

UNIONVILLE-CHADDS FORD SCHOOL DISTRICT  
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**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**Minutes**  
**May 21, 2007**

The May meeting of the Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board was held on Monday, May 21, 2007 in the Unionville High School Large Group Instruction room. Mr. Wandersee called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.

The following members were present: Kathleen Brown, Karen Halstead, R. Bruce Swayze, Dr. Corinne Sweeney, Timotha Trigg, Edward Wandersee, and Dr. Therese West. Also present were Sharon E. Parker, District Superintendent, Dr. Brenda O'Hern, Robert Cochran, Kurt Barker, Kathleen Feehery, Rich Hug, Thomas Marinelli, John Nolen, Dr. Jim Price, Bruce Vosburgh, Gail Wolfel, Lexi Crampton, student representative, community residents, members of the press, and Denise Miller, recording secretary.

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

Superintendent Parker welcomed everyone to the meeting and reviewed the practice for the prelude session in the lobby. She thanked the big and little students for sharing their talents, as well as the *Hillendale Husky*. This is the final Board meeting for this year where students will provide the pre-Board meeting displays. She thanked them for an exciting year of academic growth. Tonight we will recognize students from Hillendale Elementary School first with a patriotic song.

Leo Zempetta (substitute for teacher Patti Chern), stated that he arrived in U-CF seven weeks ago. He directed a select choir group as they sang *America the Beautiful*.

Ms. Parker stated that Kathleen Feehery, interim Principal, is our district hero who came in as John Nolen moved to the Central Administration. It has been a delight to have her with us. Mrs. Feehery invited Mr. Nolen to present certificates to students for 5<sup>th</sup> grade science, Academically Talented, and art projects.

Mr. Baker arrived at 7:45 p.m.

**CALL TO  
ORDER**

**MEMBERS  
PRESENT**

**SUPER-  
INTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

**Student  
Demonstrations  
and  
Recognition –  
Hillendale  
Elementary  
School**

## Superintendent's Report (Continued)

Kurt Barker, UHS Assistant Principal, thanked everyone for coming out tonight. He commented about the success of the Speech and Debate Team who won a number of trophies. Mr. Barker thanked the Family & Consumer Science students (and teacher Marcia Blumenthal) for providing this evening's tasty treats. He congratulated our athletes, including Mattie Pancoast and Paul Springer (both going to State competition). Art students were also praised for their phenomenal accomplishments and displays in the hallways, along with teacher, Jeff Wheet, who has done a fantastic job. Mr. Barker also thanked Mrs. Jean Stevens (Computer Applications Dept. Chair) for her help in the technology display this evening.

Jim Fulginiti, UHS Principal, arrived to the meeting from the National Honor Society Induction ceremony. He thanked Mr. Barker for stepping in on short notice. Mr. Fulginiti offered thanks to the students for their participation. UHS is a great place, and although there are unpleasant issues to deal with at times, 99% of the time we see great things going on at UHS. He also extended his thanks to the School Board and to Superintendent Parker.

Ms. Parker offered a point of recognition to the Speech and Debates Team regarding their upcoming special event. Coach Sue Hayes recognized the kids who are going to nationals (Jay Garlapati, Lynn Cosart, Erin Hayes, Emma Bloomfield, Shubo Yin, and Valentina Parisi). She stated that the program started four years ago with four students who are graduates this year. Philadelphia is one of the toughest Speech and Debate leagues in the country.

Ms. Hayes stated that Erin and Emma were the first females to win for extemporaneous in 15 years and will be competing in Wichita. They are trying to raise funds for nationals. The first community Soap Box Debates will be held this Friday, June 1 at 6:30 PM (UHS) on the topics of the new school renovation proposal/cost justification and new anti-bullying policy. She hopes everyone will come out to support them.

Lexi Crampton provided the Student Representative Report:

1. National Honor Society – Congratulations to the students who were inducted tonight
2. New Student Representative to the Board – Elections were held and Shannon Pitt will be her successor on the Board.
3. Prom – Was a successful event
4. UHS Renovations – The current high school has no physics labs and the renovations are a necessity.

Ms. Crampton thanked the School Board for the opportunity. She has learned much more about government as the Student Representative than a textbook could have ever taught her.

**Student  
Demonstrations  
and  
Recognition –  
Unionville High  
School**

**STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVE  
REPORT**

Superintendent Parker thanked Lexi for her service as School Board Representative over the past two years. She presented her with a gift and stated that we would miss her.

