

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

**Monday, March 28, 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 Alternate, Evan Savoth, provided the Board of School Directors with a complete report on news and activities across the District schools.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

A. State Budget Update

As you may already be aware, it appears that Pennsylvania may finally have a 2015-2016 budget. While the Governor did not sign the legislation passed by the legislature last week, he did allow the \$30 billion dollar budget bill to become law. The accompanying fiscal code bill which included distribution instructions related to a proposed increase in Basic Education Funding and Plan Con reform was vetoed. What all this means for our District remains to be seen, but the good news appears to be (but again, the operative words here are, *appears to be*) an expected increase of about \$149,000 in state funding. The bad news, however, is that with the release of PlanCon funding still undetermined, that leaves almost \$500,000 in expected state reimbursement for this year still up in the air. More information to follow.

B. Some good news...

- Our District was notified by the Pennsylvania Department of Education that our only two schools that received Title I funding have both been designated as Title I Reward Schools, with Wallingford Elementary School being recognized for its High Achievement and Nether Providence Elementary School for its High Progress. As identified *reward schools*, both are now eligible for applying for this year's Title I Reward Grants.
- Jack Hontz, our highly respected K-12 Music Supervisor, has announced that the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District has been selected to the 2016 list of "Best Communities for Music Education" by the National Association of Music Merchants. The recognition was granted to only 467 school districts across the nation.
- In keeping up with our alumni, we were notified this week-end by middle school teacher Pixie Roane and head of our fencing program that one of our alumni, Jacob Hoyle, claimed a national championship at this year's NCAA Fencing Championships. Jacob and his Columbia University team both took first place medals.

C. A Special Announcement/The Art Of Wallingford-Swarthmore School District

This Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM our K-12 Art Department will celebrate the Art of the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District at the Community Arts Center. The biennial exhibition highlights select student art work from across the District with the work of over 120 students from elementary, middle, and high school all on display. Please come out and enjoy the work of these talented young artists...

This concludes my report...

## FOCUS TOPIC PRESENTATIONS

Dr. Pladus welcomed our special guests, Mrs. Frannie Reilly, President of the Foundation for Wallingford-Swarthmore Schools, and Mrs. Beth Ross, Vice President of the Foundation. Mrs. Reilly shared with the School Board Members that the highly successful Arts4Smarts fundraiser this year raised over \$25,000. The Foundation's Board recently approved to fund \$18,550 towards the Foundation's major fundraising initiatives that will be spread across all five schools in the District. An additional \$6,500 will be set aside for the 2016/2017 teacher grants.

The funds will be dedicated to the following District projects:

- Funding of \$9,500 will be provided to support programming across all of the elementary schools and the middle school for the Robotics Club. This will enable the schools to update robotics kits to provide students with the newest technology.
- The middle school multi-media studio initiative will be provided with funding of \$4,050 to establish a fully equipped multi-media studio to produce a *This Week at SHMS* program to be aired throughout the middle school.
- Approximately \$5,000 will help to continue to fund the existing high school interdisciplinary garden project. The primary purpose of the garden support is to assist students in learning how to create and build a fully sustainable, positive, healthy source of foods. These funds will help to expand the current project to include a meditation garden and a place for our students to think, draw and interact.

## MINUTES

The Board of School Directors approved the minutes of the March 14, 2016 Regular Business Meeting.

## PERSONNEL

The Board approved the professional development sabbatical for Certified Staff, Karen Hirt, teacher, Strath Haven Middle School, fall semester, 2016-2017 school year.

The Board approved a leave of absence for Christina Piascik, Guidance Counselor, Strath Haven Middle School, paid leave (use of sick and emergency days), on or about April 19, 2016 through May 31, 2016; unpaid leave, June 1, 2016 through the end of the 2015-2016 school year.

The Board approved the change of assignment, effective on or about, April 11, 2016 through the end of the 2016-2017 school year for the following:

<u>Name</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Kathleen Richers	Instructional Support, SRS	Short-Term Substitute Teacher, SRS, replacing Carol Ford, \$190 per diem

The Board approved the deletions and addition to the 2015-2016 spring athletic supplemental appointments, as stipulated.

The Board approved the addition to the 2015-2016 conference requests, as stipulated.

The Board approved the Employment Contract for Ferguson Abbott, Director of Human Resources, effective July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2020, as stipulated.

## **CURRICULUM**

The Board approved Related Services Provider Contracts for Summer 2015 Extended School Year, 2015-2016 School Year, and Summer 2016 Extended School Year. The Board approved the Tuition Contracts for the 2015-2016 School Year and Summer 2016 Extended School Year as stipulated.

## **FINANCE**

The Board approved the Payment of Invoices to Vendors, as stipulated.

The Board approved the February 2016 Treasurer's Report

The Board acknowledged receipt of the February financial reports, as stipulated. The Board approved 2015/2016 school year budget transfers, as stipulated.

The Board approved the retainer, hourly rates, and other services as submitted by Jeffrey T. Sultanik, Esq., Fox Rothschild LLP, effective July 1, 2016 as detailed in the March 14, 2016 proposal and accompanying Standard Terms of Engagement for Legal Services.

The Board approved the HIPAA Business Associate Agreement between the District and Fox Rothschild LLP as the result of Fox Rothschild LLP handling cases that involve protected health information on behalf of the District.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Dr. Sonntag adjourned the meeting at 7:40 PM.

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

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