

Highlands School Board Meeting Highlights

May 11, 2009 Regular School Board Meeting

NOTE: This Board Highlights document includes the actions of the School Board Meeting. It is not meant to be an exact reflection of the meeting's minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the special board meeting held on April 8, 2009 and the regular board meeting held on April 20, 2009.

SECRETARY CORRESPONDENCE – Board secretary **Mr. Jon Rupert** reported that Siemens submitted an Act 77 report signifying a savings of more than \$821,000 in energy efficiency since 2000.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT – No report.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT - **Dr. Louis J. Baldassare** recognized the following students for being named Tribune Review Outstanding Young Citizens for 2009:

- **Dana Abraham, Jr.** – Senior
- **Carly Jo Bacha** – Junior
- **Matthew Basista** – Sophomore
- **Shelby Rae Brown** – Junior
- **Kimberly Daloise** Junior
- **Mike Doucette** – Junior
- **Colleen Friel** – Senior
- **Paul Gamperlein** – Freshman
- **Sarah Hines** – Junior
- **Alese Klemens** – Senior
- **Courtney Kordes** – Senior
- **Samantha Kurtz** – Senior
- **Carley Milcic** – Junior
- **Michele Polakowski** – Sophomore
- **Sarah Selfridge** – Senior
- **Casey Nicole Smith** – Junior
- **Ashlee Snyder** – Sophomore

These students received the award out of 161 students that represented 16 public and private schools. Highlands had 17 students awarded; two of these students, **Colleen Friel** and **Matthew Basista**, received special medals and were recognized in the top ten of the total honorees.

Dr. Baldassare also recognized the following staff members for their achievements:

- **Mrs. Wendy Hutchinson**, Middle School Science Teacher, was awarded a PPG Grant for \$911 for a proposal she submitted for educational supplements to her curriculum.
- **Mrs. Sharon Conway**, Food Services Director received notice that Highlands earned the District of Excellence in School Nutrition Distinction from the National School Nutrition Association. There were only 8 winners of this award and Highlands was the only School District in Pennsylvania that won. The District is also under consideration for the 2009 District of the Year Award which includes a prize of a grant of up to \$25,000.
- **Mrs. Conway** also received the Pennsylvania School Food Service Director of the year award from the School Nutrition Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP).
- The Boosters and Parent Organizations meeting held on Tuesday, May 5 at the Community Center opened communications amongst the different groups and between these dedicated parent volunteers and the Administration.

The group included myself, Athletic Director **Mr. Matt Bonislowski**, Public Relations Manager **Ms. Misty Chybrzynski** and 20 volunteers representing 15 support groups for our young athletes, musicians and elementary students.

The group discussed board policy regarding volunteers, PTOs and Boosters and common problematic situations each faces. We achieved agreement on four specific subjects:

- Clarification of who needs clearances and how long clearances are effective
- Assessments cannot be forced upon parents who are unable or unwilling to pay. Children will not be denied participation because of this.
- Tag days will follow a pre-set district-wide schedule in order to avoid overlapping or excessive soliciting from the community.
- All Booster Organizations will submit by laws, budgets, fundraisers, and officers to the Superintendent prior to the next school year.

CAFETERIA – Mrs. Wantland, Mrs. Wisner

The Board *unanimously approved* the following:

- Cafeteria Fund Financial Report for April 2009, as submitted.
- Payment of Cafeteria Fund bills, as follows: *May 2009, \$120,254.20*

- Bids for Ice Cream and Milk to:

**Turner Dairy – Milk
Pittsburgh’s Best Ice Cream**

STUDENT ACTIVITIES – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Wantland

No report.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE – Mr. Peck, Mrs. Wisner, Mr. Lang

No report.

- *Dr. Baldassare noted that there has been significant improvement in regards to student discipline and the number of incidents in the past few months. While there still is progress to be made, it is a good indication of board policies and procedures being effective.*

INSTRUCTION – Mrs. Wisner, Mrs. Wantland

No report.

TRANSPORTATION – Mr. Heasley, Mr. Misejka

No report.

BUILDINGS & GROUNDS – Mr. Misejka, Mr. Heasley

The Board *unanimously approved* the following:

- Use of facilities, as submitted.
- Authorizing District to conduct annual Garage Sale to dispose of obsolete items, including 2 vans.

