

UNIONVILLE-CHADDS FORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
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SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
Minutes
October 15, 2007

The October meeting of the Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board was held on Monday, October 15, 2007 in the Unionville High School Large Group Instruction room. Mr. Baker, President, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

The following members were present: Curt Baker, R. Bruce Swayze, Kathleen Brown, Karen Halstead, Dr. Corinne Sweeney, Timotha Trigg, Edward Wandersee, and Dr. Therese West. Also present were Sharon E. Parker, District Superintendent, Kenneth Batchelor, A. Kurt Barker, Robert Cochran, Rich Hug, John Nolen, Mark Ransford, Colleen Shearburn, Bruce Vosburgh, Shannon Pitt, student representative, community residents, members of the press, and Denise Miller, recording secretary.

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

Mr. Baker stated that the meeting agenda would be rearranged slightly to address an addendum item earlier this evening.

Superintendent Parker stated that the first quarter of the school year was coming to an end rapidly. There has been so much strong, positive energy initially that it seems as though there have been six to seven months of work invested. She commented specifically regarding the following areas:

- Community Fair – Was held this past week with the inclusive “we” role and the initiatives of the community. Ms. Parker extended thanks to John Nolen and the team of teachers, parents, Central Administrative staff, the Operations and Transportation Departments for allowing for the excitement, along with our elementary and secondary children. Everyone had a fine day, despite the intense wind and rain. If we can bring out each of the qualities we saw during the Fair, this good community discourse and dialogue is the right way for children.
- Unionville High School Building Project – There are three additional information sessions scheduled on:
 - October 23 - 7:00 – 8:30 PM, UHS LGI Room
 - October 30 - 1:00 – 2:30 PM, UES Auditorium
 - November 1 - 1:00 – 2:30 PM, HES LGI RoomDetailed information is listed on the U-CF website. When we see important information on the website, we hope you will share it with your neighbors.

CALL TO ORDER

MEMBERS PRESENT

SUPER-INTENDENT'S REPORT

Community Fair

UHS Building Project – Information Sessions Scheduled

Superintendent's Report – Continued

- Director of Secondary Curriculum & Instruction – You will meet our new Director, John Sanville, in just a few moments.
- Student Demonstrations – As we look at goal setting, we need to look at the demonstrations of student learning. This needs to be the center of all that we do. This evening's presentations were brought forward by Unionville High School students and staff.

Kurt Barker, UHS Assistant Principal, stated that Mr. Fulginiti was unable to be here tonight due to a death in his extended family. He commented about the three departments from Unionville High School that were represented in this evening's pre-Board meeting presentations. The Science Department included demonstrations of DNA models from Mr. Anderson's class, solutions prepared by students in A.P. Chemistry, and displays from Biology. The English Department included some of the things they have done, including "Make a Difference Projects," which are an integral part of English. The World Language Department provided nice displays of what students are doing there. He extended thanks to all of the students who rose to the occasion in pulling all of this together. Mr. Barker thanked the Board for the opportunity of sharing the students' accomplishments.

Ms. Parker encouraged parents and community members to come to Board meetings at 7:00 p.m. to see the student displays and to interact with them. Mr. Nolen stated that next month's demonstrations would be provided by Mr. Vosburgh and Patton Middle School students.

Superintendent Parker stated that we would be looking at student achievement tonight. She asked that Ken Batchelor, John Nolen, and Colleen Shearburn put their talents together to offer us a picture of students' achievement from 2006-07.

Mr. Batchelor, Assistant to the Superintendent, stated that we were focusing on PSSA (Pennsylvania System of School Assessment) and SAT (Scholastic Aptitude Test) scores tonight, although achievement means so much more. These are snapshots of the achievement levels of our students specifically on those two tests.

He stated that under the No Child Left Behind Act, 100% of students must be proficient in math and reading on the PSSA exams by 2014. Mr. Batchelor provided a chart to indicate district proficiency levels of 92% in math and 91% in reading presently. We already meet the 2013 benchmark in math. He stated that the reading benchmark increases to 63% in 2010. We have met and exceeded local performance levels and will continue to keep that goal.

