

**NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING  
September 15, 2008**

A meeting of the New Hope-Solebury School District Board of Directors was held in the District Conference Room on Monday, September 15, 2008. Mr. Behre, President, called the meeting to order at 6:37 p.m. Mr. Behre led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Behre then asked the Secretary to call roll.

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

Member absent: Mr. Fieber

Administrators present: Dr. Boccuti, Mr. Hogg, Dr. Foote, and Ms. Mangano.

### **Introduction and Student Representatives**

Mr. Behre introduced the new student representatives who gave some background on themselves. The representatives presented their report.

### **Board Minutes**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. Elefante, with Mr. Behre abstaining, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the August 18, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

### **Special Presentation**

Dr. Boccuti introduced Dr. Gallasso of the Intermediate Unit who presented a report on referendum.

Mrs. St. John presented an award that had been received by the Middle School from the troops in Iraq.

### **Old Business**

#### **Board Committee Reports**

Communications Committee: Mrs. Wahlgren reported on the Communications Committee. She reported on a presentation of the summer's accomplishments. They discussed concerns about the website and open houses.

Facilities Committee: Mrs. Elefante reported on the Facilities Committee and a request by the theater group. She reported that they discussed storage issues. She reported on a presentation on an aquatic facility proposal. She reported that they discussed the five year plan. She announced that she was stepping down from the Committee and read a statement.

Finance Committee: Mr. Nally reported that the Finance Committee had met prior to the Board meeting. He reported on personnel changes on the committee. He reported that Mr. Shearer of PFM updated the committee on bond refinancing. He reported on timelines and that the committee would discuss transportation, bond re-financing, and new budget initiatives.

Policy Committee: Mrs. O'Brien reported on the Policy Committee and what policies will be discussed at future meetings.

Student Activity Committee: Mr. Dozbaba reported on the Student Activity Committee.

### **Board Follow-up**

Mrs. Elefante reported on the Board follow-up.

### **Superintendent Report**

Dr. Boccuti presented the Superintendent's report which will be a part of the permanent minute book.

### **Public Discussion / Agenda Items**

- Larry Panzica - question on why the request is for only two four hour aides.
- Pamela Anderson - question on how two aides will cover five classrooms.  
- statement that there should be an additional teacher in kindergarten.
- Parent- - statement that class sizes should be smaller and there should be an additional teacher.
- Melvin Band - statement that with his experience as a teacher, he believes the class size at Kindergarten should be lower.  
- statement that money should come from the low class sizes at the High School.
- Parent - statement that kindergarten staff needs help.
- Parent - statement that the aides will not be connected to the child.

- Parent - statement that she is impressed with the kindergarten teachers and a request that additional aides or a teacher be added.
- Parent - statement that the Board should look long term at class sizes.
- Laurie Skiroda - statement that a first grade teacher could be moved to kindergarten.
- Lou Anderson - statement that teachers should be allocated to kindergarten.
- Parent - statement that they need help now.
- Nancy Dupler - statement about incident that happened with children.
- Parent - statement that they need more help in kindergarten.

## **New Business**

### **Finance**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mrs. Malamis, the Board voted to approve and ratify the following:

- List of bills totaling \$1,324,333.76
  - 2008-2009 Capital Reserve Checks Between Meetings for Ratification  
Check Number – 1001103  
Totaling - \$4,115.00
  - 2008-2009 Capital Reserve Checks for Approval  
Check Numbers – 1001104 to 1001109  
Totaling - \$148,276.86
  - 2008-2009 Checks Between Meetings for Ratification  
Check Numbers – 10022943 to 10022952  
Totaling - \$165,707.31
  - 2008-2009 Checks for Approval  
Check Numbers – 10022953 to 10023168  
Totaling - \$1,006,234.59
- An agreement for special education services with Mercer County Special Services School District in the amount of \$43,007.00 for the 2008-2009 school year.

### **Personnel**

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

## Resignations

- Thomas Marshall, Instructional Assistant , effective 8/19/08.
- Timothy McCann, Instructional Assistant, effective 8/22/08.
- Cindia Lukomski, Instructional Assistant, effective 8/20/08.
- Angela Hughes, Instructional Assistant, effective 8/26/08.
- Melissa Sandquist- Easton, Instructional Assistant (.5), effective 7/31/08.
- Howard Peters-Strickland, Cafeteria Worker, effective 8/23/08.

