

SOUTH BOUND BROOK BOARD OF EDUCATION
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 14, 2006

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by board president Peter Allen at 7:35 p.m. in room 140 of Robert Morris School with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by this opening statement:

STATEMENT RE: SUNSHINE LAW

This meeting has been advertised in two newspapers at least 48 hours prior to the meeting and has been posted in conspicuous locations including the borough hall and school buildings, which complies with state law governing meetings of school boards and other organizations.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Allen, Mrs. Bolmer, Mrs. Lih-Thiessen, Mrs. Sarboukh. Mrs. Esposito arrived at 7:38 p.m. and Mrs. Santora at 7:48 p.m.

ABSENT: Mr. Ambrose

Also present were: Dr. Rosevear, Superintendent; Mrs. Leonhardt, Business Administrator; Paul Green, Board Attorney; Mr. Swisher and Mr. Miller of Suplee, Clooney; Mr. Warrelmann, liaison from Borough Council; Mrs. Piazzolla and staff members Mr. Kries, Mrs. Giafaglione and Mrs. Wanzie.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ADDENDUM

Motion to approve the agenda and addendum as distributed to board members.

MOTION: Mrs. Lih-Thiessen SECOND: Mrs. Sarboukh VOTE: 4-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve minutes of November 2, 2006 Closed Session and November 16, 2006 Regular Meeting

MOTION: Mrs. Sarboukh SECOND: Mrs. Bolmer VOTE 4-0

NOTE: Mrs. Esposito arrived at this time and acted on all remaining business of the meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

- ✓ Auditor Bob Swisher reported on the district's clean audit and overall healthy financial status.
- ✓ Jason Kries had an interactive presentation of the district's Smart Boards.
- ✓ Dr. Rosevear reported on the success of the holiday concert. The large turnout was heartwarming, and congratulations are extended to Mrs. Yarashas and Mr. Parente, as well as all the teachers helping behind the scenes.
- ✓ Dr. Rosevear also reported on a Responsive Classroom survey distributed by Mr. Donahue to the teaching staff. The results reflected positively on the implementation of Responsive Classroom in our school.

NOTE: Mrs. Santora arrived at this time and acted on all remaining business of the meeting.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

Terry Warrelmann expressed his thanks to Mr. Parente, Mrs. Yarashas and the Robert Morris School band and chorus for brightening the borough's tree lighting ceremony. He also reported that the sidewalk at the end of the handicapped ramp at the Elizabeth Street entrance will be made handicapped accessible by the borough.

Mrs. Piazzolla addressed the board concerning the use of our school building on Saturdays. Dr. Rosevear reported that last year we didn't use the building on Saturdays in an effort to conserve energy and costs. Mrs. Piazzolla's request is for the multipurpose room on Saturdays in January and February. The board will take the matter into consideration, and Dr. Rosevear will contact Mrs. Piazzolla.

CONSENT ITEMS

a. **APPROVAL OF PAYROLLS AND PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Motion to approve payment of bills per warrant listing dated December 14, 2006 in the amount of \$739,076.74, as well as payrolls for November, 2006 in the amount of \$379,487.01.

a. **BOARD SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Motion to approve Board Secretary's Report dated November 30, 2006 indicating a cash balance of \$1,462,761.95.

b. **TREASURER'S (CONSULTANT) REPORT**

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report dated November 30, 2006 indicating a cash balance of \$1,462,761.95.

MOTION: Mrs. Sarboukh

SECOND: Mr. Allen

ROLL CALL
VOTE: 6-0

CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letter from NJ Department of Education regarding public hearings on proposed funding formula.
- b. Letter from Margo Yarashas indicating her intention to retire on February 1, 2007.
- c. Letter from Garry Whalen regarding negotiations with the Administrators' Association.
- d. Letter from The Simpson Baber Foundation thanking our Student Council for their donations (Jump-Rope-a-Thon and homeroom coin program), with matching funds donated by Wal-Mart.

