

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
WALLINGFORD-SWARTHMORE BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Monday, December 5, 2016
Middle School Library 7:08 p.m.

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

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

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

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1) Personnel Recommendation

Under the personnel section of our agenda, you will notice a recommendation for a change of assignment – *an additional assignment* - for Dr. MaryJo Yannacone from Strath Haven High School Principal to Strath Haven High School Principal/Assistant to the Superintendent. This recommended additional assignment is designed to support the District's student growth and achievement goals in the areas of equity and excellence, with a particular focus on the achievement of historically disadvantaged students. This recommendation would not change the leadership model or functioning of the high school, but rather, addresses both a District area of need as well as an area of passion for Dr. Yannacone, allowing her to share her considerable talents across our entire school community. I am most appreciative of Dr. Yannacone's willingness to guide our work in this area, and I am hopeful the Board will act positively on this recommendation this evening.

2) Wallingford-Swarthmore Music Update

For those of you who attended the Marching Band Showcase last week, you know what talented High Schoolers we have. Now I'd like to invite you to join our Middle Schoolers as they perform at our Winter Fine & Applied Arts Concerts:

- Thursday, December 8th - 6th grade chorus, band, and orchestra
- Tuesday, December 13th – 7th grade chorus and band, and 7th & 8th grade orchestra
- Thursday, December 15th – 8th grade chorus, Cantabile and band
- All concerts begin at 7 pm, and all are welcome.

I am delighted to share other music news as reported by District Music Director Jack Hontz. Strath Haven High School qualified 19 students in the 2017 District 12 Band, 19 students in the 2017 District 12 Orchestra, and 7 students in the 2017 District 12 Chorus. Strath Haven placed more students in both the District 12 Band and Orchestra than any other high school in Delaware, Philadelphia, and Chester Counties.

In addition, Senior Trombone player Alex Jansen, represented Strath Haven High School and Pennsylvania as a member of the All National Honors Band during the All National Music Festival in Grapevine, Texas. By way of an extensive audition process that started last spring with his selection into the PA All State Band, Alex performed as the second ranked trombone in the nation! And, just today, I learned that Alex has been selected to perform in the 2017 National Association for Music Education (NAfME) All Eastern Division Band in April.

Accomplishments like these do not happen by themselves. They are reflective of the talents and dedication of our student musicians and their tremendously devoted teachers (*from Elementary School, to Middle School, to High School*), as well as all of the encouragement and support of their parents. I applaud everyone right now, and will continue to do so at our SHHS Winter Instrumental Concert on December 20th at 7:30 pm. All are welcome.

3) Winter Break

Our schools will be closed from December 26th through and including January 2nd for Winter Break. On behalf of the Board of School Directors and the Administration, I wish you and yours all of the comfort and joy and love the holiday season can bring.

That concludes my report.

BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dr. Sonntag announced the Board met in Executive Session prior to the meeting this evening to discuss legal counsel and Special Education matters that are required by law to remain confidential.

MINUTES

The Board approved the minutes of the November 28, 2016 Regular Business Meeting.

PERSONNEL

The Board of School Directors approved the following leave of absence:

Certified Staff

Jamie Devlin, Teacher, Strath Haven Middle School, paid FMLA leave (use of sick days), on November 21, 2016 through on, or about January 13, 2017

Leslie Taylor, Teacher, Strath Haven High School, paid FMLA leave (use of sick and emergency days), on November 16, 2016 through December 19, 2016; unpaid FMLA leave, on December 20, 2016 through on, or about January 31, 2017

Kimberly Aronovitz, Teacher, Swarthmore-Rutledge School, paid FMLA leave (use of sick days), on or about November 29, 2016 through December 19, 2016

Non-Certified Staff

Katherine Markert, Administrative Assistant, Strath Haven High School, paid FMLA leave (use of sick, vacation and emergency days), on, or about November 22, 2016 through January 10, 2017; unpaid FMLA leave, January 11, 2017 through February 13, 2017; unpaid leave, on February 14, 2017 through February 22, 2017

The Board approved the following certified staff appointment:

Erin Yentz, Special Education, Strath Haven High School, effective January 3, 2017 through June 21, 2017 replacing Kelly Creighton, \$48,220, long-term substitute

The Board approved the changes of assignment, as stipulated.

The Board approved the addition to the 2016-2017 curriculum supplemental appointment list, as stipulated.

The Board approved the additional assignment for MaryJo Yannacone, as stipulated.

WSSD BOARD POLICY

The Board approved the third and final reading of the following policies, as presented:

Policy Continued - Third and Final Reading

- 137.1 Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
- 208 Withdrawal from School
- 215 Promotion and Retention
- 236 Student Assistance Program
- 247 Hazing
- 249 Bullying

The Board approved the third and final reading of the repeal of Policy 336 – Personal Necessity Leave, as presented.

CURRICULUM

The Board approved the Related Services Provider Contracts for the 2016-2017 School Year.

The Board approved the Educational Services Agreements for students #2321037 and #2721025.

The Board approved Patrick Murray to conduct educational research in the Wallingford-Swarthmore School District as per his proposal and in accordance with Policy #105.3 “Educational Research in the Schools.”

FINANCE

The Board approved the following Payment of Invoices to Vendors dated 11/22/2016 through 11/29/2016.

Board Hearing District Representation:

Pursuant to 2 Pa.C.S §101 (“presiding officer”), and 2 Pa.C.S. Chapter 5, Subchapter B (“Practice and Procedure of Local Agencies”), the Board of School Directors appoints the Board’s solicitor and, as needed, the below special counsel to serve as the Board’s hearing officer in all matters where an eligible party makes a request for a hearing before the Board. When serving in that capacity, the hearing officer shall rule on any pre-hearing matters and convene a hearing to create a full and complete record for the Board, and then draft a proposed adjudication for the Board’s later consideration.

As it relates to the above matters, the Board appoints the firm of Wisler Pearlstine, LLP to serve as special counsel. Except as below, the role of special counsel shall be to represent the District Administration in prosecuting the above matters. Where the Board’s solicitor instead represents the District Administration, special counsel shall represent the Board as hearing officer. Special counsel’s rate shall be the same as the then current rate for Board’s solicitor.

AUDIENCE RECOGNITION: RESPONSE TO TOPICES NOT ON THE AGENDA -

None

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Sonntag adjourned the meeting at 7:21 PM

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