

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 18, 2009

The May meeting of the Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board was held on Monday, May 18, 2009 in the Hillendale Elementary School Large Group Instruction Room. Mrs. Brown, President, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

The following members were present: Kathleen Brown, President, Edward Murray, Vice-President, Curt Baker, Karen Halstead, Dr. Paul Price, Timotha Trigg, Edward Wandersee, and Dr. Therese West. Also present were Sharon E. Parker, District Superintendent, Kenneth Batchelor, Sharon Allen-Spann, Robert Cochran, Steve Dissinger, Jim Fulginiti, Rick Hostetler, Rich Hug, John Nolen, Mark Ransford, Rudy Reif, Dr. John Sanville, Bruce Vosburgh, community residents, members of the press, Shannon Pitt, Student Representative, and Denise Miller, Recording Secretary.

Mrs. Brown requested that everyone stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Ms. Parker stated that it was wonderful to be back at Hillendale Elementary School. We began moving Board meetings to each school last October, beginning here at Hillendale. She thanked Mr. Dissinger, the teachers, staff, and the wonderful HES community for all they have done to prepare for this evening.

Superintendent Parker commented about having attended the Open House last week. As a former 7th grade Language Arts teacher, she had a wonderful surprise in learning that the same curriculum she had taught is being introduced to our third graders now. Ms. Parker is extremely proud of the teaching and learning across the district.

Ms. Parker announced that a special guest was present this evening. He is one of our elected representatives, and this is the first of many fine moments.

Mrs. Joanne Bates welcomed Senator Andrew Dinniman to the District. She commented about his responsiveness and friendliness when she had met him several weeks ago. We are grateful for the Senator's time and willingness to share with us on such short notice.

Senator Dinniman had the privilege of having served on the Downingtown School Board in less difficult days during the 1970's. Four administrators ran that district at the time; they are now on the verge of building their third high school. Senator Dinniman represents Newlin and West Marlborough Townships in Unionville-Chadds Ford. The remaining townships in the district are represented by Senator Dominic Pileggi. He commented about the fine School Board in U-CF and the high level of interest in the community.

Final Copy –
6/16/09

**CALL TO
ORDER**

**MEMBERS
PRESENT**

**SUPER-
INTENDENT'S
REPORT**

**Special Guest:
Senator
Andrew Dinniman**

Superintendent's Report - Senator Andrew Dinniman (Continued)

The Senator discussed the following issues:

1. Consolidation of School Districts
 - Based on size of school district (~3,000 students); Study was conducted years ago
 - No school district in Chester County is below that number that would need consolidation; In certain parts of Pennsylvania, small district (i.e. 5,000-6,000 people living in the whole county), it may be helpful for some of these smaller districts to come together
 - Legislature does not want to force anyone to do this; A study will be completed; No feeling in legislature right now; no one has shown there would be tremendous savings either.
 - School districts are part of the identification of a community. In the suburbs, there is no sense of community; The focal points include schools, churches, and youth athletic leagues. Consolidation would destroy some of those aspects.
 - Cooperation is a necessity; very reasonable approach to research some possibilities for coordination (i.e. cooperative buying to save money)

2. Graduation Competency Assessments (GCA's)
 - Senator Dinniman holds a Doctorate in Education and was a professor for 38 years
 - Chester County school districts do not believe that a State graduation test is the answer
 - Certain students graduate without the competencies they should have; Pennsylvania has Academic Standards for Districts to meet.
 - Having high-stakes exams at the end may not be the answer. They reviewed scores in the Tredyffrin/Easttown School District, to consider why 18-20% of 11th grade students failed the PSSA test. Many students did quite well and went to college or joined the Military. Some people cannot take tests and some children have learning disabilities. If not documented with an IEP, you have to take the tests (Federal law mandates that we provide those children with IEP's to have additional time).
 - Ms. Parker stated that there is some flexibility but there are still some high-performing students who may have a difficult time on that test.
 - Currently, each school district decides if its students graduate; If the State decides, we would be taking the authority away from districts to determine what children need to learn in order to graduate. Many districts also have portfolio requirements for graduation.
 - Educators in the school districts know what they're doing and should have a choice of taking the state test or an alternative portfolio.
 - The PSEA, PFT, Principals' and Superintendents' associations, and 11 educational associations had an alternative idea to test as part of the coursework at the completion of the course. This would eventually substitute for the PSSA and the federal government would also allow it (like what is being done in Virginia).

