

**UNIONVILLE-CHADDS FORD SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**Minutes**  
**November 18, 2002**

The November meeting of the Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board was held on Monday, November 18, 2002 in the Unionville High School LGI.

Mr. Wandersee, President, called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. and requested that the group stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

The following members were present: Ed Wandersee, Corinne Sweeney, Herb Brown, Kathleen Brown, Keith Knauss, Stephen McClaskey, Anne F. Michelini, Ed Murray, and Bruce Swayze. Also present were Dr. Jack Kenney, Superintendent, Brenda O'Hern, Marv Shapiro, Dick Merryman, Tom Marinelli, Bruce Vosburgh, David Dickens, Kyle Evans, student representative, community residents, members of the press, and Denise Miller, recording secretary.

There were no comments from residents this evening.

It was moved by Mr. Swayze and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the Minutes of the September 9, 2002 Work Session. Mr. Wandersee stated that this meeting was regarding the termination of the general contractor contract for the Chadds Ford Elementary School Project as well as hiring a temporary general contractor for the project. Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Mr. Swayze and seconded by Mr. McClaskey to approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2002 Regular Meeting. Motion carried (9-0).

The following financial statements were reviewed:

1. General Fund Treasurer's Report dated October, 2002
2. Term Investments Reports dated October, 2002
3. Capital Reserve Fund Report dated October, 2002
4. Capital Projects Fund Report dated October, 2002
5. Construction Project Reports for Unionville Elementary, Pocopson Elementary, and Chadds Ford Elementary, Dated October, 2002
6. U-CF Cafeteria Profit and Loss Statements dated October, 2002

Mr. Wandersee requested that the secretary file the reports.

**MEMBERS  
PRESENT**

**MINUTES  
APPROVED**

**FINANCIAL  
STATEMENTS**

It was moved by Mr. Knauss and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the Bill List dated October 24, 2002 in the amount of \$1,371,346.52. Motion carried (9-0).

Mrs. Michelini reported for Buildings and Grounds regarding:

1. Construction Meeting – A presentation by the Southern Chester County Soccer Association was made regarding a proposal to develop soccer fields behind Unionville Elementary School. The committee was initially very pleased with their proposal and there will be information in Board packets for next month and a presentation by the SCCSA at the December Board meeting.
2. Pocopson Elementary – The project is about 99% complete – there are still some landscaping issues and testing of the septic system (working better since some modifications were made this year). Dr. Kenney will report later regarding some changes to parking at Pocopson.
3. Unionville Elementary – Punch list items are being addressed – expected to be finished by the end of January.
4. Chadds Ford Elementary – There are legal issues regarding the signing of the contract with the replacement contractor – progress is being made and we are getting closer to signing. The district contractor is still there and will remain on site until the new contractor is appointed.
5. Track & Stadium Project – We have received all approvals from the Chester County Conservation District and the township. Bids will go out in December as scheduled. The modulars at the high school should be ready in a couple of weeks.
6. Integrated Pest Management (IPM) – The school district will need to have a policy about this and compose a pest management plan for our schools. This will be monitored very carefully in the future.

Mr. Brown reported for Curriculum regarding:

1. Course Changes - November is traditionally the month for course changes – as discussed at the November 5 Curriculum Council meeting. The Curriculum Committee met on November 11 to review them – all were supported by both the Curriculum Council and the Curriculum Committee. The proposals were also reviewed at the November 11 Work Session. Costs are included in the existing curriculum budget.
2. I.E.P. Coordinator – As discussed at the Work Session, this need is due to the increase in the load and the reauthorization of the 1997 I.D.E.A. regulations. Individualized Education Plans (I.E.P.s) have become more complex. The actual motion will be part of the personnel section tonight.

(Continued)

## **BILLS PAID**

## **BUILDINGS & GROUNDS REPORT**

## **CURRICULUM**

### **Course Changes**

### **I.E.P. Coordinator**

Curriculum (Continued)

3. Mathematics
  - a. Selected Topics in Mathematics – Revisions to teach Calculus within the course – Cost - \$700
  - b. Calculus BC – New course in addition to our Calculus AB course – to allow students who are beginning their Algebra and Geometry in the middle school to have additional courses – Cost - \$2,400 (texts, resources, and curriculum writing)

It was moved by Mr. Brown and seconded by Dr. Sweeney to approve the above course changes for mathematics. Motion carried (9-0).

4. Computer Applications
  - Revise Course Titles:
    - i. Criminal and Contractual Law to Criminal Justice
    - ii. MAC Software Applications to Multimedia Productions
    - iii. Computer Graphics and Design to Web Development and Design
  - Added Courses:
    - i. Adobe PhotoShop Essentials Course (Cost - \$2,750. for teacher training and curriculum writing)
    - ii. Macromedia Studio MX: Dreamweaver MX, Flash MX and Fireworks MX Course (Cost - \$2,875. for site licenses and curriculum writing)

It was moved by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the above course changes for computer applications. Motion carried (9-0).