Mr. Baker apologized for being late this evening. He received a call from Mr. Murray who is returning from Harrisburg and will join us soon. Mr. Baker stated that we would have comments from Board members immediately following comments from residents and also at the end of the meeting.

Kathy Sherman, read a letter from her husband, Karl (Max), who could not be present this evening. She commented about various and troubling issues with the baseball coaching, stating that two varsity players quit the team recently. Mr. Baker stated that the names of personnel could not be mentioned at the Board meeting. Ms. Parker mentioned the Board's Co-Curricular and Student Life Committee, who would be happy to entertain specific personnel matters.

Mrs. Sherman stated that it's important the Board know that concerned parents and students want to come forth and talk to them. Documenting these issues is the best way to raise awareness and work toward change. They would like all coaches to be evaluated anonymously by all students. There is no formal evaluation process currently. She thanked the Board for providing the time for them to speak this evening.

Bruce Yelton, Pocopson Township resident, would like the Board to justify the 335% increase in administrative space for the renovation project.

Fred Hoge, East Marlborough Township resident, commented about his two sons having played baseball over the years. Ms. Parker commented about personnel statements of a positive nature being allowed or curtailed. Mr. Hoge stated that the UHS Baseball Program has been a positive experience for them that included a lot of dedication from the coaching staff. They have been in the playoffs for 8 of 10 years and were 1<sup>st</sup> in the SCCL once.

Mr. Hoge stated that the coaches put academics first which speaks to the value system of the program. The team's record this year was 5-12 and he'd like to see parents' concerns addressed to the administration to make the program better. There is room for improvement in any program. It would not be in the school district's best interest to abandon a 10-year program with three very dedicated coaches. It has been one of the most respected programs in the area.

## RESIDENTS' COMMENTS

Holly Manzone, Pocopson Township resident, stated that she wants efficient education and the decisions of our school district should be placed in the hands of the competent people that we have – our School Board. She commented about listening to the voters, referring to the four members who won their election last week.

Mrs. Manzone stated that things were so bad here a year ago that we paid consultants to do a Climate Study. The School Board brought in a new Superintendent and Sharon Parker came here in late August. She showed immediately that she cares, is willing to help us, and has experience. Ms. Parker has brought many initiatives to us (calendar changes, Community Fair, etc.). She is a wonderful person and we need to stand behind her and support her initiatives. The most inefficient thing we can do is to block her progress.

Scott Litzenberg, East Marlborough Township resident and UHS teacher, commented about administrative space. It has been inadequate for years in both space for individual people and for storage. It's time to do it correctly. He also stated that he supports Mrs. Manzone's comments about the School Board and it's time for us to get it done.

Superintendent Parker offered members of the community the opportunity to walk through the District Office and the conclusion of the June Work Session. She can clearly demonstrate the needs we have (i.e. small conference rooms and confidential meetings, etc.).

There were no comments from Board members.

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the Minutes of the April 16, 2007 Regular Board Meeting (pp. 3.a.1-14).

Motion carried (8-0).

The following committee meeting minutes were reviewed:

1. Board Curriculum Committee – May 14, 2007 (pp. 3.a.15-25)

Mr. Baker requested that the secretary file the committee meeting minutes.

The following financial statements and reports were reviewed:

1. General Fund Treasurer's Report – April, 2007 (p. 3.b.1)
2. 2006-2007 GF Function Revenue Analysis with Details of 6100's and 7000's as of April, 2007 (p. 3.b.2)
3. 2006-2007 General Fund Function-Object Expenditure Analysis as of April, 2007 (pp. 3.b.3-5)
4. Category Expenditures Analysis – April, 2007 (p. 3.b.6)
5. Capital Projects Fund Report – April, 2007 (p. 3.b.7)

**RESIDENTS'  
COMMENTS  
(Continued)**

**MINUTES  
APPROVED**

**FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**

**3.a.13**

Financial Statements – Continued

6. Outstanding Projects Summary – April, 2007 (p. 3.b.8)
7. Construction Project Reports – April, 2007
  - a. Unionville High School HVAC Project Budget Report– April, 2007 (pp. 3.b.9-10)
  - b. Unionville High School & Fields Renovation Project Budget Report– April, 2007 (p. 3.b.11)
8. Capital Reserve Fund Report – April, 2007 (p. 3.b.12)
9. Health Care Trust Fund Report – April, 2007 (p. 3.b.13)
10. Debt Service Reserve Fund Report – April, 2007 (p. 3.b.14)

The following activity account reports were reviewed:

1. Unionville Elementary School Clearing Account Report – October 26, 2006 through March 26, 2007 (pp. 3.c.1-2)
2. Pocopson Elementary School Clearing Account Balance Sheet – July 1, 2006 through April 26, 2007 (p. 3.c.3)
3. C. F. Patton Middle School Activities Accounts Reports – January through March, 2007 (pp. 3.c.4-6)
4. Unionville High School Activities Balance Sheet – January through March, 2007 (pp. 3.c.7-10)
5. U-CF Cafeteria Service Profit & Loss Statements – March through April, 2007 (pp. 3.c.11-13)

Mr. Baker requested that the secretary file the financial statements and reports.