## Appointments

Contingent upon meeting all requirements of law and district policy:

Name	Classification	Employee Replaced/Reason	Effective Date	Salary	Benefits
Cliff Robbins	Language Arts Teacher Middle School Long-term Substitute	New start date – Jaeger	9/2/08- 9/23/08	\$62,081 (prorated)	No
Maria T. Barnett	Biology Teacher High School Long-term Substitute	Leave – Ierubino	8/26/08 - 1/23/09	\$66,875 (prorated) M+24, Step 5	Yes
Mary Anne Staudenmeyer	Instructional Assistant – 8 Hour Lower Elementary School	Resignation – Marshall	8/26/08	\$19,589 8 Hour 1-Year	Yes
Amanda L. Benolken	Instructional Assistant – 7.5 Hour Middle School	Resignation – Lukomski	9/2/08	\$17,721 (prorated) 7.5 Hour 0 years	Yes
Julie F. Berezin	Instructional Assistant – 7.5 Hour Middle School	Resignation – Hughes	9/2/08	\$18,365 (prorated) 1 year	Yes

## Employee classifications:

Name	Classification	Employee Replaced/Reason	Effective Date	Salary	Benefits
Karen Rosenburg	.5 Art Teacher	Return from leave	8/26/08	\$57,148 (prorated) B+24, Step 4	Yes- prorated
Kristin Sholvin	Title 1 Reading Assistant – 8 Hour Lower Elementary School	Transfer, Resignation – McCann	8/26/08	\$20,276 8 Hour 2 -Year	Yes
Diana Bereck	Instructional Assistant – 7 Hour Lower Elementary School	Transfer – Shovlin	8/26/08	\$17,141 7Hour 1 - Year	Yes

## Earned Tenure

Effective September 2, 2008:

Jennifer Johnston  
Christine St. John

Renee Schade  
 Jennifer Brown  
 Margaret Thompson  
 Mary Teagan  
 Ryan Sorenson  
 Emilia Lengyel  
 Lori Soriano

**Local 180 PSEA-NEA**

The Seniority Lists for the 2008-2009 school year for members of the Teachers' Collective Bargaining Unit and for members of the New Hope-Solebury Local 180 PSEA-NEA.

**EDR 2008-2009 Contract:**

Name	Position	Amount
Middle School		
David Bachart	Jazz Ensemble	\$1476.00
Tom Bateman	Pit Orchestra	\$2118.00
Ginny Brennan	Play 7-8	\$1604.00
Phyllis Smith	24 Club	\$ 193.00
Nancy Wisnewski	Blue/Gold/Spirit Club	\$ 723.99
Annette Mercandetti	Blue/Gold/Spirit Club	\$ 723.99
Christine St. John	Blue/Gold/Spirit Club	\$ 723.99
Annette Mercandetti	Class Advisor – Grade 7	\$ 577.50
Christine St. John	Class Advisor – Grade 7	\$ 577.50
Angela Nino	Class Advisor – Grade 8	\$1155.00
Phyllis Smith	Math Counts “Mathletes”	\$ 656.00
Jeff Dykie	Outdoors Club A	\$1134.00
David Kolinchak	Outdoors Club B	\$1134.00
David Kolinchak	Peer Tutoring	\$1303.00
Heather Derby	Reading Olympics 7-8	\$ 144.50
Nancy Beilman	Reading Olympics 7-8	\$ 144.50
Michele Hamill	School Store	\$ 321.00
Victoria Nichols	School Store	\$ 321.00
Margie Barrett	Spelling Bee	\$ 193.00
Lisa Morrash	Student Council	\$1101.00
Craig Smith	Yearbook	\$1954.00
Yona Rose	EDR Coordinator	\$1468.00
Michele Hamill	Talent Show	\$ 321.00
Victoria Nichols	Talent Show	\$ 321.00
High School		
Rescind: Brian Loving	Mathletes	\$ 879.00
Appoint:		
Staci Shade	Mathletes	\$ 879.00

Ed Young	Drama Set Coordinator	\$1948.00
Tom Bateman	12 <sup>th</sup> Grade Advisor	\$1476.50
Betty Ohanian	FBLA	\$1390.00

