

**CANON-McMILLAN SCHOOL DISTRICT  
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING  
MAY 18, 2009**

The Canon-McMillan Regular School Board Meeting was called to order at 7:13 P.M. by the President, Mr. Romano, at the Canon-McMillan Administration Building, 1 North Jefferson Avenue, Canonsburg, PA.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Mr. Romano stated that a few items had been added to the agenda since last week.

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken.

Robert Malwitz	P	Adam Galambos	P	Joe Zupancic	P
Kathleen Smith	P	Manuel Pihakis	P	Nick Cianelli	P
Debbie Link	P	Laura Grossman	P	Jay Romano	P

In addition to Board Members, the following non-members were present:

Dr. Helen McCracken, Superintendent  
 Mr. Greg Taranto, Assistant to the Superintendent  
 Ms. Joni Mansmann, Director of Business and Finance  
 Ms. Linda Kappel, Federal Coordinator  
 Mr. Mike Lucas, Solicitor  
 Ms. Sharon Avbel, Board Secretary

Mr. Romano announced that an executive session had been held prior to the meeting and also prior to last week's meeting for personnel and lease of real estate.

**Agenda Approval**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cianelli to approve the agenda.  
 The motion carried unanimously.

**Items for Consideration**

Mr. Pihakis made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board approve the following minutes, treasurer's report, and wage tax reports:

Regular Meeting of the Board, April 20, 2009  
 Committee Meeting of the Board, May 4, 2009  
 Special Meeting of the Board, May 11, 2009  
 Pre-Board Agenda Meeting, May 11, 2009

WAGE TAX REPORT FOR APRIL, 2009	Current Collections	Year to Date	Budgeted 2008-09	% of Expected
Canonsburg Borough	\$169,687.81	\$503,303.70	\$244,643	205.7%
North Strabane Twp.	270,506.54	856,597.57	937,798	91.3%

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Cecil Township	326,275.28	728,021.99	856,251	85.0%
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The motion carried unanimously.

**Bills for Ratification and Approval**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board approve the following bills for ratification and approval:

Bills For Ratification:

FOR APRIL, 2009

General Fund	\$3,943,082.29
Athletic Fund	5,789.33
Cafeteria Fund	125,957.77

Bills for Approval:

FOR MAY, 2009

General Fund	\$2,020,068.68
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Mr. Romano asked if the payment to Jostens was for the baseball rings. Ms. Mansmann stated that it was money collected to be paid to Jostens. Dr. McCracken indicated that the Jostens bill had been taken care of.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Budget Transfers**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board approve the following budget transfers:

FOR APRIL, 2009

Budget Transfers Requiring Board Approval <u>Prior</u> to Transfer .....	\$217,688.
Budget Transfers Requiring Board Ratification <u>Subsequent</u> to Transfer .....	\$45,627.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Citizens Speak**

The following citizens addressed the Board:

Randy Swink	Internal agenda at the High School
Jill Sabol	Band position replacement
Maureen Thompson	Band staffing

***SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT***

**Resignations**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board accept the following resignations:

1. the resignations of the following professional personnel for the purpose of retirement:

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- a. the resignation of Kristin Glatch from her position as a 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teacher at Hills-Hendersonville Elementary effective the day after the last day of school of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Glatch has been with the district for 31 years.
  - b. the resignation of Paul Polasky from his position as a physical education teacher at Canonsburg Middle School effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year. Mr. Polasky has taught in the district for 36 ½ years.
  - c. the resignation of Christopher Havelka from his position as a science teacher at Canonsburg Middle School effective at the end of the day June 15, 2009. Mr. Havelka has been with the district for 37 years.
  - d. the resignation of David Lipinski from his position as a mathematics teacher at the High School effective June 16, 2009. Mr. Lipinski has taught in the district for 34 years.
  - e. the resignation of Jean Jankowski from her position as a 1<sup>st</sup> grade teacher at Borland Manor Elementary effective June 30, 2009. Mrs. Jankowski has served the district for 37 years.
  - f. the resignation of Diane Lodge from her position as an elementary gifted support teacher effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year. Mrs. Lodge has been with the district for 29 ½ years.
  - g. the resignation of Andrea O’Daniel from her position as a special education teacher at Canonsburg Middle School effective June 30, 2009. Mrs. O’Daniel has taught in the district for 29 ½ years.
  - h. the resignation of Roz Levine from her position as a school librarian at the intermediate schools effective June 15, 2009. Mrs. Levine has been with the district for 30 years.
2. the following extra-curricular resignations effective at the end of the 2008-09 school year:
- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| Kim Gillis      | Co-sponsor of the SEC Club                           |
| Kim Gillis      | Co-sponsor of the high school National Honor Society |
| Dave Lipinski   | Assistant middle school faculty manager              |
| Mike Caporizzo  | Assistant middle school track coach                  |
| Mike Caporizzo  | Co-chair of the music department                     |
| Mike Caporizzo  | Middle school band director                          |
| Mike Caporizzo  | Middle school play                                   |
| Andrea O’Daniel | Middle school student council sponsor                |