SUPER- INTENDENT'S REPORT - Continued

Director – Secondary Curr. & Instruction

Student Demonstrations

District Achievement Report

District Achievement Report - Continued

John Nolen, Director of Elementary Curriculum & Instruction, offered congratulations to the elementary school students and teachers on the excellent PSSA scores. He reviewed charts that outlined the Average Scaled Scores and Percentage Proficient in Grades 3-5:

**District
Achievement
Report -
Continued**

Grade 3	Math	Reading
CFES	1410 / 96%	1422 / 91%
HES	1499 / 99%	1473 / 97%
PES	1448 / 96%	1460 / 95%
UES	1416 / 95%	1417 / 88%
District	1445 / 96%	1444 / 97%

Grade 4	Math	Reading
CFES	1649 / 96%	1551 / 98%
HES	1629 / 97%	1564 / 97%
PES	1560 / 99%	1482 / 93%
UES	1692 / 99%	1563 / 98%
District	1627 / 98%	1534 / 96%

Grade 5	Math	Reading	Writing
CFES	1612 / 96%	1535 / 94%	1509 / 94%
HES	1692 / 98%	1567 / 91%	1510 / 93%
PES	1633 / 96%	1470 / 91%	1397 / 91%
UES	1609 / 90%	1489 / 85%	1390 / 85%
District	1629 / 94%	1502 / 89%	1432 / 90%

Mr. Nolen stated that students will also take the PSSA science test this year.

Mr. Batchelor reported on Patton Middle School scores for Grades 6-8 and Unionville High School scores for Grade 11:

Grade 6	Math	Reading
CFPMS	1580 / 90%	1476 / 85%

Grade 7	Math	Reading
CFPMS	1646 / 94%	1561 / 94%

Grade 8	Math	Reading	Writing
CFPMS	1590 / 93%	1646 / 98%	1518 / 93%

Grade 11	Math	Reading	Writing
UHS	1491 / 80%	1484 / 84%	1530 / 96%

He stated that 2006-07 was the second year for the writing piece of the exam.

District Achievement Report - Continued

**District
 Achievement
 Report
 (Continued)**

Mr. Batchelor reviewed the 2007 SAT scores:

	UHS	State	Nation
Math	572	499	515
Reading	556	493	502
Total	1128	992	1017

	UHS	State	Nation
Writing	545	482	494
Total	1673	1474	1511

The four-year averages were as follows:

	2004	2005	2006	2007
Math	571	580	585	572
Verbal	574	575	572	556
Total	1145	1555	1157	1128

He commented about the dip in the 2007 scores (13 points in Math; 16 points in Reading) and indicated that this was an area that we will need to investigate.

In response to Mr. Baker's question, Mr. Batchelor stated that this dip was statistically significant. Mrs. Brown pointed out that the dip might be related to the new SAT exam. Mr. Batchelor concurred, adding that there was also a dip in the national scores. He stated that there were 16 Commended students this year in comparison with 7-8 students last year.

Colleen Shearburn, Assistant Technology Director, reviewed the four components that are taken into account for meeting AYP (Adequate Yearly Progress) on the PSSA exams (overall and in all subgroups):

- 90% Average Daily Attendance Rate (Previous Year)
- 80% Graduation Rate (Previous Year)
- 95% PSSA Participation Rate
- 45% Proficient in Math / 54% Proficient in Reading

She commented about the subgroups (n = 40) by school:

- Economically Disadvantaged
- English Language Learners
- Ethnic
 - 2006-07 Asian Subgroup (CFP-MS)
- Migrant
- Special Education (IEP)
 - 2006-07 Special Education Subgroups (UES, CFP-MS, UHS)

District Achievement Report - Continued

We met AYP at the elementary and middle school levels but had a warning for the high school only in the Special Education subgroup (45 / 54% proficiency levels). Ms. Shearburn commented about Special Education Subgroups in Pennsylvania (Grade 11):

- 44 Students in Subgroup at Unionville (2006-07)
- Out of 508 High Schools with a Special Education Subgroup of 10 or more students, UHS was ranked 39 for proficiency of the Special Education Subgroup.
- Only 8 schools out of 508 were 45% proficient or more in Math within the subgroup.
- Only 14 schools out of 508 were 54% proficient or more in Reading within the subgroup.