ACTION ITEMS (ROLL CALL VOTE)

a. **APPROVAL OF SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS FOR THE 2006-2007 SCHOOL YEAR**

Motion to approve the following substitute teachers for the 2006-2007 school year

(September 1, 2006 through June 30, 2007):

Cathleen Fay
Laura Morton

- b. **RETIREMENT OF MARGO YARASHAS EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 1, 2007**
Motion to accept, with regret, the resignation of Margo Yarashas effective February 1, 2007, due to retirement. Dr. Rosevear spoke glowingly of Mrs. Yarashas' exemplary years of service to the South Bound Brook school district. Her resignation is accepted with regret, and she will be sorely missed.
- c. **AGREEMENT FOR SERVICES AT SOMERSET HANDICAPPED CHILDREN'S TREATMENT CENTER (CORRECTION)**
Motion to accept agreement with Somerset Handicapped Children's Treatment Center for services provided to a South Bound Brook student, 45 minutes per week, at \$22.50 per 15-minute session.
- d. **VERIZON INTERNET ACCESS AGREEMENT**
Motion to enter into agreement with Verizon to provide T-1 Internet access for the South Bound Brook school district (cost will be \$575 per month for three years; previous contract monthly cost was \$866).

Motion to approve action items a-d.

ROLL CALL

MOTION: Mrs. Lih-Thiessen

SECOND: Mrs. Sarboukh

VOTE: 6-0

ADJOURNMENT TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:40 P.M.

RESOLVED by the South Bound Brook Board of Education as per Chapter 231, P.L. 1975:

- a. That it is hereby determined that it is necessary to meet in Executive Session on December 14, 2006 to discuss
- Administrators' Negotiations
 - Personnel
- b. The matters discussed will be made public if and when confidentiality is no longer required and action pursuant to said discussion shall take place only at a public meeting.
- c. Length of meeting thought to be approximately 45 minutes.
- d. Action will be taken upon return to Open Session.

MOTION: Mrs. Lih-Thiessen

SECOND: Mrs. Santora

VOTE: 6-0

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION AT 9:50 P.M.

Motion to return to Open Session

MOTION: Mrs. Santora

SECOND: Mrs. Bolmer

VOTE: 6-0

RESOLUTION REGARDING SUPERINTENDENT'S CONTRACT

WHEREAS, Dr. Carol Rosevear is currently employed by the South Bound Brook Board of Education as its superintendent of Schools, and is serving under terms and conditions of a written employment contract having a term of July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2008; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Rosevear has indicated her agreement to rescind her current employment contract for purposes of entering into a new contract, and the Board agrees that such rescission is in the best interest of the School District, in order to provide for administrative stability and the completion of educational programs and projects and to minimize disruption to the School District;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the South Bound Brook Board of Education hereby rescinds the existing employment contract of Superintendent of Schools Dr. Carol Rosevear and concomitantly approves a successor employment agreement for the period July 1, 2006 through June 30, 2011; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board approves the Employment Contract between the Board and the Superintendent on the attachment for board members, and authorizes and directs the Board President or Vice President to sign same on its behalf.

MOTION: Mrs. Lih-Thiessen SECOND: Mrs. Santora ROLL CALL
VOTE: 6-0

COMMITTEE REPORTS

NEGOTIATIONS: Mrs. Sarboukh will secure dates for negotiations with the administrators' association. She will direct Mr. Whalen to inform the Association of the status. Mr. Green, Board of Education attorney, will advise board members regarding guidelines to participation in school employee contract negotiations.

FINANCE: Mr. Allen reported that the Finance Committee met tonight and the budget process has begun.

BOUND BROOK: Mrs. Esposito reported on some matters of interest from the Bound Brook Board of Education. Dr. Rosevear gave an update on the status of a residency issue.

NEW BUSINESS

- ✓ NJSBA Workshops – Mrs. Leonhardt requested that any board members interested in a workshop let her know.
- ✓ Kayaking grant – Mrs. Leonhardt discussed the grant for which Ms. Weikel applied.
- ✓ Community Survey – Dr. Rosevear discussed the survey, which is scheduled to be mailed January 2. Mrs. Lih-Thiessen requested that the results be communicated, possibly in the town's newsletter.
- ✓ Police – The police department has offered to periodically come into the school. It was the sentiment of the board that this carried a negative connotation.
- ✓ School Start Time – Dr. Rosevear reported that Mr. Donahue has suggested that the start time (and consequently the end time) of school be modified next year. The board had some reservations, as older high school students sometimes help with picking up their younger siblings.

- ✓ Vo-Tech Transportation – Dr. Rosevear reported on some Vo-Tech transportation. One thought is to divide the run into multiple (possibly three) stops.
- ✓ The board agreed to provide Saturdays when we have appropriate coverage.

RECOGNITION OF PUBLIC

No comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

Business concluded, motion presented to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mrs. Santora

SECOND: Mrs. Bolmer

VOTE: 6-0

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Leonhardt
Business Administrator/Board Secretary