The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Pihakis thanked all of the retirees for their years of loyal and dedicated service; they will be missed. Mr. Cianelli stated that the district had 12 retirees last year and 14 this year; the teachers will retire when they are

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ready. They played a little poker with the district, but the truth is that they receive \$60,000 to \$75,000 when they retire; that is their incentive. He agreed that some of the retirees will be missed.

**Appointments**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Malwitz that the Board approve the following appointments:

- 1. approve the following resolution effective July 1, 2009:

BE IT RESOLVED, To accept the resignation, with regret, of Assistant to the Superintendent Gregory Taranto and to approve his reassignment to the principalship of Canonsburg Middle School.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, to hire Michael Daniels as Assistant to the Superintendent, and Dawn Nicolaus as Director of Curriculum and Instruction, both at a salary of \$105,000.

All aforementioned positions are subject to all other terms and conditions of the Administrative and Supervisory Personnel Fringe Benefits and Compensation Plan.

- 2. hire Darla Rhome as a 5 hour driver effective April 24, 2009.
- 3. approve the Addendum to the Professional and Support Staff Substitute List, dated May 2009.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Textbook Adoption**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board adopt the following textbook for the 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> grade science/biology class: Modern Biology, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 2009.

On a roll call vote the motion carried unanimously. Mr. Zupancic stated that he had reviewed the book and was amazed at the detail.

**Insurance**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board approve the following insurance recommendations:

- 1. approve Robert Simonin’s insurance recommendations for the 2009-2010 school year as follows:

Commercial Package (ACE-USA)	\$106,537.
School Leaders Legal Liability (School Board’s Ins. Co.)	40,107.
Umbrella Liability (Old Republic)	14,948.
Workers Compensation (PMA Insurance Company)	<u>229,489.</u>
TOTAL	\$391,081.

- 2. appoint Robert Simonin as the district’s Broker of Record for an additional one

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year through June 30, 2011.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Contracts**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board approve the following contracts:

1. approve the Siemens technical support program proposal for an original term of three years beginning July 1, 2009 and from year-to-year thereafter.
2. approve the software maintenance agreement renewal with ProSoft Technologies, Inc. for the period starting July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.
3. approve the educational services agreement with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit for the 2008-09 school year.
4. approve the contract and license agreement with Transfinder for transportation routing and scheduling software.
5. approve the extension of the supplier agreement with the Hess Corporation for a two year period at significant savings on the transportation rates (basis) through the Western Pennsylvania Natural Gas Consortium. The current agreement expires on August 31, 2010 and the extension will cover the period of September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2012. The basis price will decrease from the current rate of \$1.38/Dth to \$0.98 on the Columbia system.
6. approve the extension of the supplier agreement with Equitable Energy (formerly Equitable Gas) for a two year period at significant savings on the transportation rates (basis) through the Western Pennsylvania Natural Gas Consortium. The current agreement expires on August 31, 2010 and the extension will cover the period of September 1, 2010 through August 31, 2012. The basis price will decrease from the current rate of \$1.55 per Dth to \$1.25 on the Equitable Gas system.

The motion carried unanimously.

### **Tax Assessment Appeal Settlement**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cianelli that the Board approve the tax appeal settlement for the 7 Fairways Landings parcels at a revenue loss of \$1,504.59. Any necessary refunds as a result of this settlement will come from the budgetary reserve.

The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Pihakis stated that these kinds of appeals have cost the district and hurt the budget.

