

MINUTES

INDIANA AREA BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

February 11, 2008

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of School Directors of the Indiana Area School District was held on Monday, February 11, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. in the East Pike board room, 501 East Pike, Indiana, PA. All members were notified of time and place of meeting, and a public notice was properly posted. The meeting began with the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called with the following members present: Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Billon, Mr. Girardi, Mrs. Paccapaniccia, Mr. Schroth, Mr. Steve, Mr. Trimarchi and Mr. Werner.

Dr. Deborah Clawson, Superintendent; Mr. Donald Gardner, Business Manager/Board Secretary; and Ms. Trish Andrews, Solicitor were also present.

WELCOME TO VISITORS

Mrs. Paccapaniccia extended a welcome to the visitors attending the meeting.

IAEA

Mrs. Peterman commented on negotiations.

MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Girardi and seconded by Mr. Steve that the minutes of January 14, 2008 and January 28, 2008 board meeting be approved as submitted. (Exh. 1,2)

TREASURER'S REPORT and PAYMENT OF BILLS

Upon motion by Mr. Trimarchi, seconded by Mr. Schroth, the Treasurer's Report and the Bills for the month of January 2008 were approved as submitted. (Exh. 3,4)

SENIOR HIGH GYMNASIUM/FITNESS CENTER UPDATE

Ms. Weslee Hursh and Mr. John Pappal updated the board on the senior high project.

CURRICULUM PRESENTATION

The board heard a presentation of revised courses of study and materials proposed for adoption for kindergarten through grade 5 language arts, by Jill Piper, Claudia Curry, Heidi Higbee, Hollee Colgan and Valerie Birch. (Exh. 5)

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

Submitted for the Board's information was the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report prepared by the business office for the period ending June 30, 2007. (Exh. 6)

REQUEST FOR 2006 PENNSYLVANIA TAX INFORMATION

On an annual basis, the district secures a listing of district taxpayers from the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue in order to assist in the collection of delinquent earned income taxes. The cost of the listing will be reimbursed by the district's earned income tax collector, Pennsylvania Municipal Services Company. (Exh. 7)

It was moved by Mr. Steve and seconded by Mrs. Baker that, the Board approves an agreement between the Indiana Area School District and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Revenue, for the acquisition of information contained on the Pennsylvania Personal Income Tax returns for 2006 in order to administer and enforce the provisions of its local earned income tax. Motion passed unanimously.

SALE OF BONDS

In order to take advantage of an opportunity to achieve a savings by refunding the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2002 (Junior high renovation project), it will be necessary to initiate a financing program.

It was moved by Mrs. Billon and seconded by Mrs. Baker that the Board of Directors of the Indiana Area School District authorizes the administration to work with Public Financial Management, as Financial Advisor, and Pepper Hamilton LLP, as Bond Counsel in connection with the refunding of the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2003, in the amount of \$10,000,000. Final approval of the bond sale is tentatively scheduled for February 28, 2008 and is contingent on the status of the bond market. Motion passed unanimously on a roll call vote.

**JUNIOR HIGH RENOVATION PROJECT, SENIOR HIGH FITNESS CENTER, AND
APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR**

It was moved by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mrs. Baker to approve the following three motions.

1. That the settlement agreement between the Indiana Area School District and Westmoreland Electric in connection with the junior high renovation project be approved. (Exh. 8)
2. That the Board approves change order GC-18 in the amount of \$3,814.00 to the general contractor to provide and install oak base trim in the fitness center. (Exh. 9)
3. That the board retains the firm of Catanese Group to perform an internal forensic audit pursuant to the terms and conditions set forth in the engagement letter. (Exh. 10)

Motion approved unanimously.

**PLANNED COURSE OF STUDY ADOPTION, WRESTLING COOP AGREEMENT AND ACT
48 APPOINTMENTS**

It was moved by Mr. Schroth and Mr. Anderson that the board approves the following items:

- 1) That, on the recommendation of the superintendent based on the advice of the social studies teacher, the Board approves the new planned course of study for the Election 2008 course.
- 2) That the annual fee structure for a proposed wrestling co-op between the Indiana Area School District and Apollo-Ridge School District be establish at \$1,000 for each senior high varsity wrestling participant and \$725 for each junior high wrestling program participant. (Exh. 11)
- 3) That in accordance with provisions of Act 48 of 1999 that Kate Geiger and Barbara Telthorster be appointed to serve as community member representatives on the Act 48 Professional Development Committee.

Motion passed unanimously.

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Schroth and Mr. Girardi updated the board with respect to the status of the strategic plan.

PERSONNEL ITEMS

It was moved by Mr. Werner and seconded by Mr. Steve that the board approves the following personnel items.