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

**Senator
Andrew
Dinniman**

**Consolidation of
School Districts**

**Graduation
Competency
Assessments**

Superintendent's Report - Senator Andrew Dinniman (Continued)

- The Pennsylvania Department of Education and PSBA made a side deal (test #1 and test #2). As the Senate Minority on the Education Committee, he offered to be an intermediary and bring all groups together (joined by Senators Piccola and Roebuck) They brought everyone together, including the Department of Education. Last week, the Department ignored them and signed a \$201 million deal to develop these tests. This action brought the ire of the legislature and is a waste of money that we don't have. The chance of reaching compromise has now ended.
- We wanted to have standards but in such a way that would be helpful to students. If a student failed 7th grade Algebra test, we would now have time for remediation. If the test was worth 25% of the course grade, it would be taken more seriously.
- We are narrowing teaching down; the enthusiasm, excitement and creativity of education are gone; We should let the good schools do what they are doing.

3. Budget

- Last year, U-CF received about \$2.98 million (basic subsidy); Under the Governor's budget proposal, we would get \$3.09 million (basic subsidy) and about \$70,000 in state stabilization grant money for a total of \$3.1 million (\$180,000 more than the current basic education)
- He just put in a Bill that would get us up to 3% (increase in basic subsidy), \$210,000 more than now
- Stimulus Funds - would go directly to school districts based on two formulas:
 - Title I – four subsections; Title I-B– if you have a small number of poor students in your district, you are entitled to some money; Mr. Batchelor stated that we are 1 of 51 districts that won't receive money.
 - IDEA / Special Education – Based on how many special education students are in your district (U-CF would do well).
 - The difficult part is that the state also gets stimulus funds. Under the Republican Senate budget plan (SB-850), all subsidy money will go into the basic education subsidy and replace the state's stimulus money (would go back to this year's subsidy amount and not receive the stimulus money);
 - Under the Governor's proposal, \$700 million would be added to the subsidy (will receive some of the money).
 - Senate Bill 850 also presents the difficulty of cuts they are doing to other areas (Charter schools, technology, and early childhood education). If you end up with the same basic subsidy you had before and don't get an additional share, programs (Classrooms for the Future, Charter schools, Early Childhood) will not be there in anywhere near the same amount. The Bill counts what you are getting directly in Stimulus Funds that can only be used for

State Budget

and will create all kinds of difficulty and problems. The bottom line is that school districts need to be involved in these discussions and should make it clear to their State Representatives exactly what will happen to their school district.

- Comparison – Senator Dinniman requested a chart outlining Senate Bill 850, the Governor’s budget and his Bill (2-3% basic subsidy). He will send them to Ms. Parker in a couple of weeks for our own comparison.

Questions:

Scott Litzenberg, East Marlborough Township resident, asked about Senator Dinniman’s feelings regarding the Act 1 legislation and taking local control away from school districts. He responded that school districts are not getting the same funding they used to receive. Recessions are not covered as an exemption in their budget and they don’t know whether districts will be able to make budgets. There may be a possible need to amend Act 1. Regarding maintenance of effort (Title I), if the federal government does not think the state of Pennsylvania is maintaining its effort, it could decide not to give us that money. They may decide that we could not apply for the discretionary money (we estimate that we can get ~\$500 million).

Lele Galer, Pocopson Township resident, asked how we could have it repaired (Act 1). Senator Dinniman stated that was a more difficult question. The legislature would have to vote but a number of them are concerned about the school taxes and would not repair it. As all of these cuts are being made in education (local libraries being cut over \$850,000), School Boards are forced to raise taxes. The end result is that the legislature walked out on a white horse but forced every other form of government to do the dirty work. He also has concern about human services where the counties would have to step in. The bottom line is that the Stimulus Funds stop in two years and we have a cliff, especially in special education (\$352 million going out in two years).

A resident asked about making School Board elections non-partisan. The Senator thought it was a wonderful idea. He went to Senator Jeff Piccola (Republican Chair of Education), and they agreed to work together as one to make sure both of their caucuses had the same issues/matters. They are really trying to keep education non-partisan. He will prepare a non-partisan proposal by the fall regarding School Boards.

Carol Catanese, Pennsbury Township resident, commented about making School Board elections and anything to do with schools separate issues. In order to make it truly non-partisan, the state would need to provide funding for separate elections. The state formulates its budget by elected representatives who are doing their job. We should have the same ability with our School Board Directors. It makes their jobs much more difficult (two years wasted in getting a school building constructed).

Senator Dinniman asked for the Board’s feelings. Mr. Wandersee stated that partisanship serves no purpose in a School Board Director’s decisions. It serves no purpose, and he would welcome that idea. Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Halstead agreed. Senator Dinniman thinks it would be a step forward in the Commonwealth. The House is still very partisan, although the Senate is moving in that direction.

**State Budget -
Continued**

**Questions from
Residents**

Mrs. Brown extended sincere appreciation to Senator Dinniman for coming here to speak with the community this evening.

The Senator stated that it was great to see the parents here this evening. We have a wonderful school district. This is most important investment that we make. He commented regarding the growing costs of corrections. He saw a bumper sticker recently that stated it costs more to send someone to the State penitentiary than it does to Penn State University. Illiteracy is a problem and it would be smart to make this investment.