She reviewed the Special Education Subgroup data for 2007-08 (UHS – Grade 11):

- 48 Students (currently identified)
- Meet AYP
 - Reading
 - 63% of subgroup designated proficient (31 students)
 - 42% of subgroup designated proficient
 - Meet Safe Harbor (21 students)
 - 78% of subgroup designated proficient
 - Meet PA Performance Index (38 students)
 - Math
 - 56% of subgroup designated proficient on PSSA (27 students)
 - 39% of subgroup designated proficient
 - Meet Safe Harbor (19 students)
 - 73.2% of subgroup designated proficient
 - Meet PA Performance Index (36 students)

Mr. Batchelor reviewed achievement activities planned for this year:

- Standards-based curriculum alignment in K-12 language arts, math science, and social studies
- Individual reading and math instruction at the middle level
- Continuation of parent waivers for higher level courses at the high school
- Continued addition of AP and Honors courses at the high school
- Increased use of data to drive instructional decision making and related staff development

District Achievement Report (Continued)

District Achievement Report - Continued

Mr. Nolen outlined additional achievement activities:

- Extended School Year Program (ESY) for special needs students
- Annual study of achievement results with formulation of building action plans
- Development of Elementary Literacy Assessments and use of data (DIBELS)
- Elementary and Middle School assessment program to drive instruction and identify students who need support
- Common assessments, reading and math pre and post assessments at the middle school level for all students
- High School proficiency courses in reading and math
- Title I Reading Support for identified students
- Continued use of PSSA coach materials and focus on Assessment Anchors

Mr. Batchelor stated that 9th grade students worked with the *Study Island* program (PSSA) last year and 10th graders will continue this year. We will also continue the work with the cohort and sub-group students.

He reviewed the 2007-08 achievement goal to meet and exceed local SAT and PSSA performance levels and promote achievement growth for all children. Mr. Batchelor thanked everyone for the opportunity to share this information.

In response to Mrs. Halstead's question, Mr. Batchelor stated that there had been discussion about helping current seniors who might need extra support to go out into the world (i.e. another course for those seniors; addressing through the curriculum). Mrs. Halstead stated that her concern rose from other schools that have graduated seniors in the past that cannot read or add. She does not want that for our youngsters.

Dr. West asked if there had been any discussion about evaluating the Special Education Program and how those students are taught with regard to UHS being on the warning list for that subgroup. Mr. Batchelor responded that there had been discussion and stated that everyone is struggling with this nationally (IDEA and NCLB legislation are very contrary to one another). One says that we must help them achieve and the other says it doesn't matter, they must achieve. We are looking at how we are using our resource program, writing IEP's (writing in *Study Island*).

**District
Achievement
Report
(Continued)**

District Achievement Report - Continued

Mrs. Trigg asked if a report could be prepared for the Curriculum Committee including information about these youngsters. Ms. Parker commented about having addressed an NAACP conference where she indicated that No Child Left Behind put educators in the position of placing kids in subgroups which violates the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The children are ours and some come under the McKinney Act (homeless students). We need to be able to disaggregate the test data to evaluate how we are using our materials, the environments, etc.

We are looking at close to 20% of children in this and in most districts; some cannot sit still in a seat and some are more profoundly affected. We may have more children walk in tomorrow. She hopes we will show great strides next year. If so, it will be because the home and school have worked together most diligently.

Mr. Baker stated that we would move ahead in the agenda to addendum item 7.h.5. It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Wandersee to approve the following personnel item:

7.h. Employ

5. John C. Sanville – Director of Secondary Curriculum and Instruction, effective date to be determined, at a salary of \$126,687.

Mr. Wandersee commented that he was very glad to have been part of the Interview Committee for John. He appreciates Mr. Sanville's bent toward a sense of humor, which is much needed at times.

Superintendent Parker stated that Mr. Batchelor, Mrs. Halstead and Mr. Wandersee were all part of that interview process. Mr. Sanville comes to us with experience as a Guidance Counselor in Virginia and as an Assistant Principal and Principal in the Marple-Newtown School District. We wanted someone who would make right decisions. A sense of humor is so important and integral to the team and in working with teachers, parents, and students.

Motion carried (9-0).

Mr. Sanville stated that he is so thrilled to be here and part of the Unionville-Chadds Ford team. He thanked Mr. Wandersee for his comments and stated that Ms. Parker, Mr. Batchelor and the other staff members have been nothing but gracious. It's an honor to be part of a team that focuses on student achievement. Mr. Sanville commented about how one doesn't get into these positions without a lot of help and he recognized his wife, Debbie, who was with him this evening.

