

PENN-TRAFFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT
Harrison City, Pennsylvania

January 11, 2010

The Board of School Directors of the Penn-Trafford School District held its regular monthly meeting in the administration building, Harrison City, PA on Monday, January 11, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by the President, Mr. Bruce Newell. Members present were: Mr. Larry Harrison, Mrs. Toni Ising, Mr. Philip Kochasic, Dr. Scott Koscho, Mr. Dallas Leonard, Mr. Bruce Newell, Mr. Richard Niemiec, Mr. Nick Petrucci, Dr. P. Jay Tray, Mr. Brett Lago, Board Secretary, Mr. Falco Muscante, Solicitor, Dr. Deborah J. Kolonay, Superintendent, Mr. Harry Smith, Assistant Superintendent, Dr. Matt Harris, Assistant to the Superintendent, and Mrs. Ramona Pope, Director of Human Resources. Mr. Scott Inglese, High School Principal, and Mr. Dan DiNapoli, Level Green Elementary Assistant Principal, Mr. Shaun Rinier, PTEA Representative, and Mr. Dave Johnston, Student Union Representative, were also present.

Mr. Newell announced that an executive session was held at the conclusion of the information/committee meeting on January 4, 2010 to discuss negotiations with paraprofessionals, personnel matters including job vacancies, architect selection process, a potential discipline matter, and informational items.

INFORMATION

Mr. Dave Johnston, Student Union Representative, reported that their dance will still be held on January 23 but the T-shirts weren't ready yet. They are currently planning for the Student Union Conference to be held at Norwin High School on March 5.

In honor of School Director Recognition Month, Dr. Kolonay thanked the board for their service to the students and district and reviewed some of their accomplishments during 2009. She then presented them with a token of her appreciation for their dedication and service.

Dr. Kolonay announced that due to our snow day on January 8 our make-up day will be Monday, January 18. She reported on the Race to the Top initiative stating that, if the state is granted the award, it could possibly receive between \$200 – 400,000,000 with the district receiving between \$200-500,000 over four years. She presented additional information to the board which was followed by discussion.

Dr. Harris reported that Kindergarten Night for Fast ForWord is January 20 at 6:30 p.m. at Penn-Trafford High School. He thanked Adult Education for their \$4,000 donation to the Penn-Trafford Community Education Foundation for the use of technology.

Mr. Smith reported that the In-Service Day will be rescheduled for April 6 due to our snow make-up day being scheduled for January 18.

**PRINCIPAL
REPORTS**

Mr. DiNapoli reported the following:

- Grades 3-5 are in the process of completing the third round of 4Sight.
- Jump Rope For Heart will take place toward the end of the month in the physical education classes.
- Level Green Elementary and Harrison Park Elementary will provide a Parent Instructional Break on January 20 and 21. They will be focusing on questioning techniques and Achieve 3000.
- Special recognition to Marcus Beacon, a 5th grader at Level Green Elementary, for winning the 2009-2010 Office of Attorney General's Drug-Free Calendar Contest; recognition to Sara Scanio and Sabrina Catalano of Harrison Park Elementary for placing in the top 13 of 500 entries.
- The second nine-week grading period ends January 20 and report cards will be sent home on January 27.

He presented the proficiency plan for Level Green and reviewed the information on the bulletin boards.

Mr. Inglese reported the following:

- The High School FBLA had 10 students place at the regional competition held at St. Vincent College. These students will advance to Hershey for the state competition in April.
- Final exams will be administered in all English, Math, Science and Social Studies classes on January 14 and 15. The last day of the grading period is January 20. Report cards will be distributed on January 27.
- They will begin the scheduling process for the 2010-2011 school year this month. The annual eighth grade scheduling meeting for all eighth graders and their parents will be on January 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the high school auditorium.
- The KET Latin online program is up and running without any problems. Feedback thus far has been positive.
- Keystone exams were approved by the Attorney General's office in December. Algebra I, Biology, English Composition and Literature would replace the 11th grade PSSA in 2013. By 2016 Keystone exams would be expanded to also include Geometry, Algebra II, American History, World History, Civics and Government and Chemistry. Students would eventually be required to pass six of the ten exams in order to graduate. These exams would also represent one-third of the overall grade for each course.

**SECRETARY'S
REPORT
ACCEPTED**

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Dr. Koscho that the minutes of the regular meeting held on Monday, December 7, 2009 be approved as presented. Motion carried.