Ms. Parker offered special appreciation to Joanne Bates and Katy Donovan for bringing Senator Dinniman to us.

Principal Steve Dissinger welcomed everyone to Hillendale on behalf of the students, staff, and parents. Preparations for tonight's meeting have been made with a lot of enthusiasm. He referred to the Smart Board demonstrations prior to the meeting, stating that they are becoming a valuable tool and more prevalent in schools. Hillendale has eight of them, some of which have been purchased through our teacher's efforts (U-CF Education Foundation, teacher awards). He recognized the teachers who provided those presentations tonight. Mr. Dissinger commented about the fifth grade end-of-year science projects that were on display in the lobby. He thanked the teachers and students for creating such wonderful projects.

Mr. Dissinger presented certificates to the Student Ambassadors of Good Work who answered questions and escorted people through their school tonight:

- Jack Baccellieri, Katie Beberman, Megan Bell, Philip, Nate Christopher, Mark Ellsworth, Hayley Flores, Gavin, Sam McCloskey, Michael McMahon, Gabrielle Samulewicz, and Sophie Tegenu.

Hillendale Elementary School is referred to as *Happy Hillendale*. They take great pride in their positive community culture and strong base of outstanding parent volunteers. More than 250 people donate over 1,000 hours of their time for Reading Night, Hoedowns, etc. He proclaimed May 18 as the official Hillendale Elementary Volunteer Appreciation Night. Flowers were presented to Sandy Thornton, Maia Walter, and Bev Breeding. Mr. Dissinger requested that any volunteers in the audience stand and provided them with a small token of appreciation.

Mr. Dissinger recognized former Hillendale volunteer, parent, and floating nurse, Mrs. Julie Krause, who received the Pennsylvania Association for Gifted Education (PAGE) Parent of the Year award. In the words of her sons, Michael and Ben, she is a great and caring mother who helps motivate not only them but everyone around her!

He commented about the more than 3,000 teachers who were nominated across the county and the 15 finalists who were selected to attend a very special banquet on May 5, 2009 at the Desmond Hotel. Three were selected as Teacher of the Year award winners (one high school, one middle school, and one elementary school). One of them changes lives every day just a few feet down the hallway .. Mrs. Cathy Cipollini – Congratulations!

**Hillendale
Elementary -
Recognition**

Ms. Parker extended congratulations to Julie Krause, a role model of parents of the gifted. She also congratulated Cathy Cipollini, and we are proud to be able to say that we know Cathy. She acknowledged Lexi Crampton, former Student Representative, who was in the audience this evening. Lexi will be engaged in an internship in the area of public policy with her this summer.

Ms. Parker stated that discussion regarding the Unionville High School Project had been ongoing for a number of years. We will look at the process that led us to this point.

Mr. Hostetler reviewed the bid process as it relates to bidding, receipt of the bids, and the recommendation for this evening. He discussed the state's requirements for four prime contractors and the District's request to use a single prime contractor. We were granted permission from the state for this mandate waiver.

Thirteen bid packages were distributed, and 10 bids were submitted. This was a very good turnout and opportunity for competitive pricing. Bids were opened on May 6, 2009, and the selection criteria was reviewed (i.e. adhering to bidding guidelines, qualifications of bidder, lowest responsible bidder).

The base bid description included the new construction and renovations as previously approved by the School Board; associated site work and Code compliance work. Items that were not included were: furniture, fixtures and equipment; architect's fees, testing, code review; financing costs; the stadium; and contingency funds.

Four bids were under the anticipated range of bids (shown on chart in red) and some were a little higher (shown in green).

Mr. Cochran reviewed a comparison of Act 34 expectations vs. bids:

	<u>Savings</u>
Wohlsen	~7.2%
E. Bock	~8.8% (+ no bid on LEED)
Warfel	~6.0%

We will be looking at financing costs and the possibility of using some of the Stimulus Funds (\$380,000 – Federal; \$70,000 – State) for the renovation of classrooms (about half of the Stimulus money in this area to defray costs). Additional funding sources include Food Service funds (\$200,000 – equipment); Unionville Sports Council (\$100,000 installment).

The debt structure was shown on an overhead slide and provides for a level payment structure. It estimate includes a modest amount of capitalized interest. The funding was depicted with new debt (green), existing debt (blue), and the restructured portion of that debt (red). Other costs continue to rise but the debt structure remains level over 22 years.

Ms. Parker requested questions from the community with regard to the LEED certifications (green) and provided the following responses:

- Yes – we considered LEED but we would need to have a geothermal design for our air-conditioning system. We could not do that because of conserving every portion of our building (for Silver/Gold rating).

