

**UNIONVILLE-CHADDS FORD SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
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**SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**  
**Minutes**  
**December 6, 2004**

The December meeting of the Unionville-Chadds Ford School Board was held on Monday, December 6, 2004 in the Unionville High School LGI. Mr. Wandersee, President, called the meeting to order at 7:41 p.m.

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

Lou Minella, East Marlborough Township resident, commented regarding staffing levels in the high school Guidance Department. He has just gotten involved at a level where he has become aware of the issue. Mr. Minella has corresponded with Dr. Kenney by e-mail and he thanked him for the information and exchange of ideas. Mr. Minella stated that this is an issue that should be discussed in the upcoming budget process. He is concerned about the staffing levels based on 1) the population growth and 2) our test scores that are first, second or third in the state. We need to look at where those kids are going and the percentage of kids getting into four-year schools. How does that compare with other districts? What is the proper benchmark? Mr. Minella submits that the benchmark might only be one or two other school districts. Test scores take us so far but we want to be properly staffed in our high school Guidance Department to get the proper level of expertise.

Mr. Minella also commented regarding Mrs. Monica Reinhard-Gorney who was a tremendous, professional counselor at the high school over the past several years. He understands that her departure was, in part, due to the fact that she could not get her duties done and still have a life within a reasonable amount of time. Mr. Minella implored the board to deal with this issue in the next budget. There is a lot of competition for resources, but he really thinks this is important in finishing the deal.

Mr. Wandersee thanked Mr. Minella for his comments and stated that he made some very excellent points for consideration in our budget and as we plan for the future. The board also relies heavily on the administration and the superintendent relative to their experiences but we do appreciate the input from people such as you regarding what you feel should be done.

**CALL TO  
ORDER**

**MEMBERS  
PRESENT**

**RESIDENTS'  
COMMENTS**

Bernadette Forese, Pennsbury Township resident, commented regarding third grade class sizes at Hillendale Elementary School. Two classes that started with 25 students each are now at 27 per class as we are a third of the way through the school year. Since we have many kids moving into our district, she would anticipate that they would grow. The part-time mathematics and language arts teachers have been employed but some third-grade students have three teachers. This is unacceptable in our school district to have that situation occurring. The School Board should hire that extra teacher for the third grade.

Mr. Wandersee thanked Mrs. Forese for her comments and her interest in the District. Her points are valued and will be considered.

It was moved by Mr. Knauss and seconded by Mr. Swayze to approve the Minutes of the November 18, 2004 Regular Board Meeting.

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mr. Swayze and seconded by Mr. Murray to approve the Bill List dated December 1, 2004 in the amount of \$882,679.37 (pp. 3.d.1-19).

Motion carried (8-0).

It was moved by Mrs. Trigg and seconded by Mr. Knauss to approve the Bill List for Collegium Charter School as on the attachment (p. 3.d.20) in the amount of \$10,141.32.

Motion carried (7-0-1). Mr. Murray abstained.

Mr. Knauss reported for Facilities regarding:

1. Facilities Usage Fee Schedule – the committee reviewed the new schedule. Dr. Kenney will provide copies at the January Work Session for informational purposes
2. HVAC Project – Discussed the possibility of using two portable and four classrooms at the high school during the possible HVAC project. Mr. Hostetler will go out for bids and that information will be presented at the next Work Session. Dr. Kenney stated that the committee discussed whether to purchase the portable classrooms for overflow problems we may have at the high school. We're thinking that we'll provide costs to rent vs. costs to purchase the portable classrooms at the January Work Session.
3. HVAC Project Management – Discussed and recommended the use of a Clerk of the Works for about a year with a cost of approximately \$60,000-\$80,000. Action will be taken in January or February.

**RESIDENTS'  
COMMENTS  
(Continued)**

**MINUTES  
APPROVED**

**BILLS PAID**

**FACILITIES**

In response to Mrs. Brown's question, Mr. Wandersee stated that we have not approved the HVAC Project yet. We will prepare an advertisement for a Clerk of the Works and be prepared to bid it out and to bid out the portable classrooms. We would not hire until the project is finally approved and until we know the final bids costs.

Mrs. Brown stated that there were two late approvals for the high school Music Department. The Curriculum Committee has responded via e-mail regarding the addition of these two, new courses.

Dr. O'Hern stated that these courses were reconsiderations. We found that these would better utilize the current staff's scheduled rather than meeting one on one with these students teaching some of the same concepts. They will also help with students who have some study hall time and have expressed an interest in them. Everything is governed by the Course Selection Book that comes out in January. The Curriculum Council received these write-ups and the response was an overwhelming "yes" (2/3 responded very favorably). Dr. Price added that these courses will utilize the music area and will not entail any classrooms that are not available.

It was moved by Mrs. Brown and seconded by Mr. Knauss to approve the following new courses for Unionville High School as on the attachments:

1. Music Theory 1 (pp. 5.b.1-3)
2. Music Theory 2 (pp. 5.b.4-6)

Motion carried (8-0).