District Achievement Report (Continued)

PERSONNEL:

**J. Sanville –
Director of
Secondary
Curriculum &
Instruction**

Shannon Pitt, Student Representative, apologized for having missed the last School Board meeting due to her competition in a horse event in Illinois. She provided her report regarding:

1. 1st Quarter – Has been great so far
2. Homecoming – 900 students attended the festivities – a record for all years past; The parade was welcomed back with open arms.
3. Magazine Sale – Raised a good amount of money for the group
4. Powder Puff Game – coming up
5. Student Petition – to use Ipods during study halls.
6. Prom Tickets – Working to lower their prices

Keith Knauss, East Marlborough Township resident, commented about the meeting that he and Jeff Hellrung had arranged this Wednesday evening at the *Traditions* neighborhood. Only residents of *Traditions* have been invited due to limited seating. Mr. Knauss asked whether the format of the District's public meetings scheduled for October 23, 30, and November 1 could be changed to allow he and Jeff to speak to the "no" side of the project.

Ms. Parker shared the conversation she had held with Mr. Knauss regarding the ethical guidelines to which she is held. She is not to engage in debate with members of the community but would state the recommendation and information to allow individuals to vote their conscience. Until the guidelines are firmly stated by legislation, U-CF is proceeding on a cautious path. She will provide information and take questions at *Traditions*. Debate is not a process that can be used here and this is consistent with what she has been doing at neighborhood coffees.

Mr. Baker commented about similar kinds of problems facing the Board since they are not permitted to advocate as a Board. They may advocate as individuals for causes they see as appropriate. It would be inappropriate to participate in a formal debate. The District has taken a conservative posture regarding the approach on this by the Administration and Board.

Jeff Hellrung, East Marlborough Township resident, stated that he understood and agreed with Sharon Parker's comments. He looks forward to her participation on Thursday but would like Board members to debate the issue as individuals. He thanked Ms. Parker for changing the financial information on the website to more accurately reflect the financing situation. He stated that there are pockets of congestion at the high school but not a crisis. According to his calculations, with 1,350 students and 79 functional classrooms, the class size average is 17.09 students/classroom.

**STUDENT
REPRESENTATIVE
REPORT**

**RESIDENTS'
COMMENTS**

Residents' Comments - Continued

Superintendent Parker offered clarification regarding class sizes at the high school. Not every classroom can be in full use every period of the day. The national goal is to get 65% or better and we do exceed that percentage. She reviewed some of the requirements that dictate classroom usage, such as the legal regulations for special education students. Also, some students in the most challenging courses may have fewer numbers. Lunch periods also affect classroom usage.

Mr. Hellrung commented about Sun Valley's requirement that if students do not pass (verbal and math) the PSSA's, they do not graduate but receive a certificate of attendance unless they take a remedial program. This has solved their problem as far as their making an effort.

Bruce Yelton, Pocopson Township resident, asked whether we were spending increasing time devoted to teaching to the test. He also inquired as to how our students in the Juvenile Detention Center figure into this. Mr. Batchelor responded that he doesn't think we are teaching to the test but are trying to make sure our curriculum is aligned to the Academic Standards and anchors. A lot of time was spent making sure we had solid alignment over the years. Mr. Batchelor stated that we do not get numbers in our overall scores for our students placed in alternative settings. He would have to do research regarding this question for him.

Holly Manzone, Pocopson Township resident, stated that she really enjoyed the achievement presentation. She commented about having moved here ten years ago and about her work to put together a community resource network to assure we could be the very best. Mrs. Manzone stated that our schools are an integral part of our community and we all need to work together. All of us know the school needs work and we should all be working together. Every day is becoming a debate and we are all on the same team. We are all neighbors when we awake on November 7th. We don't have to be antagonistic.

Heidi Brown, Chadds Ford Township resident, commented to the Board and district staff about most residents being very thankful for the hard work they have put forth on this project. The accessibility of the Board and Superintendent is pleasing and she is happy to be in a school district like U-CF. Involvement in public education can be a thankless job. She concurred with Mrs. Manzone's comments and stated that we are all neighbors and should maintain a respectful air of dignity on both sides.

Vic Dupuis, East Marlborough Township resident, stated that the debate about real estate tax is a State issue and not a District one. We have to decide how much money we're going to spend but how it affects some residents under Act 1 is a State issue.

**RESIDENTS'
COMMENTS
(Continued)**

Residents' Comments - Continued

Mr. Dupuis commented about the testing report, the amount of debate among parties, and making one test that would do everything. He asked if we could look at what percentage of students takes the S.A.T. vs. other districts.

He stated that he had grown up in State College, Pennsylvania, which was a pretty good district. The Board voted for a \$110 million expansion by nearly a unanimous vote. The community is now completely divided and people who grew up as best friends are no longer speaking to each other. We can be better than State College.