**Hillendale
Elementary
Recognition -
Continued**

**FACILITIES:
UHS Project Bids**

- We looked at alternatives with the architect for suitable designs and will look at waste management and disposal without a landfill (reuse, recycle, refurbish)
- Buy local material to save on shipping/fuel costs whenever possible.
- Indoor Air Quality Measures (Local VOC and no formaldehyde paint)
- Replenishable Resources (use of fast-growing resources; no deforestation)

The Administration's recommendation was to approve the base bid plus the LEED alternates as submitted by Wohlsen Construction Co. The time line was to receive the approval this evening, sign contracts in June, begin on June 29, 2009, and close on the Bond issue in July.

We are not hiring an outside district coordinator but will utilize a valued veteran member of our staff, Jim McLimans. Rick Hostetler will be actively engaged in the project. Maryann Marotta and MM Architects have become partners with us. Maryann Marotta and Bob Cochran will actively participate in job meetings.

Dr. Sweeney joined the Board meeting via telephone conference call.

Kathleen Do, Pennsbury Township resident, inquired about the impact on high school students during the construction project (safeguarding, classroom and field use). Mrs. Brown stated that the classroom were separate from where the children attend school now. The buildings will be connected during the summer, and they will move into the other classrooms before work starts on the older part of the building.

Mr. Hostetler added that, as we move through the building, there are very detailed phasing plans created by the architect. Hard partitions will separate students from construction activities. There will be prearranged times to move classrooms during renovations (i.e. weekends) and regular air monitoring. Items will be addressed at every job conference. When the project moves to the gymnasium, the new auditorium will be constructed first, followed by the music and technology education areas. Safety precautions will also be made for work on the athletic fields via fencing to protect students.

Katy Donovan, East Marlborough Township resident, thanked the Administration for putting together such a farsighted plan.

Dr. West stated that she had always thought this was the right project but there are broader issues to be considered (putting the entirety of this under the cap, relationships with the community). She will regretfully vote no.

Mrs. Trigg stated that we all agree that our high school needs a lot of work. She is acutely aware of this on a personal level since one of her daughters is a high school sophomore who eats lunch during the busiest lunch period, practices in the parking lot (instead of in the stadium), and regularly performs in the auditorium. She certainly doesn't want her younger sisters to go through the high school in its present condition. While she agrees with the need for improvements, she is deeply concerned about how we're going about it.

She agrees with the person who initially suggested proceeding “under the cap” that it won’t be pretty. She is afraid that the funding situation may well get downright ugly before future boards have finished paying for this project. Although this new Act 1 world limits our taxing authority, it creates budget dilemmas with which we have never had to contend. Our current budget is the toughest one during her six-year tenure (spending freeze, hiring freeze, making difficult decisions that directly impact our programs).

Mrs. Trigg shared thoughts from a colleague who serves on a School Board in Bucks County. Their district went from having an \$8 million fund balance (two years ago) to an \$8 million deficit right now. They are considering layoffs and deferment of purchases in every area, and have cancelled field trips. Musical and academic programs have been severely affected, including reductions in expenses for academic interventions and increased class sizes. These effects of Act 1 occurred without the additional burden of “under the cap” construction spending.

Even more challenging times are likely as the Act 1 index catches up with the economic downturn and further crunches school budgets. We will finish payment of the debt service for our elementary construction work and previous secondary projects so our debt service obligations will be reduced over time. Mrs. Trigg believes future Boards will need that breathing room but tonight’s proposal uses it for this one project.

Although she would love to be voting yes on a proposal to renovate and expand our high school, this funding scheme is too risky. She wouldn’t make this type of gamble with her family budget and doesn’t approve of it in her role as a Board member. Mrs. Trigg has spent many hours reviewing budget figures for our current year and for past budgets. In conclusion, she feels that a prevailing “yes” vote would cause future Boards to beg voters to bail our children out when times become really tough.

Dr. Price stated that the work needs to be done and will never be cheaper than it is today. Putting it off will make it more expensive. The needs will still exist, and there is no benefit in delaying the project.

Mr. Murray firmly believes this is the right project as put forth by the Administration. He has no problem with financing over the cap, and has reviewed the budgeting that has been done by the Administration. This year’s budget already takes into account more than 40% of the debt service that is necessary to finance the project. He sees no impending doom for this school district. If we couldn’t have budgeted this year for the project, he may have felt otherwise. Budgeting for the debt service is well under way with the current budget as constructed.

He still believes more harm comes from proceeding in this fashion after the results of the second Referendum. In some way, he feels some measure of responsibility for that failure, and it has not been addressed. Although 49% of him feels this is the right thing to do, there is still 51% telling him that the optics by which these actions are viewed are poor. We voted to moved forward last May with little discussion. Unfortunately, today’s actions give credibility to those who should have no credibility. It gives merit to arguments that have no merit. Mr. Murray will have to vote no for this moving forward.