Substitute Lists

The changes to the Teacher and Food Service Substitute Lists as submitted. (Exh. 12, 13)

Resignation of Support Staff

The resignation of Dawn Taylor, food service worker, effective February 8, 2008 due to personal reasons and Francine Brillhart, custodian, effective February 28, 2008 due to personal reasons be accepted with regret. (Exh. 14, 15)

Resignation of Professional Employee

The board accepts with regret the letter of resignation from Patricia Burns, ALPHA teacher, at the conclusion of her family medical leave in April 2008 due to retirement. (Exh. 16)

Leave of Absence

A request for an unpaid leave of absence by Sarah Lonetti from April 11, 2008 to the first teacher day of the 2008-2009 school year in accordance to Article XI, Section 2 of the collective bargaining agreement be approved.

A request for an unpaid leave of absence by Kathryn Smith from May 23, 2008 to the first teacher day of the 2008-2009 school year in accordance to Article XI, Section 2 of the collective bargaining agreement be approved.

Extension of Leave of Absence

The leave granted to Jennifer Palmer by board action on July 23, 2007 be extended until the beginning of the 2008-2009 school year.

Employment of Payroll Clerk

That in accordance with the recommendation of administration, Ms. Barbara Andresky be employed as the Payroll Clerk effective as soon as she is released by her current employer and at an annual salary of \$22,000; salary to be prorated based on the number of days worked in the 2007-2008 fiscal year.

Motion passed unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Clawson welcomed Mrs. Andresky to the district and recognized various student accomplishments.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Audio recordings of the board meeting and information request

It was moved by Mr. Girardi and seconded by Mr. Steve that any request for action to the administration or their support staff must be brought before the board for their consideration, discussion and required vote. With favorable approval, the board president will then advise the appropriate administrator or staff member to proceed with the designated action.

It was moved by Mr. Anderson and seconded by Mr. Trimarchi to table the above motion. Motion failed 3-6 on a roll call vote with Mrs. Baker, Mrs. Billon, Mr. Girardi, Mrs. Paccapaniccia, Mr. Steve and Mr. Werner voting no.

The original motion passed 6-3 on a roll call vote with Mr. Anderson, Mr. Schroth and Mr. Trimarchi voting no.

Formation of Finance Committee

Mr. Schroth noted that he felt we should have a budget and finance committee to develop and review the 2008-2009 budget. After discussion, it was decided that the Board would meet as a committee of the whole to review the budget beginning in April.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Schroth resigned his position as the alternate to the Indiana County Technology Center. Mrs. Paccapaniccia volunteered to replace him.

Mr. Schroth addressed the board with respect to the separate recognition plaques to be placed at the senior high gymnasium/fitness center. Mrs. Paccapaniccia suggested that the language be placed on the next agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Anderson commented to the recent article in the Indiana Gazette regarding a Saltsburg basketball player.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- ARIN – Mrs. Baker
- ICTC – Mrs. Billon
- Recreation Department – Mr. Steve
- ARC – Mr. Anderson

ENCLOSURES

Activity Fund Treasurers' Reports – All Buildings (Exh. 17)
Enrollment Report – February 1, 2007- February 1, 2008 (Exh. 18)
Imprest Account – February 2008 (Exh. 19)
Investment Analysis – February 1, 2008 (Exh. 20)
Vandalism Report – July 1, 2007 to January 31, 2008 (Exh. 21)
Facilities Study Committee Minutes – January 7, 2008 (Exh. 22)
Facilities Study Committee Minutes – January 15, 2008 (Exh. 23)
Conference Resumes: Amy O'Neal (Exh. 24) William E. Doody (Exh. 25)
Holly Miller & Brenda Pearce (Exh. 26)
Roberta Mack (Exh. 27) Roberta Mack & Deb Bartek (Exh. 28)
Principal's Newsletters: Ben Franklin – February 2008 (Exh. 29)
East Pike – February 2008 (Exh. 30)
Eisenhower – February 2008 (Exh. 31)
Horace Mann – February 2008 (Exh. 32)
Junior Highlights – January-February 2008 (Exh. 33)
Crimson Arrow - February 2008 (Exh. 34)

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Mrs. Paccapaniccia announced that the next board meeting would be the special meeting on February 25, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

NOTICE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mrs. Paccapaniccia announced that an executive session was held from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. before the open meeting for the purpose of discussing attorney/advisor issues and continued after the open meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Steve, seconded by Mr. Girardi and unanimously approved, the regular meeting of the Indiana Area Board of School Directors of February 11, 2008 was properly adjourned at 10:01 p.m.

Donald T. Gardner, Jr., Secretary