 2. Claude Davis – Custodian – Patton Middle School, effective April 6, 2005
 - 3. Caron Cramer – Unionville High School Health & Physical Education Teacher, effective June 16, 2005

**School Lunch
Prices**

PERSONNEL:

**PROFES-
SIONAL
CONFERENCES**

RESIGNATIONS

E. Johnson

C. Davis

C. Cramer

Personnel (Continued)

d. Reclassifications (6)

1. Amy Hoffman-Reardon – from Hillendale/Pocopson Elementary IST/AT Teacher Day-to-Day Substitute to Long-Term Substitute, effective December 6, 2004 at the Batchelor's, Step 1 salary level
2. Sara Condon – from Chadds Ford Elementary Grade 1 Teacher (Long-Term Substitute) to Grade 1 Teacher (Temporary Professional Employee), effective March 30, 2005 at the Batchelor's + 24, Step 1 salary level
3. Elmer Crosby – from Van Driver to Bus Driver (5 to 5-1/2 hours per day), effective April 14, 2005, at a salary of \$13.46 per hour
4. John A. Horn – from substitute Bus Driver to part-time Bus Driver, effective April 11, 2005, at a salary of \$13.46 per hour
5. Michael Pugh – from part-time Bus Driver to full-time Bus Driver, effective May 1, 2005
6. Marcia Hardy – from part-time Bus Driver to full-time Bus Driver, effective May, 2005

e. Substitutes (4)

1. Kelly Ross – Elementary
2. Ellen Feinstein – French
3. Dorothy Cook – Elementary
4. Valerie Czynszczon - Spanish

f. Supplemental Contracts (5)

1. Christina Brunschwyler – Concert Chaperone
2. Gail Harting – Concert Chaperone
3. Young Choi – Concert Chaperone
4. Bobby Laffey – 9th Grade Baseball Coach
5. Paul Wolf – 9th Grade Boys' Lacrosse Coach

g. Employ (3)

1. Brad Bowman, Jr. – Assistant Mechanic-Grounds, effective May 9, 2005, at a salary of \$16.25 per hour
2. Wayne Winters – Pocopson Elementary Custodian, effective April 25, 2005, at a salary of \$11.86 per hour
3. Linda Miller – Patton Middle School Custodian, effective April 14, 2005, at a salary of \$11.86 per hour

h. Correction (1)

1. Mary Ellen Garvin – Change from resignation to retirement

i. Discharge (1)

1. Leon Bartley – Unionville High School Custodian, effective May 2, 2005

**PERSONNEL
(Continued)**

**RECLASSIFI-
CATIONS:**

**A.Hoffman-
Reardon**

S. Condon

E. Crosby

J. A. Horn

M. Pugh

M. Hardy

SUBSTITUES

**SUPPLE-
MENTAL
CONTRACTS**

EMPLOY:

B. Bowman, Jr.

W. Winters

L. Miller

CORRECTION:

M. Garvin

DISCHARGE:

**L. Bartley
3.a.44**

Personnel (Continued)

j. Summer Transportation Employees (6)

1. Catherine Stein
2. Sharon Massey
3. Patricia Peters
4. Marcia Hardy
5. Travis McEwing
6. David Oranzi

k. Leave (1)

1. Ashley Keller – Chadds Ford Elementary Teacher – Maternity Leave and Child Rearing Leave beginning approximately September 19, 2005 through the end of the 2005-06 School Year

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the following personnel item:

l. Creation of Positions

1. Approve the Professional and Support Positions as per the Preliminary Budget Approval

Mr. Wandersee stated that we had debated these additions on May 2nd and May 4th at the budget hearings. This is basically a formality to move forward with the budget that will be approved in June.

Motion carried (7-2). Mr. Knauss and Mr. McClaskey voted nay.

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the following personnel item:

m. Reduction of Positions

1. Special education (.5 position)
2. Librarian (.4 position) – Chadds Ford Elementary School, Due to Lower Caseload and Student Enrollment
3. Foreign Language (.6 position) – Patton Middle School, offsets a .6 foreign language add at Unionville High School

Mr. Wandersee commented that these positions were discussed at the May 2nd and May 4th budget meetings.

Motion carried (9-0).

**PERSONNEL
(Continued)**

**SUMMER
TRANSPOR-
TATION
EMPLOYEES**

LEAVE:

A. Keller

**CREATION OF
POSITIONS**

**REDUCTION OF
POSITIONS**

Mr. Swayze reported for Transportation that he thought Leslie Wooding and Ferne Hill might have been here tonight to discuss busing. He assured her that it would be considered as routes were developed over the summer. In other areas, he reported regarding:

1. Summer – The Transportation Department is gearing up for summer work (planning routes for the Extended School Year Program that will be located at Unionville Elementary School this summer). Drivers will also transport students to a number of other special education programs over the summer throughout the county.
2. Roundabout – East Marlborough Township/PennDOT will begin the construction on or about June 16th at the intersection of Rt. 82 and Doe Run Road. The area will be closed to traffic for about eight weeks. Hopefully, with good weather, it will stay on schedule and be completed before the start of school in late August.
3. Legislation – Act 327 officially went into effect last week. The law imposes a \$35 fine, plus \$2 for each mph over the speed limit in a school zone. Second offenders would receive an automatic three points and a 60-day suspension of driving privileges. If the speed is more than 11 mph over the speed limit, the fine would increase to \$500.