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Baker to award the bid for the Unionville High School Project to Wohlsen Construction in the following amounts, as on the attachment (p. 4.a.1):

a. Base Bid -	\$52,500,000.00
b. Alternates 1A and 1B -	<u>\$395,000.00</u>
TOTAL -	<u>\$52,895,000.00</u>

Mr. Wandersee stated that he would vote yes for this. He referred to the May 18, 2008 Board meeting minutes where he provided 10-12 reasons why he would not support the project. His colleagues have been very eloquent in their concern and he respects their integrity in following their belief. After following the project very carefully, he complimented Ms. Parker, Mr. Cochran, and Mr. Hostetler for the excellent program on the construction itself and the selection of Wohlsen Construction Co. As Dr. Price stated, the project will not get any cheaper. He will support the project, although he has concern over the financial resolution.

Dr. West thanked Ms. Parker, Mr. Hostetler, and Mr. Cochran for their very hard work and endless hours. They have done a phenomenal job.

Mrs. Brown stated that if we believe they have done a phenomenal job, we would accept their recommendation to go ahead with the project. The Business Manager and Public Financial Management have completed a number of scenarios to show us we can afford the project, and she is accepting their expertise.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Baker -	Yes	Dr. Sweeney -	Yes
Mrs. Halstead -	Yes	Mrs. Trigg -	No
Mr. Murray -	No	Mr. Wandersee -	Yes
Dr. Price -	Yes	Dr. West -	No
		Mrs. Brown -	Yes

Motion carried (6-3).

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Baker to approve PlanCon F, Attachment C (Post-Bid Opening Certification) for the Unionville High School & Administration Office Project, as on the attachment (p. 4.b.1).

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Baker to authorize the District Administration to work with Public Financial Management (PFM), financial advisors, to structure a debt issuance to finance the total estimated cost of the Unionville High School Addition and Renovation Project, for the June, 2009 School Board meeting.

Mr. Wandersee stated that two proposals were discussed at the Finance Committee meeting as put forth by John Frey (PFM). Option B included restructuring of \$8.6 million in 2009 and the new money series would be a total effort. We had \$230,000 of capitalized interest, and it would run to 2032. Option A included restructuring \$6.4 million in 2009. The key difference was that the new money was obtained through three different tranches (\$23.6 million in 2009; \$30 million in 2010; and \$10 million in 2011). This option ran through 2031 and utilized no capitalized interest.

**UHS Project Bid
Award –
Wohlsen
Construction Co.**

**PlanCon F:
Post-Bid
Opening,
UHS Project**

**Authorization –
Structure Debt
Issuance with
PFM**

Neither approach is 100% right or 100% wrong. The second approach seems more appropriate than the first one, which was not put up for a motion. In the first approach, you run the risk of some negative arbitrage loss over three years. He cannot support this motion because he believes it is not the most financially efficient for the school district.

A roll call vote was taken:

Mr. Baker -	Yes	Dr. Sweeney -	Yes
Mrs. Halstead -	Yes	Mrs. Trigg -	No
Mr. Murray -	No	Mr. Wandersee -	No
Dr. Price -	Yes	Dr. West -	No
		Mrs. Brown -	Yes

Mr. Baker wanted to assure that the motion was in agreement with the final slide of Mr. Cochran's presentation this evening, which was affirmed.

Motion carried (5-4).

Dr. Sweeney stated that she was attending her daughter's graduation from Wake Forest University. She departed from the meeting at this point.

Shannon Pitt, Student Representative, provided the following report:

1. Track and Field – Four students qualified for the State meet (most in 15 years): George Close, Kelsey McDonald, Matt Fisher and Alicia Minella
2. National Honor Society – Very proud of the inductees into NHS this evening
3. Student Council – Elections were held: Brian Kamelhar, President; Ste[hen Bowen, Vice-President; Gerald Rothstein, Secretary, and Stephanie Zang, Treasurer for 2009-10
4. SHOC – Will be held this Friday

The year is winding down quickly. It's difficult to believe two years have passed since she began serving as Student Representative to the Board. Ms. Pitt thanked the School Board and Administration for allowing her to continue in the position.

Mrs. Brown stated that the Board really appreciated Shannon's insights over the last several years.

Keith Knauss, East Marlborough Township resident, asked the Board for clarification of agenda items 6.b-6.d. (Delaware County Court of Common Pleas). Mrs. Brown responded that they would try to provide additional information when we reach that portion of the agenda later this evening.

Scott Litzenberg, East Marlborough Township resident, thanked the Board as a whole for creating good dialogue and salient points regarding doing the project right the first time. Many past projects caused more hardships and put us in some of the positions we are in today. Mr. Litzenberg commented about frustration regarding some of the nay sayers. We should put things behind us and place correct comments and figures in newspapers to be able to play above board. He expressed his thanks as a parent, teacher, and resident in U-CF, and hopes we can get past this now.