5. Technology Education
  - Added Courses:
    - i. Desktop Video Communication Course (Cost - \$6,050. for texts, equipment, and curriculum writing)
    - ii. Architectural CAD Drafting Course (Cost - \$1,050. For curriculum writing)
    - iii. Construction Systems Technology Course (Cost – \$1,050. for curriculum writing)

It was moved by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the above course changes for technology education. Motion carried (9-0).

In response to Mrs. Brown's question regarding whether these course changes and additions would be offered without additional staff next year, Dr. O'Hern responded that they would be.

**Course  
Changes  
(Continued)**

**Mathematics**

**Computer  
Applications**

**Technology  
Education**

Mr. Brown reviewed the additional items that were discussed at Curriculum Council:

- a. In-Service Day – two presenters (P. Gesheim from Chester County I.U. and former mathematics supervisor, Barbara Smith) spoke about primary/intermediate level mathematics and language arts instructional strategies. The middle school worked in study groups regarding differentiated instruction.
- b. PSSA – Mr. Bertrando reported that 23 students had signed up for tutoring to improve their PSSA scores; 12 took the exam. The General Studies Review Committee met to review PSSA scores more closely, review instruction and remediation and to discuss staff development and curriculum assessment.
- c. The Curriculum Committee met on November 11 and discussed middle school academics and urged the administration to see how we could make them more rigorous. The administration is already working on this and ideas will be reviewed at the next Curriculum Committee meeting on January 13, 2003.

Mr. Brown stated that Unionville-Chadds Ford was recognized by PA State Representative Nick Micozzie as 1 of 33 successful school districts in the state (out of 501 districts). Schools were ranked on PSSA scores and per-pupil costs. Great Valley, Owen J. Roberts, and Tredyffrin/Easttown School Districts were also chosen as successful schools in Chester County.

Mr. Murray stated that we are at the point where we get our temporary reimbursement rate from the Commonwealth for the Chadds Ford project. It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mrs. Michelini to approve Plancon H for submission to the PA Department of Education (Project Financing for Chadds Ford Elementary School) as on the attachment. Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. McClaskey to approve the attendance at Professional Conferences as on the attachment. Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the following personnel items (b. through g.) as listed on the agenda:

- b. Employ
  - i. Patricia Peters – Full-Time Bus Driver (6 hours/day for Transportation) at \$13.50 per hour - effective October 21, 2002 and Part-Time Recess Aide (2 hours/day x 2 days/week at Unionville Elementary) at \$10.22 per hour – effective November 7, 2002  
(Continued)

**CURRICULUM  
REPORT  
(Continued)**

**FINANCE  
Plancon H:  
Chadds Ford  
Elementary**

**PERSONNEL:  
Professional  
Conferences**

**Employ:  
P. Peters**

7. Personnel (Continued)

b. Employ (Continued)

- ii. William Henderson – Bus Driver (5 – 5-1/2 hours/day for Transportation) at \$13.50 per hour – effective October 28, 2002
- iii. Michael Crumpler – Full-Time U.H.S. Custodian (8 hours/day x 260 days) at \$10.91/hour – effective October 30, 2002
- iv. Carolyn Spiegel – U.H.S. Guidance Counselor – at the M+45, Step 1 salary – effective December 9, 2002 (retroactive to August 26, 2002) –
- v. Charles Patton – Substitute U.E. Principal (80 days) – effective for the second semester of 2002-2003 at \$400/day

c. Reclassification

- i. Christine Kramer – from M.S. special Education Teacher to I.E.P. Coordinator – effective for the beginning of the second semester of 2002-2003

d. Substitutes

- i. Kathy Manning – Support Staff Substitute
- ii. Carolyn Dreisbach – K-12 Substitute Teacher

e. Supplemental Contracts

- i. Laura Bockoven – Winter Cheerleading (partial)
- ii. Meghan Kelley – Winter Cheerleading (partial)
- iii. James Brunken – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Lacrosse Coach
- iv. Jeff Bowlby – J.V. Boys' Basketball Coach
- v. Ralph Harrison – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball Coach

f. Leave

- i. Bridget Telenko – H.E. Grade 4 Teacher – 6-week Maternity Leave – beginning December 6, 2002 followed by an Unpaid Leave for the remainder of the 2002-2003 School Year

g. Resignations

- i. Linda Wood Berl – U.H.S. Guidance Counselor – effective December 6, 2002
- ii. Trevor Tredway – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball Coach – effective August, 2002

Motion carried (9-0).