**TREASURER'S
REPORT
ACCEPTED**

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Mr. Kochasic that the treasurer's report for December 2009 and the high school extracurricular fund report for November 2009 be approved as presented and made a part of the official minutes. Motion carried.

**BILLS APPROVED
FOR PAYMENT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Ising and seconded by Mr. Petrucci that the list of bills for January 2010 be paid as presented.

Roll call vote: Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Mr. Newell: yes. Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

ATHLETICS AND EXTRACURRICULAR

A motion was made by Dr. Koscho and seconded by Mr. Leonard to accept the resignation of Christy Reau as Trafford Middle School Volleyball Coach. Motion carried.

**RESIGNATION OF
CHRISTY REAU
ACCEPTED**

A motion was made by Dr. Koscho and seconded by Mr. Kochasic to approve the following coaching volunteer. All coaching volunteers must have Act 34, Act 151 and Act 114 waivers on file with the Athletic Director.

**TIM CUNNINGHAM
APPROVED AS
COACHING VOLUNTEER**

a. Tim Cunningham – Boys and Girls Varsity Bowling Volunteer

Motion carried.

BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS/SAFETY

A motion was made by Mr. Harrison and seconded by Mr. Leonard to approve Panic Button bids from WACOR at a cost of \$10,766.64.

**PANIC BUTTON BIDS
FROM WACOR
APPROVED**

Roll call vote: Mr. Harrison: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

PERSONNEL AND CURRICULUM

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Dr. Koscho to approve the request of Jill M. Hauck for an unpaid leave for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year.

**UNPAID LEAVE
APPROVED FOR JILL
HAUCK**

Roll call vote: Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Mr. Leonard to approve the request of Melissa Lathom for an unpaid leave from February 8, 2010 through April 16, 2010.

**UNPAID LEAVE
APPROVED FOR
MELISSA LATHOM**

Roll call vote: Mr. Harrison: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Mr. Niemiec to approve the request of Alison Siniawski for an unpaid medical leave from January 11, 2010 through February 18, 2010.

**UNPAID MEDICAL
LEAVE APPROVED FOR
ALISON SINIAWSKI**

Roll call vote: Mr. Niemiec: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes, 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Mrs. Ising to adopt the 2010-11 School Calendar, as recommended by the Superintendent, and made a part of the official minutes. The 2010-11 school year will begin with an In-Service Day on Wednesday, August 25, 2010 and will officially terminate on June 30, 2011. The last day of instruction will be Thursday, June 2, 2011, unless it becomes necessary to extend the school calendar because of weather conditions, emergencies or other urgent reasons.

**SCHOOL CALENDAR
FOR 2010-11 APPROVED**

Roll call vote: Mr. Petrucci: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes, 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

**SERVICE
EMPLOYEES'
CALENDAR
APPROVED**

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Dr. Koscho to adopt the Service Employees' Calendar for the 2010-11 school year and made a part of the official minutes. The calendar with 247 working days and fourteen (14) paid holidays make a work year of 261 days. Yearly employees will be paid for 261 days including the paid holidays.

Roll call vote: Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

**RETIREMENT
RESIGNATION
ACCEPTED FOR
NANCY ANTHONY**

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Mr. Niemiec to accept the retirement resignation of Mrs. Nancy Anthony effective June 30, 2010. Motion carried.

**ADDITIONAL
SUBSTITUTE
TEACHERS AND
SUPPORT
PERSONNEL
APPROVED**

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Mr. Leonard to approve additional substitute teachers and support personnel for the month of January 2010. Motion carried.

**BRENDA HAAS
EMPLOYED AS
LIBRARY AIDE AT
SUNRISE**

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Dr. Koscho to employ Brenda Haas as Library Aide at Sunrise Estates Elementary School at \$10.80 per hour beginning January 14, 2010.

Roll call vote: Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

**MAKE-UP DAYS FOR
SNOW DAY AND IN-
SERVICE DAY
APPROVED**

A motion was made by Mr. Petrucci and seconded by Mr. Niemiec to confirm the following make-up days as designated on the approved school calendar for the 2009-2010 school year:

School Closed Due to Inclement Weather

Friday, January 8, 2010

Make-Up Day

Monday, January 18, 2010

In-Service Day

Previously scheduled for January 18, 2010

Make-Up Day

Tuesday, April 6, 2010

Roll call vote: Dr. Tray: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

POLICY/PUBLIC RELATIONS/LEGISLATIVE/CHAPTER 2

**POLICY NO. 800,
800-AR, 800-AR-1, &
800-AR-2 APPROVED**

A motion was made by Dr. Tray and seconded by Mr. Kochasic to approve revisions to Policy No. 800, 800-AR, 800-AR-1, and 800-AR-2.

