

**BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**  
**WALLINGFORD-SWARTHMORE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

**Monday, March 14, 2016**  
**Middle School Library 7:00 p.m.**

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AT THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION,  
THE BOARD CONDUCTED THE FOLLOWING BUSINESS

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**BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

Dr. Richard C. Sonntag, President  
Dr. Marylin Huff, Vice President  
Ms. Sally Morbeck, Treasurer  
Ms. Wendy Voet, Assistant Secretary  
Mr. Jerry Ballas  
Ms. Chapin Cimino  
Dr. Allison Karpyn  
Dr. Robert C. Reiger  
Mr. Paul Schregel

**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT**

Student Representative, Charlotte Brake, provided the Board of School Directors with a complete report on news and activities across the District schools.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

*Some Good News...*

- A. Last Saturday night I had the opportunity with a number of our Board Members and fellow administrators to attend the annual Arts 4 Smarts Fundraiser sponsored by the Wallingford-Swarthmore Schools Foundation held at Swarthmore College. Once again the fundraiser proved to be very successful, and the Foundation President Frannie Reilly is scheduled to present a check to the District based on the proceeds from the event to the Board of School Directors at our next meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>. A special thank you to all who were able to attend.
- B. A special thank you, also, to all those responsible for the donations leading to the construction of the outside basketball courts that were placed this past year on the grounds of SRS. The official grand opening is scheduled for April 30<sup>th</sup> with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 1:00 PM.

- C. On Sunday afternoon, I had the opportunity to attend the Middle School production of *Tarzan*, and the performance was amazing. A special shout out to the directors Valerie Szeliga and Pat Murray, and to the wonderful cast. Following the conclusion of my tenure as Acting Superintendent, I shared with Board Member Chapin Cimino that I may look to become a Broadway/Hollywood agent and the first clients I'll be looking to sign are Carena, Sam, Charlotte, and the rest of the star-studded cast.
- D. Also this past week, Dr. Palmer and I had the opportunity to visit NPE for both a special evening Read Across America Presentation and a daytime presentation of NPE Has Talent. In my soon to start Broadway/Hollywood agent, I'll also be heading back to NPE to see if I can sign some of the singers, dancers, comedians, and magicians. A special salute to staff member Jodi McFetridge who has helped organize and coordinate the event for the past five years.
- E. National Speech and Debate Association District Qualifiers were held last week-end with Strath Haven High School qualifying six students in debate, three in student congress, and one in speech, the most qualifiers from high school. The qualifiers will now move on to the 2016 National Speech and Debate Tournament in Salt Lake City from June 12<sup>th</sup> through 17<sup>th</sup>. In addition, nine of our high school students also qualified for the National Catholic Forensic League's Grand National Tournament to be held in Sacramento. A special congratulation to advisor Jeff Kahn and our students.
- F. As had been previously announced, we received word last month that Strath Haven High School has been selected as one of only 13 public or private, elementary, middle, or high schools in the entire Commonwealth invited to apply for this year's prestigious National Blue Ribbons School Award. Principal Mary Jo Yannacone and her staff just completed the 18 page application, and we will be submitting it to Washington, D.C. this week. More information-and good news-will, hopefully, be on its way.
- G. Final good news, congratulations to Denise Citarelli-Jones our Director of Secondary Curriculum who since our last Board Members officially became Dr. Citarelli-Jones after having officially completed all doctorate degree requirements at William and Mary. Congratulations, Dr. Citarelli-Jones.

*Some Not So Good News...*

- A. In terms of some not so good news, there remains at this point one cloud that continues to hover over our District and, in truth, many others and that involves budget. Work continues each week as we try to investigate any and all potential cost savings to reduce expenditures in the hope of impacting a significant budget deficit as well as a higher than average proposed tax increase for 2016-2017. With no state budget passed yet for this year or for next year, a number of districts in our area have already resorted to or will soon be resorting to borrowing just to cover operational expenses for

the remainder of the year. While our District should have enough fund balance to carry us into next year, the structural imbalance within our budget as well as the uncertainty of what revenues to expect from the State makes development of this year's school district budget extremely challenging. More information will be following within the next two weeks in communications to our faculty and staff and our parents under the heading of *2016/2017 Budget Update*.