Portia Tome, Birmingham Township resident, commented about students with 504 accommodations who have been diagnosed with a dual diagnosis (Gifted and ADD) seeking time accommodations for a particular area of study, such as writing. The student is being told that they do not qualify because their grades are average/good and if the student is being compared with his peers as average, should he not be compared to other peers and not the average? That person is not reaching his/her potential.

Ms. Parker mentioned hypothetical vs. actual cases. She firmly believes in looking at the matter and would like to have a conversation. She asked that Mr. Nolen obtain Ms. Tome's contact information and stated that perhaps Mr. Molleca could be part of the conversation. Ms. Parker also commented about her son's dual diagnosis of Gifted and neurologically impaired.

Carol Catanese, Pennsbury Township resident, announced on behalf of the UHS PTO and PTO Board that they have overwhelmingly voted on their intent to vote to support the UHS Project on November 6 because it is the right thing to do.

Lawrie Bolger, Pocopson Township resident, stated that her parents are residents of *Traditions*. They had only heard from one side regarding the UHS Project until one week ago. She thanked Mr. Knauss and Mr. Hellrung for having the forum. Ms. Bolger stated that she would hate to think that their family would be divided because they did not have all of the information they needed to make a decision.

Sheila Himes, Pocopson Township resident, applauded everyone for maintaining their composure. Some of the comments are said in such an argumentative way that it's hard to speak to just the facts. Ms. Parker merely gave the facts and was so good in speaking at their coffee. People can be swayed by something in an article when it seems so concrete and it's not. Mrs. Himes stated that she could not hear anything Mr. Knauss and Mr. Hellrung were saying anymore because it is said in such an aggressive way.

**RESIDENTS'
COMMENTS
(Continued)**

Mr. Wandersee stated that Mr. Batchelor made a good response to Mr. Yelton's question regarding teaching to the test.

Shannon Pitt, Student Representative, offered her feelings and, she believes, the feelings of many other students regarding crowding at UHS. She commented about being late to class every day when attempting to travel from a classroom above the side stairwell to a modular classroom. Since she cannot make it down the crowded stairs, she is forced to take the "scenic route" to get to class on time. One of the main thoughts on this project is that the school is sufficient and we are doing okay. If we have the opportunity to expand, why settle for being ordinary? This is an opportunity to be extraordinary and she cannot comprehend it.

Mrs. Halstead thanked everyone who helped with the Community Fair. She heard rumors that the Board was trying to get rid of the Fair, which is not true. She saw first and fifth grade students on Thursday going to the storytellers, beekeeper, Barnyard Olympics, and a Quaker woman who explained their beliefs. It was wonderful and also included community involvement over the next two days. Everyone came out, both young and old. The Fair will be held in a different location next year. It's a wonderful community event.

Mr. Baker stated that over the course of the past year, there has been a substantial change in the leadership of the District. The team is deep with spirit, focus, and experience. When you have that sort of dynamism, you can't help but have great things happening.

Mr. Murray arrived at 8:15 p.m.

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the Minutes of the September 10, 2007 Board Work Session (p. 3.a.19) and the September 17, 2007 Regular Board Meeting (pp. 3.a.1-18).

Motion carried (9-0).

The following financial statements and reports were reviewed:

1. General Fund Treasurer's Report – September, 2007 (p. 3.b.5)
2. 2006-2007 GF Function Revenue Analysis with Details of 6100's and 7000's as of September, 2007 (p. 3.b.6)
3. 2006-2007 General Fund Function-Object Expenditure Analysis as of September, 2007 (pp. 3.b.7-9)
4. Category Expenditures Analysis – September, 2007 (p. 3.b.10)
5. Capital Projects Fund Report – September, 2007 (p. 3.b.11)
6. Outstanding Projects Summary – September, 2007 (p. 3.b.12)

(Continued)

**COMMENTS –
SCHOOL
DIRECTORS**

**MINUTES
APPROVED**

**FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

Financial Statements - Continued

7. Construction Project Reports – September, 2007
 - a. Unionville High School & Fields Renovation Project Budget Report– September, 2007 (pp. 3.b.13-14)
8. Capital Reserve Fund Report – September, 2007 (p. 3.b.15)
9. Health Care Trust Fund Report – September, 2007 (p. 3.b.16)
10. Debt Service Reserve Fund Report – September, 2007 (p. 3.b.17)
11. Activity Account Reports
 1. Unionville High School Activities Balance Sheet – June 30, 2007 through August 31, 2007 (pp. 3.c.1-4)

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

It was moved by Mrs. Halstead and seconded by Mr. Wandersee to approve the Bill List for October 2, 2007 in the amount of \$1,359,842.80 (pp. 3.d.1-25).