PERSONNEL – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Thimons

The Board *unanimously approved* the following:

- Hiring of the following summer workers, in accordance with Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test) Act 34, and Act 151:

Jaron Mosavsky

Earl Fletcher

Ron Erlich

James Moody

Jeffrey Sinclair

Jared Eiseman

Adam Friel

- Hiring of the following Classified Staff, as per Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test) #514, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Criminal Record Check)

A. Cindy Spondike

Cafeteria Alternate
Effective May 12, 2009

B. Laurie Sinclair

Cafeteria Alternate
Effective May 12, 2009

C. Mary Vance

Teacher's Aide – Ratify
Heights Elementary
Effective April 14, 2009

- Hiring of the following Professional Staff, in accordance with Board Policy #404 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check:

A. Charles Shipman

Elementary Instrumental Teacher At Large
Effective 2009-2010 School Year

- Ratifying the 2008-2009 Substitute Teacher Call List, as submitted (in accordance with Board Policy #405 Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check.
- Accepting the following request for Leave of Absence, in accordance with Board/District Policies:

A. John Zylinski

Buildings and Grounds
FMLA Leave
Tentatively 30 Days in June 2009

- Hiring of **Daniel Brestensky**, Substitute Security Guard District Wide – effective May 12, 2009, as per Board Policy #505 (Pre-Employment Drug Test) #514, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Criminal Record Check)

- Amendment to the Substitute Superintendent's contract to provide paid vacation and life insurance.

Mrs. Thimons voted "No" to this action.

- Ratifying, with regret, the resignation of **Jamie A. Strazzer** – Nurse Aide – Grandview Elementary, effective May 6, 2009.

FINANCE/TAX – Mrs. Thimons, Mrs. Wantland

The Board *unanimously approved* the following:

- Accepting the Treasurer's Report for the month of March 2009, as submitted.
- Tax Refunds for May 2009 in the amount of \$227.29, as submitted.
- Payment of General Fund bills for May 2009, as submitted.

To Be Ratified	\$ 985,336.53
To Be Paid	<u>\$ 164,368.86</u>
TOTAL	\$1,149,705.39

- Payment of 2007 Bond Issue bills for May 2009 in the amount of \$26,902.61 as submitted.
- The contract with **HWS Health Services** for removal of sharps containers in the Nurses office – district wide - at a cost of \$100.00 per year.
- Adopting the preliminary budget in the amount of \$37,625.265 (no tax increase).
- Renewal of the Tax Abatement Program through December 31, 2010, as submitted.
- PNC Bank as the District's Depository for the 2009-2010 school year, in accordance with Section 621 of the Pennsylvania School Code.
- District investment institutions, in accordance with Section 440.1 of the Pennsylvania School Code:

PNC Bank
Citizens Bank
PSDAF

First Commonwealth
PLGIT
Huntingdon Bank

PA State Treasurer's Investment Program

COMMUNITY OUTREACH Mrs. Wantland, Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Thimons, Mr. Peck

No report.

FORBES ROAD CTC – Mrs. Fox, Mrs. Beale

No report.

The Board *unanimously approved* the adoption of the Forbes Road Budget, as submitted (2.69% increase).

PSBA/NSBA – Mrs. Thimons

Mrs. Thimons reported that a PSBA conference brought members up-to-date about important issues and turned conference sections into Regions. Highlands will be in Region 1. The group also discussed Keystones Exams and the summer event schedule was released.

POLICY – Mr. Heasley, Mrs. Thimons

No report.

ATHLETICS – Mr. Lang, Mr. Heasley

The Board *unanimously approved* the following:

- Hiring of the following athletic personnel for the 2009-2010 school year, in accordance with Board Policy #404 (Pre-Employment Drug Test), #414, Act 34, Act 151, and FBI Record Check: (Salary as per Board/HEA Collective Bargaining Agreement.)

Name	Position
Michael Foster	7 th Grade Girls Basketball Coach
Patricia Swaney	Ticket Seller – Football
Marianne Moxie	Ticket Seller – Football
Deborah Gorentz	Ticket Seller – Football
Susan Johnson	Ticket Seller – Football
Patricia Cavanaugh	Ticket Seller – Football
Selena Foster	Ticket Taker – Football
Janet Mack	Ticket Taker – Football
Dave Urik	Ticket Taker – Football
Michael Foster	Usher – Football

Scott Newell	Usher – Football
Rose Thimons	Ticket Seller – Girls Varsity Soccer
Susan Johnson	Ticket Seller – Girls Varsity Soccer
Tom Stabile	Clock Operator – Fall Sports
Michael Zendarski	Clock Operator – Fall Sports
Joe Holliday	Game Announcer – Football
Dan Malecki	Equipment Operator

TECHNOLOGY – Mrs. Wantland, Mrs. Wisner

No report.

MISCELLANEOUS

There will be a Special Board Meeting held at 8:15 p.m. on Tuesday, May 19, 2009 in the High School library.

2009 Highlands School Board Members

Debbie Beale – President

Carrie Fox – Vice President

Laura Thimons William Heasley

Ron Lang Ron Mizejka

Mark Peck Karen Wantland

Judy Wisner