It was moved by Mrs. Trigg and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the Special Education Release and Settlement Agreement for Student No. 2004-2005-2 as on the attachment (pp. 12.a.1-11). Mrs. Trigg commented that this was discussed in Executive Session since it is confidential and involves a student.

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Baker and seconded by Mrs. Brown to approve the School Board meeting dates for the 2005-06 school year as on the attachment (p. 10.a.1).

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Baker and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to adopt the school calendar for the 2006-07 School Year as on the attachments (pp. 10.b.1-2 rev.).

Dr. Kenney stated that the Universal Calendar policy that we approved provided for the adoption of the calendar for next year, as well as for the posting of the tentative calendar for the subsequent three calendar years.

TRANSPOR- TATION

BOARD POLICY :

**Special
Education
Release/
Settlement
Agreement**

COMMUNI- CATIONS:

**School Board
Meeting Dates –
2005-06**

**School
Calendar –
2006-07**

Mr. Wandersee commented that Spring Break would be scheduled one week following the administration of the PSSA tests, inclusive of the make-up period. Dr. Kenney stated that the first day of school will always be scheduled on the last Monday in August. Mr. Wandersee commented that we have gone through a lot of construction so this beginning date was bounced back and forth based on our needs.

Dr. Sweeney stated that she was very pleased with this and although there is no ideal calendar, this should help everyone with planning ahead. We all lead such busy lives and this should be helpful even if we may not be happy with the Spring Break, etc.

Tim Minella, Student Representative, commented that he supports the idea of a universal calendar but he is concerned over the elimination of religious holidays at Easter. He asked that the Board consider that.

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Baker and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to post the school calendars for the 2007-08 through the 2009-10 school years as on the attachments (pp. 10.c.1-2 and 3-6 rev.).

Dr. Kenney commented that the 2010-11 calendar is not being posted at this time because PSSA testing dates are not yet available for that year.

Tim Minella, Student Representative, reported regarding the following items:

1. Act 72 – Thanks to the Board for voting it down.
2. Air Conditioning and Construction – Work has begun and our school will be better for it upon its completion.
3. Thank You – This may be Tim's last Board meeting and if so, he wanted to thank the entire Board. His successor will be Leslie Crampton.
4. Graduation – June 9th, 1:30 p.m. at the University of Delaware

Mr. Murray reported for the Center for Arts and Technology/ Special Education/Intermediate Unit regarding information that he had seen on the Center for Arts and Technology website requesting that parents come to a meeting. The I.U. is working with Delaware County Community College and Drexel University to allow our students to take some courses through the I.U. and DCCC toward an engineering degree (mechanical or electrical). The last two years, courses would occur at DCCC with instruction from Drexel professors (cost of \$30,000 vs. \$130,000). They are trying to appeal to the interest of a lot of students. This is a fairly powerful degree at a reasonable cost to parents.

**Communi-
cations
(Continued)**

**Tentative
School
Calendars
Posted –
2007-08 through
2009-10**

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE
REPORT**

**C.A.T./
SPECIAL
ED. / I.U.**

Mr. Wandersee reported for Legislation regarding the following items:

1. Chester County Legislative Breakfast – Six Board members and Dr. Kenney attended it last Friday morning. It was very clear that most people from Chester County school districts were not in favor of Act 72. A few legislators in the General Assembly are not prepared to yield simply because the districts have not voted to opt in (It may be put on the ballot in the fall). We will keep you informed. Mr. Wandersee encouraged everyone to be registered and to go out to vote.

Dr. Kenney provided the Superintendent's report:

1. Mathematical Olympiad Summer Program – Congratulations to Jason Trigg and Shaunak Kishore who qualified for this program. U-CF is the only public high school with two students qualifying for it this summer!
2. PA Governor's Schools of Excellence – Students have been selected from U-CF for 2005: Arkell Weygandt (International Studies); Jason Trigg (Sciences); and Jared Mizrahi (Teaching). Congratulations!
3. Envirothon – Congratulations to our team of 2nd grade students who represented Chadds Ford Elementary. They placed 1st in the county in total points in their age group. Thanks to Debbie Chacosky and Mary Beckman for their efforts in assisting.
4. State Speech & Debate Finals – Sonia Herman placed 4th in Radio Announcing; Viktor Adalsteinsson and Jason Trigg placed 3rd in Public Forum Debate. Anne Hawkins, Emma Bloomfield, Erin Hayes, Christen Hayes and Zach Wielgus performed well in the preliminaries. Congratulations to everyone!
5. Calvert Award – Sarah Kirk, UHS 9th grade student, received this award on April 27th at the Academy of Natural Science in Philadelphia (sponsored by the American Entomological Society) based on her project displayed at the Delaware Valley Science Fairs. Congratulations to Sarah!
6. *Teen Newsweek* – Congratulations to Patton Middle School students, Ross Leiser and Andrew Stookey (F Team) for having their letters to the editor published in the May 2nd issue.
7. *Newsweek* Article – 1,000 high schools in America are recognized based on the number of students who take AP or IB courses/exams. Unionville High School was listed as one of them (out of 27,468 high schools in the U.S.; top 2.5%)!
8. Medicare – Hearing about mandates across Pennsylvania and the U.S. President Bush decided to reduce the deficit by allowing the states to decide. They may reduce the number of students who qualify for medical assistance who are also special education students. For any special medical therapy you would need, we would submit it to Harrisburg. Parents would be asked

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUPER- TENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent's Report (Continued)

to help pay for those services. If the parents refuse, we still have an obligation to provide those services. Representatives from the state have been traveling the state with their PowerPoint presentations. This will fall on the district's back.

9. Tim Minella – Just in case this is Tim's last meeting, on behalf of the Board and the community, Dr. Kenney stated that he is quite a young man and a fine representative of this school district. He presented Tim with a gift from the school district.

Janet Wilson, East Marlborough Township resident, inquired about the status of work to be completed on the bridge on Rt. 926. Mr. Wandersee stated that he does not think the state knows what they are going to do with it at this time.

Melissa Jacono, Birmingham Township resident, asked about changes to the grading policy. She feels it would be a bad idea to increase percentages for an "A." She understands the curriculum side but wanted to stress that the "A" makes the child feel pretty good about themselves and the changes would stress out a lot of students. If you raise requirements for an "A" to 95%, a lot more students would be stressed. Mr. Wandersee suggested that she speak with Dr. O'Hern and stated that there is no action on this item now.

Vic Dupuis, East Marlborough Township resident, thanked the Board members for their vote not to opt in to Act 72. He announced that the Baccalaureate Services would be held on June 5th at 6:30 p.m., Willowdale Chapel.

Mrs. Trigg thanked Dr. Kenney, Mr. Cochran, and the Finance Committee members for their help regarding Act 72. It's very disappointing that the people at this table had to become familiar with all of the twists and turns regarding this legislation. She thanked Tim Minella for his service and stated that it has been a pleasure having him. She is sure that he will be successful.

Mr. Swayze stated that in his opinion, Act 72 is an embarrassing piece of legislation. It never even rose to the debate level. He is also sorry that we spent as much time discussing it as we did. Mr. Swayze hopes the next legislation coming out of the state will be something that is worth considering. He wished the best of luck to Tim Minella.

Mr. Murray congratulated everyone regarding the May Fair at Chadds Ford. He commented regarding a booklet that he received from James Ehrline regarding Act 72 and feels that it's a very well-researched document. Mr. Murray extended his best wishes to Tim Minella and looks forward to working with Leslie Crampton next year.

**SUPER-
TENDENT'S
REPORT
(Continued)**

**RESIDENTS'
COMMENTS
(Continued)**

**BOARD
MEMBERS'
COMMENTS**

Dr. Sweeey commented that she is pleased regarding the universal calendar. What drove it initially was the weather and the lack of air-conditioning. She wished the best of luck to Tim Minella at Hamilton.

Mrs. Brown thanked Tim Minella and she hopes he leaves the Student Council organized before he leaves. She appreciates his remarks on the calendar and will keep that in mind for next year.

Mr. Knauss thanked Tim Minella for his service and welcomed Lexi. He is looking forward to working with her. He commented regarding his neighbor who runs the Art in Action project at Hillendale Elementary. Last year, she asked for his costume jewelry and this year, for keys and broken plates. She and the parent volunteers and students made an eight-foot grazing dinosaur that sits at Hillendale. It's amazing what the students, volunteers and parents can put together. The volunteers make this a much better place to be!

Mr. Baker reminded everyone to vote tomorrow in the primary election. He wished Tim Minella well and reminded him to remember to play rugby.

Mr. McClaskey thanked the students who took the AP courses and exams to put us into the top 1,000 high schools in the state. He's looking forward to seeing everyone at graduation on June 9th. Mr. McClaskey wished all the best to Tim Minella.

Mr. Wandersee stated that we haven't heard the last of Act 72. He wished good luck to Tim Minella and stated that it's been nice working with him.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Brown
Secretary

**BOARD
MEMBERS'
COMMENTS
(Continued)**

**MEETING
ADJOURNED**