(Continued)

**Personnel  
(Continued)**

**Employ  
(Cont'd.)  
W. Henderson**

**M. Crumpler**

**C. Spiegel**

**C. Patton**

**RECLASSIFICA-  
TION:**

**C. Kramer**

**SUBSTITUTES**

**SUPPLE-  
MENTAL  
CONTRACTS**

**LEAVE**

**B. Telenko**

**RESIGNATIONS**

**L. Wood Berl**

**T. Tredway**

Dr. Sweeney stated that Mr. Patton will serve as substitute principal at Unionville Elementary School for Joyce Reeves who will be on sabbatical leave. Mr. Wandersee added that we are continuing to search for a full-time principal for Hillendale Elementary. We are very fortunate to have Charles Patton filling in for Mrs. Reeves.

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the attached retirement request from Marvin Shapiro, Director of Personnel & Pupil Services – effective March 14, 2003. Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mr. Knauss to approve and adopt the renewal of the Employment Contract for Dr. Brenda G. O'Hern, Assistant Superintendent as on the attachment for a five-year term to extend from June 1, 2003 through May 31, 2008. Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Michelini to approve the Employment Contract with Marvin Shapiro as a Consultant for Personnel and Pupil Services from March 17, 2003 through June 30, 2003 as on the attachment. Motion carried (9-0).

It was moved by Dr. Sweeney and seconded by Mrs. Brown to approve the creation of a second Supplemental Trainer position at Unionville High School for \$3,500 – effective December 3, 2002 for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year. Mr. Wandersee commented that there had been considerable discussion by the board regarding the creation of this position. Motion carried (9-0).

Mr. Swayze reported for Transportation regarding:

1. Preparation for the closing of the bridge at Rt. 926 & Pocopson Road - expecting a few delays and slightly longer bus rides in the afternoon for those buses which are affected. The bridge should be closed for 18 months.
2. The bridge on Rt. 100 and Stationway Road is now open and bus routes have been adjusted. Mr. Swayze encouraged everyone to contact their legislators and PennDOT to request that the traffic light at Rt. 1 & Ring Road be kept there permanently.
3. Heyburn Road will be closed on November 20 for about three weeks and will affect bus routes.
4. The data conversion is in process with Orbit and Rich Hug.

The Transportation staff wishes everyone a happy Thanksgiving holiday. Mr. Swayze thanked residents and students for their patience this year as there are additional students on many buses. Most people have been very understanding and there have been very few complaints. The Transportation Department considers every request and concern to be serious and investigates them to try and resolve them to the satisfaction of students and their families.

**Personnel  
(Continued)**

**RETIREMENT:  
M. Shapiro**

**EMPLOYMENT  
CONTRACTS:**

**B. O'Hern**

**M. Shapiro**

**SUPPLE-  
MENTAL  
TRAINER  
POSITION**

**TRANSPOR-  
TATION  
REPORT**

Mrs. Michelini stated the closing of the bridge for 18 months is excessive and asked that letters be sent to PennDOT. This is a major thoroughfare – additional safety will be provided for children the shorter this bridge is closed. Mr. Wandersee suggested that Mrs. Michelini discuss with Mr. Swayze and Mrs. Wolfel whether a letter could be sent out under Dr. Kenney’s signature.

Mrs. Brown stated that no newsletter had been distributed this fall. We are changing our format, what we want to say, and who will put it out for us. We hope to send the first issue prior to the Christmas break in December. Kristine Parkes will compose the newsletter with direction from the school board and the administration – she will be contacting students and administrators. Hopefully, this will be an improvement.

Mr. Wandersee stated that Mrs. Brown has worked very hard on this. The newsletter goes far beyond the people who come to this meeting – to those who are not necessarily involved in daily activities.

Mr. Knauss stated that the English As A Second Language Policy is one to identify and provide students with services – as mandated by the federal government in the No Child Left Behind legislation. He requested that the first reading of this policy be entered into the minutes for public scrutiny.

Mr. Knauss stated that the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) policy requires the board to report and track capital assets – as mandated by the state. It was moved by Mr. Knauss and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the attached Board policy section to implement the new standards of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Motion carried (9-0).

Kyle Evans, student representative, reported that Student Council had ended their deadline for money requests for allocations. About \$5,000 will be distributed to different clubs and activities. The next money request will take place in the spring - the Council is open to any requests. There will be a dance on December 14. There is excitement about the advertising for the track – it’s a big priority for kids at the high school.

Mr. McClaskey stated that he would provide a report for the Center for Arts & Technology/Special Education/I.U. – following their upcoming meeting.