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the Bill List for April 18, 2007 in the amount of \$1,690,133.59 (pp. 3.d.1-15).

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the 2006-07 Budget Transfers for May, 2007 (p. 3.e.1).

Motion carried (8-0).

Mr. Swayze stated that there were no action items for Facilities this evening.

Mrs. Brown stated that there were no action items for Curriculum & Educational Technology this evening. She had given a report at the May Work Session, and there has been nothing included in the Board books in the interim.

**FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS  
(Continued)**

**ACTIVITY  
ACCOUNT  
REPORTS**

**BILLS  
APPROVED**

**BUDGET  
TRANSFERS**

**FACILITIES**

**CURRICULUM &  
EDUCATIONAL  
TECHNOLOGY**

Mr. Cochran reviewed the four bid items listed on the agenda. In response to Mrs. Trigg's question, Mr. Cochran stated that the science supplies are used for experiments. Teachers determine the products they need within the scope of the principals' budgets.

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Swayze to award the bids for Unionville High School Art, Technology Education, Health & Physical Education, Science, and Athletic Supplies; the Patton Middle School Science, Athletic, and Art Supplies; the General Supply Bids; and the Chester County Intermediate Unit Paper Bid as on the attachments (pp. 6.a.1-2).

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to award the bids for the Chester County Intermediate Unit Joint Purchasing Board for Copy Paper for 2007-08 as on the attachment (p. 6.a.3) and the Custodial Supplies Bid (No. 2678-01) as on the attachment.

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mr. Wandersee and seconded by Mr. Swayze to award the bid for the Unionville High School Band Uniforms to Stanbury Uniforms, Inc. in the total amount of \$37,088 as on the attachment (p. 6.a.4).

Mr. Cochran stated that UHS Music Teacher Scott Litzenberg worked with parents and staff members on the design specifications for the uniforms and raincoats. In response to Mrs. Halstead's question, Mr. Litzenberg stated that the raincoats are oversized parkas to keep the students a little warmer while sitting in the stands and to keep them dry. Mr. Wandersee stated that new uniforms were purchased last in 1992 and the expected life is 8-10 years.

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mr. Wandersee and seconded by Mrs. Trigg to approved the following personnel items (agenda items 7.a through 7.l):

- a. Professional Conferences (4)
  - 1. Approve the Attendance at Professional Conferences as on the attachment (p. 7.a.1)
- b. Retirement (1)
  - 1. Howard Shortlidge – Bus Driver, effective June 30, 2007
- c. Resignation (1)
  - 1. Patricia Chern – Chadds Ford/Hillendale Elementary Music Teacher, effective June, 2007

(Continued)

**FINANCE:**

**Bids –  
UHS & CFP-MS  
Supplies**

**Bids –  
CCIU – Copy  
Paper,  
Custodial  
Supplies**

**Bid –  
UHS Band  
Uniforms**

**PERSONNEL:**

**Professional  
Conferences**

**Retirement:**

**H. Shortlidge**

**Resignation:  
P. Chern**

**3.a.15**

Personnel (Continued)

- d. Reclassifications (3)
  - 1. David Buck – from part-time Van Driver to full-time Bus Driver, effective March 1, 2007
  - 2. Lynn Good – from Pocopson Elementary Paraprofessional (3.5 hours per school day) to Pocopson Elementary School Paraprofessional (3.5 hours per school day) and Chadds Ford Elementary School Paraprofessional (1 hour per school day, effective March 12, 2007
  - 3. Kathy Greeley – from Pocopson Elementary 25 hour per week Grade Level Paraprofessional to 12.5 hour per week Grade Level Paraprofessional, effective for the 2007-2008 school year
- e. Supplemental Contracts (3)
  - 1. Justin Smith – J.V. Baseball Coach
  - 2. Betsy Hickman – English Department Chairperson (1/2 year)
  - 3. Susan Thomas – English Department Chairperson (1/2 year)
- f. Substitutes (2)
  - 1. Ryan Kulesza – Elementary
  - 2. Maureen Seilus – Support Staff
- g. Employ (1)
  - 1. Marie Lofe – District Access Coordinator (20 hours per week), effective May 14, 2007, at a salary of \$15.00 per hour
- h. Reduce Position (1)
  - 1. Marcia DiGregorio – Patton Middle School, from .6 Health Teacher/.4 Athletic Trainer to .6 Health Teacher, effective for the beginning of the 2007-2008 school year per the attached letter
- i. Extended School Year Program
  - 1. Approve the Employees for the 2007 Extended School Year Program as on the attachment (p. 7.i.1)
- j. Creation of Positions
  - 1. Approve the Professional, Support, and Supplemental Positions as per the Preliminary Budget Approval as Presented on May 14, 2007 (pp. 7.j.1-3)