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. West and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the End-of-Year Budget Transfers for 2006-07 (pp. 3.b.1-2) and the October Budget Transfers for 2007-08 (p. 3.b.3) as on the attachments.

Motion carried (9-0).

Mr. Swayze stated that there were no action items for Facilities this evening. He mentioned the report last week about fields and the report from the Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds for the District. The fields were in generally good condition and irrigation was taking place where it could be. Now Mother Nature is taking care of that. Ms. Parker mentioned the upcoming informational sessions regarding the High School Project and hopes those who are interested will be in attendance.

Mrs. Brown reported that there were no action items for curriculum tonight. As discussed at the last Work Session, she reported that there is quite a stack of curricular recommendations. They will be discussed at the next Work Session and will be coming up for a vote next month.

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Wandersee to approve the Solicitation of Bids for Transportation Replacement Vehicles.

Motion carried (9-0).

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)

BILLS APPROVED

BUDGET TRANSFERS

**FACILITIES:
Facilities Report**

**CURRICULUM:
Curriculum Report**

**FINANCE:
Bid Solicitations – Transportation**

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mrs. Halstead to approve the request from Pennsbury Township for a waiver of back taxes for 2005 and 2006 in the total amount of \$219.99 for Tax Parcel No. 64-1-1.15 (Emergency Access Way, Waterglen Subdivision) as on the attachments (pp. 6.b.1-5).

Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Wandersee to approve the 2008-09 Per Pupil Building Budget Allocations in the amount of \$205.59 per pupil as on the attachments (pp. 6.c.1-5).

Mr. Murray stated that this figure represents no increase from the 2007-08 allocation.

Motion carried (9-0).

Mrs. Trigg extended thanks for the updated web site information. She asked whether assumptions and cost factors involved in how the figures were calculated could be provided to Board members. Mr. Murray stated that he could give them to her individually to the extent that she receives questions and he would consider working on that request.

Mr. Baker stated that there were no action items for Co-Curricular and Student Life this evening.

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Wandersee to approve the following personnel items (agenda items 7.a. through 7.h. and addendum item 7.b.2):

- 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 – Unionville Elementary School Food Service Assistant (2.5 hours per day), effective September 27, 2007 (will continue to work for Transportation)
 2. Thomas E. Hoover – Patton Middle School Team Teacher, effective January 18, 2008 (as on the attachment dated October 1, 2007)
- c. Resignation (1)
 1. Sara Dunn – Chadds Ford Elementary School Grade 1 Teacher, effective December 21, 2007

**Finance
(Continued)**

**Waiver of Back
Taxes –
Pennsbury
Township
(Parcel No.
64-1-1.15)**

**Per Pupil
Building
Allocations –
2008-09**

**CO-
CURRICULAR &
STUDENT LIFE**

PERSONNEL:

**Professional
Conferences**

Retirements:

D. Musser

T. Hoover

Resignation:

S. Dunn

Personnel (Continued)

d. Leaves (4)

1. Lori Collins – Hillendale Elementary School Teacher, Additional 4-Week Leave following approved 8-Week Maternity Leave, per Family Medical Leave Act
2. Bethany Clemson – Unionville High School Learning Support Teacher, 8-Week Maternity Leave, beginning October 12, 2007, followed by Additional 4-Week Leave per Family Medical Leave Act
3. Christina McHutchison – Patton Middle School French Teacher, 8-Week Maternity Leave, beginning approximately November 29, 2007, followed by a Child-Rearing Leave through the end of the 2007-2008 School Year
4. Lauren Wells, District Social Worker, 12-Week Maternity/ Family Medical Leave, beginning approximately February 17, 2008

e. Reclassifications (7)