**Transportation  
(Continued)**

**COMMUNI-  
CATIONS**

**POLICY:**

**E.S.L. – First  
Reading**

**Governmental  
Accounting  
Standards  
Board (GASB)**

**STUDENT REP.  
REPORT**

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

Mr. Wandersee reported for Legislation regarding:

1. HB 412 – veto of the mandated waiver elimination bill for schools who are building new construction to help save costs. The feeling was that this would save taxpayers money. It also would have eliminated the teacher testing bill that is now maintained. The bill also included PSSA scores - they must still be placed on transcripts.
2. PSBA legislative items - will meet tomorrow to select items for their legislative platform. Thirteen districts will review about 100-150 proposals and come up with about five items that are most suitable for the southeastern Pennsylvania area. Some items (i.e. impact fees, construction and opposing prevailing wages, etc.) are not popular in other parts of the state.

In response to Mrs. Brown's question regarding whether PSSA scores will be on student transcripts, Dr. O'Hern stated that they will be on transcripts starting in 2003. Mr. Wandersee stated that there is a movement in the legislature to change this.

Dr. Kenney provided the Superintendent's Report:

1. Dr. O'Hern – congratulations on your new contract.
2. Mr. Shapiro – will have been with Unionville-Chadds Ford for 28 years ... we will miss you.
3. Thanked the students who have been involved in extracurricular activities this fall – both academic and athletic. He congratulated them for their willingness to participate and for their records. Dr. Kenney encouraged students to continue to participate in extracurricular activities while they are here and to stay engaged in their academics also.
4. Veterans Day – Program at Unionville Elementary was marvelous with many veterans in attendance. Gerald Treadway (retired UHS teacher) provided a presentation regarding the derivation of Uncle Sam and Joyce Reeves discussed the history of Veterans Day. Fifth grade students presented certificates to 65 veterans who attended from many places. Don Silknitter is to be commended for organizing the entire event.
5. National Merit – Dr. Kenney provided data in response to the question that was raised last month regarding the length of time our national Merit semi-finalists and commended students were educated in U-CF. Of the 11 semi-finalists, two began in U-CF; one in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade; three in 4<sup>th</sup> grade; two in 7<sup>th</sup> grade, one in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and two in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Regarding the commended students, three started in Kindergarten; three in 1<sup>st</sup> grade; two in 6<sup>th</sup> grade; two in 7<sup>th</sup> grade; one in 8<sup>th</sup> grade; and one in 10<sup>th</sup> grade. All semi-finalists and commended students were with us in 9<sup>th</sup> grade except for one student.

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

## SUPER- INTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent's Report (Continued):

6. Pocopson Elementary Parking – We received several communications from parents regarding individuals who are turning around in their driveways to travel west on Rt. 926. Alternate way of parking – instead of parking perpendicular, will park parallel to the curb to achieve three to four lines. If we still require more spaces, cars could be parked on one side of the main drive. We want to leave sufficient space there for emergency vehicles and to allow space for exiting traffic to travel up the hill, turn and exit down the hill via the main drive. We are trying to address parent concerns regarding the parking problem at events – Tom Wood will work with this arrangements and will notify parents and residents.

Dr. Kenney wished everyone an enjoyable Thanksgiving holiday. For every bit of terror in the world, there is a whole lot more love in our world for which we can be thankful.

There were no comments from residents.

Mrs. Micheleni and Mr. Swayze wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Murray stated the he hopes board members have filled out their ballot for the PSERS board – eight people are running and he is one of them.

Dr. Sweeney stated that the renewal of Dr. O'Hern's contract gave great pleasure to her and most of the board members.

Mr. Brown congratulated Dr. O'Hern.

Mrs. Brown thanked Dr. O'Hern. She also extended her thanks to Mr. Shapiro for his hard word and energy to stick around until the end of the year.

Mr. McClaskey offered congratulations to Dr. O'Hern. He is looking forward to Charles Patton being back in the district as a principal!

Mr. Knauss stated that it's great to see that Brenda O'Hern will be here for another term. He commented that we will miss Marv Shapiro.

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

**BOARD  
MEMBERS'  
COMMENTS**

Mr. Knauss commented regarding the three policies – Integrated Pest Management, Governmental Accounting Standards Board, and English As A Second Language. He stated that these are all mandates that are legislated and estimates their cost in the tens of thousands, if not hundreds of thousands of dollars for school districts. He added that some legislators are complaining about high taxes and runaway spending by boards; those might be the same people who have voted for these mandates.

Mr. Wandersee offered congratulations to Dr. O'Hern and extended his best wishes to Mr. Shapiro in his retirement. He has enjoyed working with Marv over all of these years. Mr. Wandersee encouraged board members to vote for Ed Murray for PSERS – we need someone like him on the board. He announced the December 2 annual reorganization meeting of the board and will communicate with board members via e-mail regarding the process for that meeting. Board members who would like to run for offices should call Mrs. Miller to express their interest. Mr. Wandersee will not be a candidate for office this year.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne R. Sweeney  
Secretary

**BOARD  
MEMBERS'  
COMMENTS  
(Continued)**