This concludes my report...

## **FOCUS TOPIC PRESENTATIONS**

Mr. Kenneth Phillips, Managing Director, Municipal Finance for RBC Capital Markets, LLC shared an informative presentation with the Board of School Directors with regard to the refunding of the District's current bonds.

## **MINUTES**

The Board of School Directors approved the minutes of the February 22, 2016 Regular Business Meeting.

## **PERSONNEL**

The Board approved the leave of absence for Certified Staff, Carol Ford, Teacher, Swarthmore-Rutledge School, paid FMLA leave (use of sick and emergency days), on or about April 18, 2016 through June 2, 2016; unpaid FMLA leave, June 3, 2016 through the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

The Board approved the leave of absence for Beth Lesky, Teacher, Strath Haven High School, paid FMLA leave (use of sick days), on March 2, 2016 through on, or about March 18, 2016

The Board approved the resignation of Non-Certified Staff\_Kathryn Wise, Instructional Support, Swarthmore-Rutledge School, effective at the end of the day March 11, 2016

The Board approved the appointment of Certified Staff Lauren Snyder, Special Education Teacher, Wallingford Elementary School, effective on or about March 16, 2016 through June 22, 2016, replacing Kerri Lawler, \$190 per diem, Short-Term Substitute.

The Board approved the appointment of the following Non-Certified Staff:

- John Bevilacqua, Instructional Support, Wallingford Elementary School, effective March 30, 2016 replacing Sandra Martino, \$12.10 per hour, 7.0 hours per day, 183 days per year, WSESPA.

- Matthew Risi, Substitute Bus Driver, Transportation Department, effective March 15, 2016, replacing Sharon Montello, 23.33 per hour, hours as needed, Teamsters.

The Board approved the change of assignment, as listed, effective on February 22, 2016 through on, or about March 18, 2016:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Kathleen Richers	Instructional Support, SRS	Short-Term Substitute, SHHS, replacing Beth Lesky, \$190 per diem

The Board approved the 2015-2016 Winter post-season pay for coaches, as stipulated.

The Board approved the additions and deletions to the 2015-2016 Winter and Spring Athletic Supplemental appointments, as stipulated.

## **CURRICULUM**

The Board approved the Related Services Provider Contracts for the 2015-2016 School Year, the Educational Services Agreement for student #2423007 and the proposed 2016-2017 School Year calendar, as stipulated.

## **FINANCE**

The Board accepted the grant award from the Pennsylvania Council for the Arts in the amount of \$1,775 to be used for the African Dance Program at the Swarthmore Rutledge Elementary School.

The Board approved the Delaware County Area Technical Schools budget resolution for the 2016-2017 school year, as stipulated.

The Board approved the Delaware County Intermediate Unit Special Education Funding and Service Agreement, for the 2016-2017 school year, as stipulated.

The Board approved the Delaware County Intermediate Unit General Operating Budget for the 2016-2017 school year, as stipulated.

The Board authorized certain individuals to attend settlement and execute any and all necessary documents on behalf of Wallingford-Swarthmore School District in connection with the School District's sale of real property identified as folio no. 34-00-02047-01 and having an address of 101 Plush Mill Road, Nether Providence Township, PA.

The Board approved the Resolution authorizing the issuance of Obligations in the amount of up to Thirty Five Million Four Hundred Ninety Five Thousand Dollars (\$35,495,000); providing for the date, maximum interest, maximum maturity dates and place of payment in respect to the Obligations; setting forth the parameters for acceptance of a proposal and authorizing acceptance of a proposal for the purchase and/or private placement of the Obligations; authorizing and directing the preparation, certification and filing of the proceedings with the Department of Community and Economic Development.

The Board approved the acceptance of a Bond Purchase Agreement offered by RBC Capital Markets, LLC in conjunction with Resolution 2016, and authorizes other necessary action as stipulated.

The Board approved the Resolution authorizing the Administration to call for redemption all of the Series 2006 Bonds on May 1, 2016, as stipulated.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Sonntag adjourned the meeting at 8:10 PM.

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**BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS ARE NOT OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS**

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