1. Jennifer DiFilippo – from full-time, 12-month S-II Special Education Secretary to full-time, 12-month S-III Communications Secretary, effective October 15, 2007
2. Rosemary Boyer – from 5.5 hour per day Van Aide to 6+ hour per day Van Aide and Van Driver, effective August 29, 2007
3. Ida Bohley – from 5.5 hour per day Van and/or Bus Driver to 5.5 hour per day Bus Driver only, effective August 22, 2007
4. John Austin – from 6+ hour per day Bus Driver to 5.5 hour per day Bus Driver, effective September 17, 2007
5. James Joyner – from 6.0 hour per day Bus Driver to 5.5 hour per day Bus Driver, effective August 27, 2007
6. Jessica Turgoose – from 6.0 hour per day Bus Driver to 5.75 hour per day Bus Driver, effective August 27, 2007
7. Jary Hernandez – from Second Shift Custodian to Second Shift Night Supervisor Custodian, effective October 8, 2007, at a salary of $\$13.22 + .50 = \13.72 per hour

f. Supplemental Contracts (5)

1. Greg Hilden – 9th Grade Girls' Basketball Coach
2. Susan Hayes – Forensics Advisor
3. David Parrish – 9th Grade Volleyball
4. George Claypoole – Mentor – Full Year (for Tara Gruss)
5. Jason Eshleman – Assistant Girls' Basketball Coach

**Personnel –
Continued**

Leaves:

L. Collins

B. Clemson

C. McHutchison

L. Wells

**Reclassi-
fications:**

J. DiFilippo

R. Boyer

I. Boley

J. Austin

J. Joyner

J. Turgoose

J. Hernandez

**Supplemental
Contracts**

Personnel – Continued

- g. Substitutes (21)
 - 1. Timothy Murphy – Social Studies
 - 2. Kathryn Garrison – English/Language Arts
 - 3. Debra Kent – Elementary
 - 4. Heather McCall – Special Education
 - 5. Melissa McInerney – K-12
 - 6. Heather Choffo – K-12
 - 7. Susan Burns – Nurse
 - 8. Charles Magness – Bus Driver
 - 9. Tammi Maciolek – Support Staff
 - 10. Wendy Schrof – Support Staff
 - 11. Ann Bell – Support Staff
 - 12. Mary Salomaki – Homebound Instructor
 - 13. Karen King – Special Education
 - 14. Kathleen Bender – Van Driver
 - 15. Brooke Kokoszka – Elementary
 - 16. Laurie Gremminger – Elementary
 - 17. Julie Block – K-12
 - 18. Chris D’Esposito – Health & Physical Education
 - 19. Laura Pepe – Elementary
 - 20. Marybeth Schultz – Elementary
 - 21. Marsha Falkenau – Social Studies

- h. Employ (4)
 - 1. Audra Gavaghan – Unionville Elementary School Food Service Assistant (2.5 hours per school day), effective September 28, 2007, at a salary of \$10.60 per hour
 - 2. Kathleen Walsh-Shell – Patton Middle School Athletic Trainer (8.0 hours per school day), effective upon receipt of paperwork, at a salary of \$27.00 per hour
 - 3. Christopher D’Esposito – Pocopson Health & Physical Education Teacher (Long-Term Substitute), effective approximately November 17, 2007 through the end of the 2007-2008 School Year, at the Bachelor’s Step 1 salary level, pro-rated
 - 4. Mary Garvey – S-II Special Education Office Manager, effective October 15, 2007, at a salary of \$18.78 per hour

**PERSONNEL
(Continued)**

Substitutes

Employ:

A. Gavaghan

K. Walsh-Shell

C. D’Esposito

M. Garvey

Dr. West reported for Communications regarding:

1. District Web Site – Adding some information sections to the site with FAQ's (Frequently Asked Questions) that come up every year
2. Annual Goals – Listing of annual goals and closure of previous year's goals will be posted on the web site
3. PTO Advisory Committee – Meeting was held; will start to summarize those meetings and post the information on the web site
4. Coffee Chat – Next date is November 13th (2nd Tuesday since 1st Tuesday is a day off for Election Day)

**COMMUNI-
CATIONS**

Mr. Wandersee provided the following report for Legislation:

1. Joint Meeting with Senator Pileggi and Representative Ross – Sponsored by the Kennett School District on October 25th at 7:00 PM at the Kennett Business Office. Mrs. Halstead, Mrs. Trigg and he will be attending the meeting. It is an open meeting to communicate to key representatives the need for more state support for some key activities as we incur costs:
 - Special Education Funding – No increase from the State to support special education costs which have increased significantly
 - PSERS (Pennsylvania School Employees' Retirement System) – Costs increase significantly in years ahead; need to get a handle on that
 - Growth and Development – Impact on school districts (to build schools, hire teachers, etc.) and discussion of opportunity for building impact fees. Townships and municipalities have options for these fees; school districts do not.