Mr. Murray reported for Finance that we have one late addition that was received by e-mail today regarding the need for additional busing for some special education students that we did not anticipate at the start of the year.

It was moved by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Swayze to award the bid for the purchase of a 2005 Chevrolet Astro All-Wheel-Drive Minivan to Day Chevrolet, Inc., Monroeville, PA, in the total amount of \$18,559.00.

Motion carried (8-0).

**Facilities  
(Continued)**

**CURRICULUM:**

**New Courses-  
U.H.S.:**

**Music Theory  
1 & 2**

It was moved by Mr. Wandersee and seconded by Mrs. Brown to approve the following personnel items (agenda items 7.a.1, 7.a.3., and 7.b through 7.g.):

a. Professional Conferences / Resignations

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

3. Resignation

a. Rita Mallia – Chadds Ford Elementary part-time Paraprofessional, effective December 3, 2004

b. Reclassifications

1. Maria Perez – Patton Middle School Food Service Assistant – from 2.5 hours per school day to 3.0 hours per school day, effective September, 2004

2. Sharon Massey – from part-time Van Driver to full-time Van Driver, effective November 4, 2004

3. Karen Reinhart – from part-time Bus Monitor to part-time Bus Monitor and part-time Food Service Assistant during Bonnie Kashishian's absence, effective November 15, 2004

4. Betty Waltz – from Unionville Elementary 5-hour Custodian and 2-hour Paraprofessional Aide to Unionville Elementary 7-hour Custodian only (182 days), effective October 25, 2004

5. Angela Marrs – from part-time Bus Monitor to full-time Bus Monitor, effective November 4, 2004

6. Gregory Hilden – from Unionville High School Counselor Substitute to Counselor (Long-Term Substitute), effective November 8, 2004 through the end of the 2004-2005 school year, at the Master's Step 1 salary level, pro-rated

7. Kathleen Riley – from Support Staff Substitute to S-III District Support Secretary, effective November 29, 2004 (7 hours per day x 200 days), at a salary of \$13.35 per hour

8. Regina Moran – from part-time Bus Driver to full-time Bus Driver, effective November 1, 2004

c. Substitutes

1. Karen Perugini – Elementary & Special Education Substitute

2. Catherine Gunn – Food Service Substitute

3. Andrea Fitzgerald – K-12

4. Karen Bacci – Substitute Nurse

5. Lori Saviski – K-6

6. Jeanne Ortiz – English & Special Education, K-12

7. Elizabeth Altman – Elementary

**PERSONNEL:**

**PROFES-  
SIONAL  
CONFERENCES**

**RESIGNATION**

**R. Mallia**

**RECLASSIFI-  
CATIONS:**

**M. Perez**

**S. Massey**

**K. Reinhart**

**B. Waltz**

**A. Marrs**

**G. Hilden**

**K. Riley**

**R. Moran**

**SUBSTITUTES**

Personnel (Continued)

d. Supplementals

1. John Virtue – Band Assistant (1/2)
2. Jason Palo – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Wrestling Coach
3. James Kavanaugh – 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls' Basketball Coach
4. Shawn Jones – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Baseball Coach
5. Shawn Jones – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball Coach
6. Gail Harting – Concert Chaperone
7. Jenny Robinson – Concert Chaperone
8. Kristie Replogle – Mentor
9. Carolyn Harkins – Mentor
10. Effie Barnes – Mentor

e. Employ

1. Diane Mustin – Unionville High School Librarian (Long-Term Substitute), effective December 6, 2004 through the end of the 2004-05 school year, at the Master's Step 1 salary level, prorated
2. Gary Ticknor – District Floater Custodian, effective November 29, 2004, at a salary of \$11.86 per hour
3. George Konstantopoulos, part-time Bus Driver, effective November 29, 2004, at a salary of \$13.46 per hour
4. Elmer Crosby, Jr. – part-time Van Driver, effective November 29, 2004, at a salary of \$12.00 per hour

f. Leaves

1. Christine Dempsey – Hillendale Elementary School Teacher, 8-week Maternity Leave, beginning approximately January 26, 2005, as per her physician's statement
2. Jayne Gandy – Unionville High School Counselor, Unpaid Child Rearing Leave for the remainder of the 2004-2005 school year, following Maternity Leave

g. Discharge

1. Harold Toalton – Bus Driver, effective December 1, 2004

Motion carried (8-0).

**PERSONNEL  
(Continued)**

**SUPPLE-  
MENTAL  
CONTRACTS**

**EMPLOY:**

**D. Mustin**

**G. Ticknor**

**G. Konstan-  
topoulos**

**E. Crosby, Jr.**

**LEAVES:**

**C. Dempsey**

**J. Gandy**

**DISCHARGE:**

**H. Toalton**

Personnel - (Continued)

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

7.a. Retirement

1. Janet S. Wilson – Chadds Ford Elementary Librarian, effective January 24, 2005

Mr. Wandersee thanked Mrs. Janet Wilson for her service to the District. He has known her for a number of years and is sorry to see her leave.