**Authorization –
Structure Debt
Issuance with
PFM
(Continued)**

**STUDENT
REPRESENTA-
TIVE REPORT**

**RESIDENTS'
COMMENTS**

Kathy Do, Pennsbury Township resident, stated that the issue regarding the Blue Ribbon sign at Chadds Ford Elementary had finally been resolved. She thanked Sharon Parker and Ed Murray for their vocal support in attending the Pennsbury Township meeting. This was democracy in action. What happened at tonight's meeting was another example of that. Dr. Do has a lot of respect for Dr. West, Mrs. Trigg, and Mr. Murray and for their positions; however, the high school renovation is critically needed. Unless they repeal Act 1, the problem is not going to go away. Only one referendum has passed in the state. We could live with the high school for the next 30 years or do what we did tonight. She thanked everyone for their opinions.

It was moved by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Trigg to approve the Minutes for the April 20, 2009 Regular Board Meeting (pp. 3.a.1-17).

Motion carried (8-0).

The following financial statements and reports were reviewed:

1. General Fund Treasurer's Report – April, 2009 (p. 3.b.2)
2. 2008-2009 GF Function Revenue Analysis with Details of 6100's and 7000's as of April, 2009 (p. 3.b.3)
3. 2008-2009 General Fund Function-Object Expenditure Analysis as of April, 2009 (pp. 3.b.4-6)
4. Category Expenditure Analysis – April, 2009 (p. 3.b.7)
5. Capital Projects Fund Report – April, 2009 (p. 3.b.8)
6. Construction Project Report – April, 2009
 - a. Unionville High School & Fields Renovation Project Budget Report – April, 2009 (pp. 3.b.9-10)
7. Outstanding Projects Summary – April, 2009 (p. 3.b.11)
8. Capital Reserve Fund Report – April, 2009 (p. 3.b.12)
9. Health Care Trust Fund Report – April, 2009 (p. 3.b.13)
10. Debt Service Reserve Fund Report – April, 2009 (p. 3.b.14)
11. Activity Account Reports
 - a. Unionville Elementary School Field Trip Account Report – September 18, 2008 through April 8, 2009 (pp. 3.c.1-3)
 - b. C. F. Patton Middle School Activities Account Report – January through March, 2009 (pp. 3.c.4-6)
 - c. Chadds Ford Elementary School Field Trip Report – September 1, 2008 through February 20, 2009 (pp. 3.c.7-8)
 - d. Unionville High School Activities Balance Report – March, 2009 (pp. 3.c.9-10)

Mrs. Brown requested that the Secretary file the reports.

It was moved by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mr. Wandersee to approve the Bill List for May 4, 2009 in the amount of \$1,422,480.04 (pp. 3.d.1-11). Mr. Baker excused himself from Chester County Intermediate Unit checks #130816, #130962, and others to CCIU, if any, due to a conflict of interest.

Motion carried (8-0).

**RESIDENT'S
COMMENTS
(Continued)**

**MINUTES
APPROVED**

**FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

**BILLS
APPROVED**

It was moved by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the 2008-2009 Budget Transfers for May, 2009 (p. 3.e.1).

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the Track Resurfacing Proposal from Sportsline in the total amount of \$211,778.00, as on the attachment (p. 4.c.1).

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Dr. West to approve the Bid for Custodial Supplies for the 2009-2010 school year in the total amount of \$58,172.86, as on the attachment (p. 4.d.1, revised).

Mrs. Trigg stated that the attachment changed from the list provided at the last meeting due to the addition of one vendor.

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mrs. Trigg and seconded by Dr. West to approve the course addition for Physical Education: Summer Course – 11th and 12th Grades (pp. 1-3 revised, as attached)

Mrs. Brown stated that the summer course is self-financing and taken out of the regular curriculum to allow students to take other course work.

Motion carried (8-0).

Mrs. Trigg reported for Curriculum and Educational Technology that the summer enrichment courses are still available for enrollment. The textbooks that are being recommended for adoption in 2009-10 are available for public inspection at the District Office. We anticipate a vote next month.

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mrs. Trigg to award the following Bids for the 2009-2010 school year, as on the attachments (pp. 6.a.1-2):

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 1. General Supply Bid - | \$28,127.35 |
| 2. CCIU – Technology Bid #28910-05 - | \$1,206.77 |
| 3. Unionville High School Athletic Bid - | \$25,508.28 |
| 4. CCIU Copy Paper Bid Award #28910-04 - | \$49,562.51 |
| 5. Unionville High School Art Bid - | \$8,201.93 |
| 6. Unionville High School Technology Education - | \$8,061.28 |
| 7. Unionville High School Science - | \$17,748.94 |
| 8. Charles F. Patton Middle School Science - | \$1,066.74 |
| 9. Charles F. Patton Middle School Art - | \$1,172.78 |
| 10. Charles F. Patton Middle School Athletics - | \$1,983.24 |

Motion carried (8-0).