#### UES/LES

Sue Bowers	ES Odyssey of the Mind (Split)	\$1062.00
Diane Coyle	ES School Store (split)	\$ 112.65
Tom Fudge	ES School Store (split)	\$ 112.65
Katie Kuehne	ES School Store (split)	\$ 112.65
Anne Bishop	ES Newspaper	\$1151.00
*Mark Mannion	ES Flag Football (full)	\$ 948.00
*Gina Salvi	ES Floor Hockey (split)	\$ 474.00
*Jim DiTulio	ES Floor Hockey (split)	\$ 474.00
*Gina Salvi	ES Basketball (split)	\$ 474.00
*Jim DiTulio	ES Basketball (split)	\$ 474.00
*Gina Salvi	ES Soccer (split)	\$ 474.00
*Mark Mannion	ES Soccer (split)	\$ 474.00
Jim DiTulio	ES EDR Coordinator	\$ 866.00
Jim DiTulio	ES Outdoor's Club (split)	\$ 321.00
Gina Salvi	ES Outdoor's Club (split)	\$ 321.00
Tom Fudge	ES Safety Patrol	\$ 535.00
Wendy Finchen	ES Student Council	\$ 578.00
Mark Mannion	ES Art Club	\$ 22.00
Kevin Sasala	ES Chess Club	\$ 642.00
Kevin Sasala	ES Talent Show (split)	\$ 21.00
Tom Marrone	ES Talent Show (split)	\$321.00
Sharon Rader	ES Technology Club	\$642.00
Ginny Brennan	ES Dramatics	\$1284.00
Emily Van Praag	Chorus Naturals (4-5 grade)	\$749.00
Jim DiTulio	UES Rope Jumping Club (split)	\$224.50
Gina Salvi	LES Rope Jumping Club (split)	\$224.50
Nancy Riva	ES Reading Olympics	\$270.00

#### \* UES/LES Athletic Intramurals

##### Athletics

Lisa Morrash	MS Girls Volleyball	\$1520.00
Kim Klicka	Boys Blue Soccer	\$1520.00
Chris MacBrien	Boys Gold Soccer	\$1390.00
Gwen Smith	MS Girls Field Hockey	\$1520.00
Page Peters	Coed MS Cross Country	\$1204.00

#### **Kindergarten Classrooms**

The Superintendent's proposal for support in kindergarten classrooms due to increased enrollment, to add up to four instructional assistants.

## Policy and Program

Upon a motion made by Mrs. O'Brien, seconded by Mrs. Wahlgren, the Board voted to adopt the following:

- The revised board meeting calendar which adds a meeting date of Monday, April 27, 2009, eliminates the meeting date of May 4, 2009, and moves the initial budget presentation from November 17 to December 15, 2008.
- The recommendations per the attachment concerning Class Rank, which provides parents and students with the option to exclude class rank from individual student transcripts when applying for admission to post-secondary educational institutions.

## Plant & Equipment

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

- The change orders for the High School Project:
  - GC-9 Fill-in penthouse man door, leave structure & roof (\$8000.00)
  - GC-10 Furnish VCT in Chemistry Room 204 \$1688.00
- An agreement with the Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority for use of wells as per the attachment, pending final review and approval of the agreement by the district's solicitor.
- Authorize the administration to sell, donate or dispose of weight room equipment as outlined in the attachment.

## Board Discussion

Mr. Behre reported that the numbers reported for study halls were lower than previously reported.

Mr. Heath reported that Karen Voorhees, Local 180 representative, at the Board meeting was not in attendance due to a medical issue and new grandchild.

Mr. Dozbaba reported on a cooperative venture.

Mr. Dozbaba requested the amount of the increase in cost of going from half-day to full-day Kindergarten.

Mrs. Elefante reported on the requirement for fingerprinting for volunteers and that she would recommend eliminating this requirement.

## **Liaisons**

Mr. Heath reported on the Intermediate Unit.

Mrs. Wahlgren reported on the MBIT.

## **Public Discussion**

Parent - statement that as a parent, volunteers have to follow the rules and she does not mind.

Larry Panzica - question on why parent volunteers object to fingerprint checks.

Melvin Band - statement on class size numbers.

## **Adjournment**

Upon a motion made by Mr. Dozbaba, seconded by Mr. Heath, the Board of School Directors voted to adjourn at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Hogg, Director of Business & Finance  
Board Secretary