

**NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
January 21, 2009**

A meeting of the New Hope-Solebury School District Board of Directors was held in the District Conference Room on Monday, January 21, 2009. Mrs. Malamis, President, called the meeting to order at 6:38 p.m. Mrs. Wahlgren led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mrs. Malamis then asked the Secretary to call roll.

Members present: Mr. Behre, Mr. Dozbaba, Mrs. Elefante, Mr. Fieber,
Mrs. Malamis, Mr. Nally, Mrs. O'Brien and Mrs. Wahlgren.

Members absent: Mr. Heath

Administrators present: Dr. Boccuti, Mr. Hansel, Mr. Hogg, Ms. Katauskas, Mr. Radaszkiewicz, Mr. Harrington, Ms. Mangano, Ms. Mundy, Mr. Silver and Dr. Young.

An Executive Session was held prior to the meeting regarding personnel matters.

Board Minutes

Upon a motion made by Mr. Behre, seconded by Mrs. Elefante, with Mrs. O'Brien and Mr. Dozbaba abstaining, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

New Business

Special Presentation

The Middle School Student Council and Mrs. Lisa Morrash reported on activities at the Middle School. They reported on a workshop that they attended at Great Valley School District on how to set up training for fellow students, as well as another workshop on how to be good leaders.

Policy & Program

Upon a motion made by Mr. Fieber, seconding by Mr. Behre, the Board voted to approve the following middle school student trips:

- Officers of the Middle School Student Council to attend the PA Association of Student Councils State Conference (3-days) to be hosted by Penridge High School, PA, from Thursday, November 13 to Saturday, November 15, 2009.

- Officers of the Middle School Student Council (7 students maximum) to attend the PA Association of Student Councils 5-day leadership workshop to be held at Grove City College, July 19-23, 2009, and at Lehigh Valley College, July 26-30, 2009.

Old Business

Board Committee Reports

Communications Committee: Mrs. Wahlgren reported that Dr. Boccuti would be meeting with groups. She also reported that the Committee discussed the merits of a printed newsletter to be mailed to the community as opposed to posting electronically. The Committee agreed to recommend a printed newsletter mailing, as well as posting electronically.

Facilities Committee: Mr. Behre reported on expenses related to connecting to the water system and field irrigation. He stated that the Committee discussed the late bus and signage on the New Hope campus. He reported the Committee is discussing potential uses of stimulus money if we get it.

Finance Committee: Mr. Nally reported on two Finance Committee meetings. The main discussion items were expenditures in the 2009-2010 fiscal year. He reported that the Committee discussed special education, fuel usage, late bus, textbooks and teacher summer days. He reported that the Committee also discussed the Smart Board initiative. The Finance Committee asked for the direction of the Board on what items they would like to have the Committee review.

Mrs. Malamis thanked Mr. Nally and Mr. Hogg for bringing to the Board the bond refinancing that saving \$493,000 over two years.

Policy Committee: Mrs. O'Brien reported that the Policy Committee meeting scheduled for 1/22 had been moved to 2/5.

Student Activities Committee: Mr. Dozbaba reported that the Athletic Trainer left and that one of the school nurses was acting in that function. He reported that the Committee would like to keep the late bus but agreed to the recommendation to eliminate it.

Board Follow-up

Mrs. Elefante reported on the Board follow-up.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Boccuti presented an update on clearances for volunteers.

Reports

Mrs. Katauskas reported on the Reasons to Read Initiative.

Mrs. Katauskas, Ms. Mangano, Ms. Mundy, Mr. Silver and Mr. Young reported on PSSA testing and student achievement.

Budget Report – 2009-2010

Dr. Boccuti and Mr. Hogg presented the preliminary budget for the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

New Business

Public Discussion/Agenda Items

- Melvin Band
- Question on appointment of Instructional Assistant.
 - Question on action item for separation agreement.
 - Question on termination of Athletic Trainer contract.

Finance

Upon a motion made by Mrs. O'Brien, seconded by Mr. Behre, the Board voted to:

- Authorize the administration to make the 2009-2010 budget available to the public and set the date of February 11, 2009 to act on the preliminary budget.

- Approve the Treasurer's Reports and Financial Reports for October through November, 2008.

- Approve and ratify the following list of bills totaling \$1,382,515.86. -

2008-2009 Capital Reserve Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 1001116 to 1001119
Totaling - \$65,183.43

2008-2009 Checks Between Meetings for Ratification
Check Numbers – 10023939 to 10023948
Totaling - \$19,865.47

2008-2009 Checks for Approval
Check Numbers – 10023949 to 10024113
Totaling - \$1,297,466.96

- Approve the attached budgetary transfers for the 2008-2009 fiscal year and that they be made part of the permanent minute book.

Personnel

Upon a motion made by Mr. Behre, seconded by Mrs. O'Brien, the Board voted to:

- Ratify/appoint the following individuals, contingent upon meeting all requirements of law and district policy:

Name	Classification	Employee Replaced/Reason	Effective Date	Salary	Benefits
Tracey Jackson-Benson	Instructional Assistant- 7 Hour High School	Resignation – Coren	1/21/09	\$16,540 (prorated) 0 Years	Yes

- Approve the following EDR contracts for the 2008-2009 school year:

<u>Name</u>	<u>EDR Position</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Joann Neufeld	Art Club	\$ 852
Michele Hamill	TAG	\$1136
Victoria Nichols	TAG	\$1136
Yona Rose	Boys Blue Basketball	\$1607
Tony Vlahovic	Boys Gold Basketball	\$1476
Nicole Kerr	MS Cheerleading	\$1131
Rick Fedele	Boys Gold B-Ball Asst.	\$ 738

- Approve a separation agreement with Dorothy C. Katauskas, should she elect to retire on or before June 30, 2010.

Policy & Program

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Wahlgren, seconded by Mr. Behre, with Mr. Dozbaba voting no as to the late bus, the Board voted to:

- Approve the elimination of the late bus schedule to take effect in school year 2009-2010 and direct the administration to begin to make the school community aware of this change.

- Authorize the administration to terminate our contract for athletic training services with Performance Rehabilitation/Velocity Sports Performance, effective February 6, 2009.

Plant & Equipment

Upon a motion made by Mr. Behre, seconded by Mr. Fieber, the Board voted to:

- Authorize the administration to bid the installation of an underground irrigation system for the athletic fields on the New Hope campus.

- Authorize the administration to negotiate a new contract with First Student Bus Service.

Board Discussion

Mr. Nally asked the Facilities Committee to take another look at the capital improvements in the budget.

Liaisons

Mr. Fieber and Mrs. Walgren reported that MBIT was working on their budget and had a 2.12% increase. Mrs. Wahlgren also reported on renovations.

Mr. Fieber reported on the Education Fund and that they had \$40,000.

Mrs. Malamis reported on the Special Education Committee and that they were trying to prioritize their goals. She reported that they were preparing a survey for priorities.

Public Discussion

Mr. Chris Eler - Statement that he lives on Riverstone Circle and is concerned about increased use of the track facility.

Ms. Mapy - Question on what stimulus money would be used for.

Mr. Melvin Band - Statement that teacher contracts can be opened.

- Statement on average teacher salary.

- Question on when you can cut teaching positions.
Statement that the number of teachers should be reduced.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Mr. Behre, seconded by Mrs. Wahlgren, the Board of School Directors voted to adjourn at 10:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Hogg
Board Secretary