Motion carried (8-0).

Mr. Swayze reported that there were no action items this evening for Transportation. The Department thanks the Board for their favorable vote on the purchase of the new van.

Mrs. Brown reported that there were no action items for Communications this evening.

Mrs. Trigg reported that we had the first reading of the Universal School Calendar Policy at the November Board meeting. Tonight we will vote on Policy No. 803 which will give a standard calendar for future years so parents will have an idea of what to expect.

It was moved by Mrs. Trigg and seconded by Mr. McClaskey to approve the revised Policy No. 803 – School Calendar (Operations Section) as on the attachment (pp. 10.a.1-2). All previous policies, or parts thereof, that are inconsistent are hereby rescinded and declared void.

Mr. Wandersee commented that he supports Mrs. Trigg's comments regarding this much-needed policy regarding how we develop the calendar to avoid frustration in the future and to have a logical sequence of events.

Motion carried (8-0).

**PERSONNEL  
(Continued)**

**RETIREMENT**

**J. Wilson**

**TRANSPOR-  
TATION  
REPORT**

**COMMUNI-  
CATIONS**

**BOARD POLICY**

**Policy #803-  
School  
Calendar**

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

- Marching Band Trip to Disney – Students have just returned from this fun trip. Thanks were offered to the administration for letting them do these kinds of things where students are taken out of class for a few days.
- Student Council – Upcoming event will be the Winter Dance
- Act 72 – Thanks to the Board for the information that is much needed in the community

Tim extended wishes for a happy holiday to everyone.

Mr. Baker stated that there was no report for the Center for Arts and Technology/ Special Education/Intermediate Unit this evening.

Mr. Wandersee reported for Legislation that the General Assembly is not in session and will meet to establish their officers at their next meeting.

Dr. Kenney provided the Superintendent's report regarding:

1. Who's Who in American Teachers – Just received information from Mr. Dickens that several teachers were nominated by community members this year from the District including:
  - a. Mike Duggan
  - b. Jana Eaton
  - c. Vince O'Donnell
  - d. Monica Reinhard-Gorney
  - e. Kristin Webb

This organization nominates teachers every two years. Dr. Kenney congratulated the teachers for their selection to Who's Who in American Teachers.

Dr. Kenney extended his wishes for a happy holiday and a healthy new year to everyone. He thanked the Board members for their willingness to serve the community.

There were no additional comments from residents.

Mr. McClaskey congratulated Mr. Wandersee on his reelection as President and Mr. Knauss on his election as Vice-President. He also commented regarding a photograph of UHS alumnus, Amanda Brown (Penn State University) in *The Daily Local News* defeating the Tar Heels at basketball last night. He also wishes a happy holiday to everyone.

**STUDENT  
REPRESENTATIVE  
REPORT**

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

**LEGISLATIVE  
REPORT**

**SUPER-  
TENDENT'S  
REPORT**

**BOARD  
MEMBERS'  
COMMENTS**

Mr. Baker wished a happy holiday season to everyone and is looking forward to a great year ahead.

Mr. Knauss stated that the high school band and chorale just completed their trip to Disney World where they had a chance to perform in multiple venues. It's a wonderful opportunity for the students. Mr. Knauss offered a hearty thank you to Mr. Litzenberg and Mr. Throne as trip leaders and especially to the parents who served as chaperones. He also thanked everyone for their confidence in him as the new Board Vice-President.

Mrs. Brown extended a happy holiday season to everyone. She congratulated Mark Laccianca as the Pennsylvania Coach of the Year for his work with the Cross Country and Track teams. She also thanked the principals who come to these meetings and she looks forward to seeing them next year.

Mr. Murray extended wishes for a happy holiday and productive New Year to all.

Mr. Swayze offered wishes for a happy holiday to everyone. He congratulated Keith Knauss and Ed Wandersee for their elections and thanked them for their willingness to serve.

Mrs. Trigg thanked Mr. Wandersee for doing a good job as President of the Board. She also thanked Mr. Knauss for his willingness to step up to the plate as Vice-President. Mrs. Trigg also extended holiday wishes to everyone.

Mr. Wandersee thanked the community for turning out this evening and looks forward to seeing everyone at the January meeting. We will have many interesting discussions regarding Act 72 and other topics. Mr. Wandersee thanked the Board members for their confidence in him and looks forward to it. He always enjoys a challenge. Mr. Wandersee thanked the Board members for their time and help in guiding the Board and administration in where we go from here.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen M. Brown  
Secretary

**BOARD  
MEMBERS'  
COMMENTS  
(Continued)**

**MEETING  
ADJOURNED**