**LEGISLATIVE
REPORT**

Mr. Murray reported for the Center for Arts & Technology/ Intermediate Unit and Special Education:

1. I.U. Meeting – Was held on September 16th; he was not able to attend the meeting due to an unexpected professional obligation but will attend this week's meeting

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

Dr. West reported that the School Authority has obtained more funding to offset costs we are going to pay and is working with the township in a very cooperative manner.

**School
Authority**

There were no additional comments from residents.

**RESIDENT'S
COMMENTS**

**BOARD
MEMBERS'
COMMENTS**

Dr. West commented that she is very happy to welcome John Sanville to the District. She stated that the administrative team that is being built is just great. The Community Fair dedication was lovely and she was in attendance. Dr. West thanked all of the community members who said we would all have to live together after the referendum vote on the renovation project. She echoes their thoughts.

Mr. Wandersee stated that everyone is very pleased to see the student performance on the PSSA and SAT tests. It is part of the efforts of the teaching staff and the building administration. You did a great job!

Mrs. Halstead stated that without the teachers and students, we would not reach the benchmarks. Our curriculum is reaching the benchmarks and we are testing them. She extended congratulations to the administrative team. We have a diverse group of people who have come together from different school districts and it has been exciting working with them. Mrs. Halstead looks forward to going ahead, and stated that they are building a community.

Mrs. Brown thanked everyone who worked so hard to make the Community Fair come together, particularly the Transportation and Buildings and Grounds staff. She stated that the PSSA results were great and a good indication that we're on track. Mrs. Brown is looking forward to the new curriculum development team coming together and offering diversity to our students.

She stated that not voting is the same as voting "no." Voting "no" means there will not be additional classrooms, money to take additional security measures, labs with proper ventilation, or enough classrooms for students who want to do more science. "No" means we don't have money to fix anything. The next time there is an election, the Board will put forth another vote to do the things that are necessary. Mrs. Brown commented about the "edifice envy" statements that have been made. The Board is being accused of that now and she cannot understand why anyone on the Board would care to build a Taj Mahal. We need classrooms, a gymnasium, and cafeteria that are safe and efficient, nothing particularly extra.

Mrs. Trigg stated that she had received comments about our web site information. Some feel we are not doing a great job but we are doing better now. Mrs. Trigg stated that being on the PSSA warning list means that some kids are not doing what they need to succeed in life. She feels that the warning is justified but a decade too late. We did not have the best curriculum and teachers were not being given good advice. Mrs. Trigg feels happy that they are being given great advice now and is pleased to have Ken Batchelor, John Nolen, and John Sanville here to lead. She welcomed John Sanville to Unionville-Chadds Ford.

Mr. Swayze welcomed John Sanville and his wife, Debbie, to the District. He stated that it was hard to believe that over the span of 15 months the Administrative Team has changed so dramatically. He did not think it could happen that quickly and it is the kind of excitement and challenge that Sharon Parker brings day in and day out.

Mr. Swayze thanked the students who demonstrated the Miracle of Science. He thinks the pre-Board sessions are wonderful and he hopes more members of the public can come out for them.

He commented regarding the High School Renovation Project that we are in need of catching up to hold our students but also with the new Administrative Team, we have hopes that we will be able to expand our offering of educational programs and not be limited to what we have. The project will allow us to expand into new horizons.

Mr. Murray apologized for his lateness this evening due to a professional obligation. He was saddened that he missed some of the public comment. Mr. Murray thinks everything is going well, and he is encouraged by the process. He stated that the legislation placed this upon us and he is happy to speak out about this for children. Everyone, particularly Sharon Parker, has spoken with dignity on this project.

Dr. Sweeney thanked everyone who commented, regardless of what they said. There were a number of very thoughtful and insightful comments.

Ms. Parker thanked the Board for giving her the latitude to go out and find people for the Administrative Team. They gave us the liberty to lead. We are all equal partners in liberty. We have become more than a team – a family coming together. The children will benefit from this and after the Referendum vote, she will not remember Referendum but the joys of milking cows!

Mr. Baker stated that the process for the Referendum vote on the UHS Project has been the worst single experience for him in public education. It distracted the Board from the purpose for which it is elected. Mr. Baker appealed to everyone in the audience to go to the polls on November 6th and to vote their conscience. If you don't vote, the status quo grows worse.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Brown
Secretary

**BOARD
MEMBERS'
COMMENTS
(Continued)**

**MEETING
ADJOURNED**