(Continued)

**PERSONNEL –  
(Continued)**

**Reclassi-  
fications:**

**D. Buck**

**L. Good**

**K. Greeley**

**Supplemental  
Contracts**

**Substitutes**

**Employ:**

**M. Lofe**

**Reduce  
Position:  
M. DiGregorio**

**Extended  
School Year  
Program  
Employees**

**Create  
Positions**

Personnel (Continued)

- k. Summer Transportation Employees (7)
  - 1. Approve the following Summer Transportation Employees:
    - a. Robert Super (Returning)
    - b. Marco Sordi (Returning)
    - c. Travis Ewing (Returning)
    - d. Laura Gilbaugh (Returning)
    - e. Robert Hoff (New)
    - f. James Bradley (New)
    - g. Trey Collins (New)
  
- l. Leaves (2)
  - 1. Shannon Price – Chadds Ford Third Grade Teacher, Child-Rearing Leave, effective for the first semester of the 2007-2008 school year
  - 2. Angela Puleo – Chadds Ford Speech & Language Teacher, Child-Rearing Leave, effective for the first semester of the 2007-2008 school year

Mrs. Halstead stated that Patti Chern is a loss for Hillendale Elementary. She was dearly loved and Mrs. Halstead is glad that she is staying home with her child. We will miss her.

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Dr. West and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the following personnel item (agenda item 7.m.):

- m. Support Staff Wage and Benefit Plan
  - 1. Approve the Extension of the Current Support Staff Wage and Benefit Plan for one year through the 2007-2008 school year

In response to Mr. Wandersee's question, Mr. Marinelli stated that this extension is consistent with what we did with the teachers' contract negotiation.

Motion carried (8-0).

Mr. Baker stated that there were no voting items for Co-Curricular and Student Life this evening. He indicated that the co-curricular activities are vital to the scholastic success of any district. They build character and commitment and establish a code of conduct that applies to players, coaches, and parents. He is glad that we're having these conversations. The work is important and will be coming forth promptly.

**PERSONNEL –  
(Continued)**

**Summer  
Transportation  
Employees**

**Leaves:**

**S. Price**

**A. Puleo**

**Support Staff  
Wage and  
Benefit Plan  
Extension  
through 2007-  
2008**

**CO-  
CURRICULAR &  
STUDENT LIFE**

Dr. West reported for Communications regarding:

- Community Survey – Is on the website until the end of the month; please take a moment to fill it out
- Coffee Chats – Last chat for 2007-08 will be held on June 5<sup>th</sup>; they will start up again in September. Dr. West thanked everyone who came out and thanked Board members for their support.
- Rapid Dialing Phone System – with Global Connect; Sharon Parker will do a test message sometime this week. We are doing this as a pilot now and the goal is to have an efficient, fast way to communicate with parents (i.e. emergencies).
- Communication Plan – Was presented at the Work Session. We will get it in place for the beginning of next school year.

It was moved by Mr. Wandersee and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve Board Policy No. 218.3 – Pupils – Bullying as on the attachments (pp. 10.a.1-4; 4-13-07).

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mr. Wandersee and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve Monday, June 4, 2007 as a day off (for students in grades 9-12).

Superintendent Parker stated that graduation would be held on June 4<sup>th</sup> and the time has been changed to noon. The University of Delaware needed some adjustments in order to move one of the Delaware schools into the facility. It would not be productive to bring in the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students from 7:30 to 10:00 a.m. We do have our number of days completed. She stated that this would be the test message on the rapid dial system. K-8 students will be in session.