Roll call vote: Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.
Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Dr. Tray and seconded by Mr. Leonard to tentatively approve revisions to Policy No. 701.1, 705, and 718.

**POLICY NO. 701.1,
705, & 718
TENTATIVELY
APPROVED**

Roll call vote: Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.

Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Dr. Koscho to nominate Dr. Jay Tray to serve on the Westmoreland Intermediate Unit Board of Directors for a term commencing July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013.

**DR. TRAY
NOMINATED TO
WIU BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

Roll call vote: Mrs. Ising: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.

Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

TAXES/INSURANCE/CENSUS

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Kochasic to approve the Resolution limiting any Fiscal Year 2010-11 tax increase to an amount no greater than the Pennsylvania Department of Education Index.

**RESOLUTION
APPROVED
LIMITING TAX
INCREASE**

Roll call vote: Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Harrison: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.

Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Niemiec to approve the requests made by the Township of Penn to exonerate the Township of Penn from payment of the 2009 Penn-Trafford School District Real Estate Taxes in the following amounts for property recorded in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania as follows:

**REQUESTS TO
EXONERATE
TAXES FOR
TOWNSHIP OF
PENN APPROVED**

- a. Tax Map No. 55-08-12-0-126 \$282.15
- b. Tax Map No. 55-03-16-0-001 \$822.94

Roll call vote: Mr. Harrison: yes; Dr. Koscho: yes; Mr. Petrucci: yes; Mr. Niemiec: yes; Mrs. Ising: yes; Dr. Tray: yes; Mr. Kochasic: yes; Mr. Leonard: yes; Mr. Newell: yes.

Result of vote: 9 yes; 0 no; 0 absent. Motion carried.

Dr. Tray, IU#7/Libraries Representative, reported that the Budget Committee met last week and there will be no significant change in our contribution. The district will receive a refund for the drug program in March. Their next meeting will be July 26. Regarding the libraries, their next meeting is January 19 and they will be asking for a small increase.

**SPECIAL
REPORTS**

Mr. Petrucci, Career Tech Representative, reported that their next meeting is scheduled for January 20.

Dr. Tray, Legislative Council Representative, reported that their next meeting as well as the regional meeting will be January 23 at 9:00 at the IU and he urged other school board members to attend.

Penn Township: Mr. Kochasic reported that their next meeting is January 28.

**RECREATION
REPORTS**

Trafford Borough: Mr. Petrucci reported that auction collections are picking up and that their next meeting is January 25.

Penn Borough: Mr. Niemiec reported that they have received some funding for playground equipment.

PTARC:

Mr. Smith reported the following:

- The auditors were approved for an additional three years.
- Their winter activities program has been mailed out.
- The PTARC gala is scheduled for Saturday, April 24, and he encouraged everyone to attend.
- They are accepting nominations for the PTARC board.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Petrucci that the meeting be adjourned at 8:25 p.m. Motion carried.

President

Secretary

POLICY/PUBLIC RELATIONS/LEGISLATIVE/CHAPTER 2

A motion was made by Mr. Wetzler and seconded by Mr. Petrucci to accept and file the minutes of the Superintendent's Information/Committee meeting held on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. Motion carried.

**MINUTES OF INFO/
COMMITTEE
MEETING
ACCEPTED AND
FILED**

SPECIAL REPORTS

Dr. Tray, IU #7/Library Representative, reported that

Mr. Petrucci, Career Tech Representative, reported that their meeting is scheduled for October 21.

Dr. Tray, PSBA Legislative Policy Council,

Recreation:

- Dr. Koscho, Penn Township Representative reported that their next meeting will be October 22.
- Mr. Petrucci, Trafford Boro Representative, reported that the Halloween parade is October 25 and trick-or-treat is October 31. He added that their next meeting is October 26.
- Mr. Willforth, Penn Boro Representative, reported that their next meeting is scheduled for November 5.

Mr. Shaun Rinier, PTEA Representative,

A motion was made by Dr. Koscho and seconded by Mr. Newell that the meeting be adjourned at 8:24 p.m. Motion carried.

Mr. Kochasic announced that there would be an executive session following the meeting to discuss confidential student matters, informational items, and personnel issues.

ADJOURNMENT

**EXECUTIVE
SESSION**

President

Secretary

ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Mr. Leonard and seconded by Mr. Petrucci that the meeting be adjourned at 8:04 p.m. Motion carried.

President

Secretary