BUDGET TRANSFERS

Track Resurfacing - Sportsline

Custodial Supplies Bid – 2009-2010

CURRICULUM/ EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY

Physical Education – Summer Course

FINANCE

Bid Awards – 2009-2010

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Dr. West to approve the Stipulation to the Order of the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, NO.: 02-14570 and further to authorize legal counsel to sign said Stipulation (pp. 6.b.1-4).

Mr. Wandersee commented in response to Mr. Knauss's previous question. These stipulations are real estate settlements for petitions to reduce assessments.

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Dr. West to approve the Stipulation to the Order of the Court of Common Pleas of Delaware County, Pennsylvania, NO.: 08-16530 and further to authorize legal counsel to sign said Stipulation (pp. 6.c.1-4).

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Dr. West to approve the Stipulation to the Order of the Court of Common Pleas of Chester County, Pennsylvania, NO.: 2008-13255-AB and further to authorize legal counsel to sign said Stipulation (pp. 6.d.1-4).

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Dr. West to approve personnel agenda items 7.a. through 7.f. and 7.h. to 7.i.:

- a. Professional Conferences (3)
 1. Approve the Attendance at Professional Conferences as on the attachment (p. 7.a.1)
- b. Retirements (2)
 1. Doris Musser - Transportation Driver, effective June 12, 2009
 2. Claire M. Ryan – Chadds Ford Elementary School Grade 1 Teacher, effective June 15, 2009
- c. Resignations (2)
 1. Lynn Good – Pocopson Elementary School Personal Care Assistant paraprofessional, effective May 19, 2009
 2. Katherine Greeley – Pocopson Elementary School part-time Paraprofessional, effective April 30, 2009
- d. Supplemental Contracts (2)
 1. Christina Brunschwyler - Spring Concert
 2. Janis Robertson - Spring Concert

(Continued)

**FINANCE
(Continued)**

**Stipulation – Del.
Co. Court/
Common Pleas
No. 02-14570**

**Stipulation – Del.
Co. Court/
Common Pleas
No. 08-16530**

**Stipulation –
Chester Co.
Court/ Common
Pleas
No. 2008-13255-
AB**

PERSONNEL:

**Professional
Conferences**

Retirements:

**D. Musser
C. Ryan**

Resignations:

L. Good

K. Greeley

**Supplemental
Contracts**

- e. Leaves (4)
 - 1. Catherine Gillespie – Chadds Ford Elementary School Grade 2 Teacher – Six-Week Maternity Leave beginning approximately September 5, 2009, followed by an Unpaid Child-Rearing Leave through the first semester of the 2009-2010 school year
 - 2. Stan Leathers – Unionville High School Mathematics Teacher, Professional Development Leave for the second semester of the 2009-2010 school year and the second semester of the 2010-2011 school year
 - 3. Susan Sudimak – Patton Middle School Learning-to-Learn Teacher, Unpaid Child-Rearing Leave for the 2009-2010 school year
 - 4. Laurie Swisher - Pocopson Elementary School Grade 5 Teacher, Professional Development Leave for the 2009-2010 school year
- f. Reclassifications (1)
 - 1. Victoria Hamrick – from Transportation Substitute Driver to Transportation part-time Bus Driver (5.5 hours per school day), effective May 6, 2009, at a salary of \$15.15 per hour
- h. Extended School Year Employees (22)
 - 1. Approve the employees for the 2009 ESY Summer Program as on the attachment (p. 7.h.1)
- i. Summer Transportation Employees
 - 1. Approve the employees for Summer Transportation (6 Garage Helpers and 31 Drivers/Attendants), as on the attachment (p. 7.h.1)

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mr. Wandersee and seconded by Dr. West to approve personnel agenda item 7.g:

- g. Substitute Service Contract
 - 1. Approve the Agreement with Substitute Teacher Service to provide district-wide substitute calling and attendance reporting for professional and paraprofessional employees for the school years 2009-2011, as on the attached contract (pp. 7.b.1-5)

Motion carried (8-0).

Dr. West stated that there were no action items for Communications and provided the following report:

- 1. Swine Flu – Thanks for the Administration for being out front with communication regarding the swine flu.
- 2. Rich Hug and his team arranged for the U-CF calendar of events to be posted on the ABC-6 and NBC-10 news community calendars.