Mr. Wandersee provided the Legislative Report:

- Bill No. 1286 – General Fund Appropriations Bill – Speculate what we would received for state-supported funds and special education funds. It was put together and approved by the Senate and then moves to the House of Representatives for changes. It is returned to the Senate and discharged to a committee for debate.
- Bill No. 258 – Proposal to start school after Labor Day to help with the loss of tourist business; still has life in it
- Senate Bill No. 71 – Bullying – We passed our policy last month. Senator Greenleaf added an amendment requiring school districts to post their policy twice per year. It's great that we are showing leadership on this issue.

Mr. Murray arrived at 8:30 p.m.

## **COMMUNI- CATIONS**

## **LEGISLATION & BOARD POLICY**

### **Bullying Policy No. 218.3**

### **Calendar Revision – 6/4/07**

Mr. Murray reported for the Center for Arts & Technology / Special Education / I.U. that the I.U. Board met last Wednesday. They hired a new Executive Director, Joseph O'Brien, former Superintendent in Haddonfield, New Jersey and Springfield (Delaware County), Pennsylvania. He is looking forward to taking over the I.U. and has big shoes to fill from John Baillie. There is a lot going on with construction of the Southern CAT campus. He is a wonderful applicant and will do a great job.

Mr. Murray reminded the public that we would be voting on final budget adoption at the June 18<sup>th</sup> Board meeting as required to be completed before June 30<sup>th</sup>. It is available on the District's website for public inspection. Mr. Cochran stated that it is also available in the Central Office.

There were no comments from residents.

Dr. West commented about whether the athletic and co-curricular issues were coming forward because we have a place to put them with the new committee or vice versa. She is glad that our Board and administration are open enough to hear all sides and can address them efficiently and effectively. Our district is not just about academics.

Mr. Wandersee thanked Lexi Crampton for the great job she has done this year. He wished her the best in her future. Mr. Wandersee congratulated all of the graduates and hopes we are successful as usual in finding appropriate colleges. He commented about the terrific job that everyone did in working on the After-Prom party. It was very nicely done and shows more teamwork in the school.

Mrs. Halstead inquired about how the Academic Team fared at state competition. Mr. Fulginiti believes they ended in 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> place and represented UHS extremely well. Mrs. Halstead said goodbye to Lexi Crampton and showed a pillow that Lexi had made as her student in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. She will treasure it always and she wishes her well at Georgetown. Mrs. Halstead wished many happy trails to the Class of 2007 and particularly to Dan Gabor, who will be spending the summer with Barak Obama and his campaign.

Mrs. Brown congratulated the Class of 2007. She thanked the After-Prom group very much and stated that her son felt they should receive gold stars. She extended wishes for a good summer to the students and staff members.

Mrs. Trigg agrees with all of the congratulations and acknowledgements that were passed along so far. She congratulated Shinauk Kishore who will attend the Math Olympiad Summer Program (one of 12 high school juniors in the country). She wished everyone a great summer.

**C.A.T. /  
SPECIAL  
EDUCATION /  
I.U. REPORT**

**RESIDENTS'  
COMMENTS**

**BOARD  
MEMBERS'  
COMMENTS**

Mr. Swayze thanked Lexi Crampton very much for her service and wished her well at Georgetown. He extended best wishes to the Class of 2007. Mr. Swayze congratulated the award winners who were recognized this evening. This scratches the surface of how many co-curricular activities we have and the number of extraordinary leaders. The students perform on a very high level, even on the national level. These activities are nearly as important as the curriculum side. We cannot have the quality of them with the facilities that we have. It is imperative that we move on with the construction program to allow the co-curricular side of student life here.

Dr. Sweeney commented about the newspapers reporting on her reelection to the Board because of her love of the District. In reference to Lexi Crampton, the administrators and staff ... at the end of the day, you do love this District – it's a pretty special place.

Mr. Baker commented about having been a distance runner, stating that the last half mile is typically the worst of the event. As we move into the 4<sup>th</sup> marking period and graduation, there is a certain elation at having gotten through. He congratulated the graduates. Mr. Baker congratulated Dr. Sweeney, Mr. Wandersee, Mrs. Trigg, Paul Price, and Greg Lindner on having made it through the vote.

Mr. Baker extended his personal regards to John Baillie (retiring Executive Director – CCIU). He has known Dr. Baillie as an IU Board Director, a client and a source of wisdom. He has built the Chester County Intermediate Unit into something of an extraordinary place. Dr. Baillie has had a long and distinguished career and he wishes him well.

Mr. Baker announced that there would be an Executive Session of the Board following this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Brown  
Secretary

**BOARD  
MEMBERS'  
COMMENTS  
(Continued)**

**MEETING  
ADJOURNED**