**Personnel
(Continued)**

Leaves:

C. Gillespie

S. Leathers

S. Sudimak

L. Swisher

Reclassification:

V. Hamrick

**Extended School
Year Employees**

**Summer
Transportation
Employees**

**Substitute
Service
Contract – STS
2009-2011**

**COMMUNI-
CATIONS**

3. Community Conversation – Held on April 29, and was structured a little differently. It was much more focused with two topics of conversation: community conversation and the public use of our facilities. We wanted to generate some concrete items upon which we could act
 - List Serves - Will work over the summer to tailor the list serves and pull them together into one so anyone could tailor what they receive to their needs.
 - Work with townships
 - E-Letter – Make it a little more timely
 - Develop Key Communicator Network
 - Facilities (Suggestions) – Use elementary schools before classes open as walking areas; More public access to our libraries; Developing a speaker series for people to come into our buildingsFollow-up – Will work with Rich Hug and his team regarding a summary of the event (to host on the website); Goal – to have several of these conversations every year.
4. David Voss – Professional communication consultant; Provided seminars this past week regarding crisis communication, use of the Rapid Dial system, working with the media, key communicator network, and a piece on public speaking. It's very valuable to have him here, and he will return over the summer for another session.
5. School Board Meeting – Next meeting at Pocopson Elementary on June 15, 2009
6. Communications Committee – Next meeting on June 1, 2009 (9:00 AM, District Office)

Mrs. Trigg stated that the following policy is being provided as a first reading:

1. Board Policy No. 201: Pupils – Admission of Students (p. 9.a.1)

It has been revised regarding students who enter as kindergarteners or pre-1st grade students. It will be posted on the district website soon and we will vote to adopt the revised policy at next month's meeting.

Mrs. Trigg thanked Senator Dinniman for his nice report. She is glad to hear that we don't have to worry about consolidation.

Bruce Yelton, Pocopson Township resident, inquired about the thickness of the track resurfacing. Mr. Hostetler responded that it is poured (vs. sprayed) at approximately a 13mm thickness.

Dr. West thanked Mr. Dissinger for having us at Hillendale and loves moving from place to place. She enjoyed Amanda Teti's Smart Board presentation. Dr. West thanked Katy Donovan and Joanne Bates for bringing Senator Dinniman here. She congratulated Cathy Cipollini regarding the wonderful honor of having received the Citadel Heart of Learning award.

Mr. Wandersee commented about the Chadds Ford Historical Society's special event for high school seniors with noted Philadelphia artist, Bill Turnin . He will provide a lecture and demonstration for budding artists on June 13, 2009.

**COMMUNI-
CATIONS
(Continued)**

**LEGISLATION
AND POLICY**

**Board Policy No.
201: Pupils –
Admission of
Students**

**RESIDENTS'
COMMENTS**

**BOARD
MEMBERS'
COMMENTS**

Ms. Parker stated that summer should be celebrated for all members of the community. She invited every member of our community to have breakfast on Saturday, June 13, 2009 (8:00 – 11:00 AM, UHS cafeteria). This is a time for community celebration and meeting new neighbors and friends. Breakfast is provided free of charge.

Mr. Murray complimented Kathy Do for carrying the ball and her organization for the zoning hearing with Pennsbury Township regarding the Blue Ribbon sign. He enjoyed attending the meeting. The \$700 hearing fee was donated by a member of the U-CF Education Foundation, and many came forward to offer to pay for that cost.

Mrs. Halstead commented about the UHS student performance (by the Hooligans) at the Kennett Senior Center. The senior citizens were mesmerized by our high school students. It is not too late to donate to the U-CF Scholarship Fund. She hopes many Board members can attend the graduation ceremony on June 8th.

Mr. Baker stated that there had been a lot of discussion regarding local control this evening. The local lay governance of schools dates back to the birth of the United States. In Pennsylvania, it was established in the Free Schools Act of 1834, after Philadelphia and Lancaster had been established. The Act established the tradition of local autonomy and free public education. The functions have not changed since that time.

There has been a lot of discussion around Act 1. In his judgment, he believes Act 1 places certain limits on taxation decisions that a Board can make but it does not alter the concept of lay control through an elected or an appointed School Board. Though the public owns the schools, the locally-elected people manage them. In the matter of Unionville High School, he believes each Board member has acted conscientiously, is well aware of his/her responsibilities to look out for the interest of all students who study in our public school system. He is very pleased and looks forward to the joy of opening the school. Most of all, it is good for the students of our community.

Mrs. Trigg thanked Mr. Dissinger and the nice folks at Hillendale for their graciousness. She extended thanks to Kathleen Do and the team for getting the Blue Ribbon sign back up at Chadds Ford. Mrs. Trigg commended the After-Prom team for an incredible accomplishments in such a short time.

Mrs. Brown thanked Mr. Dissinger for opening the school to us again. She seconded Mrs. Trigg's recognition to the parents regarding the After-Prom. It's amazing to see the Statue of Liberty up on our school! Mrs. Brown stated that tonight's discussion regarding the building project was important. All Board members commented about the existent need even if they did not vote on it. She hopes we can pull together as a Board to get the best building possible. She asked that everyone be sure to vote tomorrow.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert W. Cochran
Secretary

**BOARD
MEMBERS'
COMMENTS
(Continued)**

**MEETING
ADJOURNED**