### **Federal Grant Applications**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Galambos that the Board

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approve the Federal Grant applications for the 2009-2010 school year. The tentative allocation for Title I is \$390,079. The other allocations are not available at this time.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Tax Anticipation Note**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board authorize the tax anticipation note in the amount of \$4 million.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Board Treasurer**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Galambos that the Board appoint Robert Malwitz as Board Treasurer for the 2009-2010 school year.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Board Secretary**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board appoint Sharon Avbel as Board Secretary in accordance with Section 404 of the School Code.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Depositories**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Cianelli that the Board approve the following depositories for the district: PNC, Citizens Bank, Washington Federal, National City, PLGIT, and PSDLAF.

The motion carried with all present voting aye, with the exception of Ms. Link who abstained.

**Policy Revision**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Mr. Malwitz that the Board approve the revision to Policy 707 Use of School Facilities.

The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Pihakis asked for a copy of the rental fee schedule. Dr. McCracken indicated that it would be presented to the Board for approval in June.

**PlanCon**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board approve the revisions to PlanCon Part H, Project Financing, for North Strabane Intermediate School and Canon-McMillan High School.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Early Release for College**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Smith that the Board approve the high school administration's recommendation to grant the early release for college request of Dana DeSafey to attend California University of Pennsylvania in the fall of 2009.

The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Pihakis stated that the students should

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start school earlier in August; some students leave for college very early.

### **Preliminary Budget**

Mr. Zupancic made a motion, seconded by Ms. Link that the Board approve the preliminary General Fund Budget for the 2009-2010 school year in the amount of \$59,653,444, which is a 4.85 mil increase.

Mr. Pihakis indicated that this budget is only tentative. Ms. Link stated no one's taxes are being raised tonight.

On a roll call vote the motion carried with Mr. Malwitz, Ms. Link, Ms. Grossman, Mr. Pihakis and Mr. Zupancic voting aye and Mr. Cianelli, Mr. Galambos, Ms. Smith and Mr. Romano voting nay.

### **Lease Agreement**

Craig Schleifstein of Lil Mac Football addressed the Board regarding the proposed lease of unused and unnecessary grounds at McDowell Lane Fields to the Lil Macs Football Association. It was the consensus of the Board that this item be tabled and discussed at the buildings and grounds committee meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup>. It would be helpful if Mr. Huddart and Mr. Lucas would also attend the meeting. Mr. Cianelli asked if the property would be needed for our schools in the future. Mr. Zupancic indicated that none of the plans included utilizing the property.

### **Recognition**

The Board recognized the following:

The Boys' Track and Field Team won the section championship on April 21<sup>st</sup> by defeating Mt. Lebanon, Baldwin, Peters Township, Bethel Park, and Upper St. Clair.

Due to outstanding academic achievement while attending Western Area Career and Technology Center, the following students are eligible for membership in the National Technical Honor Society: new members – Derek Dunsey and Ashley Leasure; returning members – Cleo Adelianakis and Kaneesha Williams. These students will be recognized at the annual induction ceremony on May 14, 2009.

The following student-athletes and coaches were honored at the 55<sup>th</sup> annual Tri-County Coach of the Year Banquet held on May 2<sup>nd</sup>: alumnus Chris Dittmar ('08)- baseball; senior Matt Gregory- cross country; junior Michael Hull- football; senior Matt Pierpont- baseball; junior Taylor Schram- soccer; former baseball coach, Steve Bucci; track & field coach, Mike Koot; and football coach, Guy Montecalvo.

After competing in the WPIAL Track & Field Individual Qualifiers 20 athletes are advancing to the WPIAL Championship in 23 events. They include the following young athletes: Matt Gregory: 3200, 1600, 4 x 800 relay; Travis Arrigoni: 1600, 3200; Nick Gibson: 800, 4x800 relay, 4x400 relay; Justin Angotti: 800, 4 x 800 relay; Kurt Bonnet: Discus and Javelin; John Corey: Shot Put; Karon Adams: Javelin; Kenyadda Brown: 400, 4x400 relay, 4x100 relay; Justin Gibson: 4 x 400 relay, 4 x 800 relay; Nico Carrozza: 4 x 100 relay; Jon Pozonsky: 4 x 100 relay; Luke Alauzen: 4 x 400, 4 x 100 relays; Jamie Pozonsky: 400, 4 x 400 relay, 4 x 100 relay; Sara Tershel: 400, 4 x 400 relay, 4 x 100 relay; Beca Miller: 800, 4 x 800 relay; Erica

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Regoli: 3200, 4 x 800 relay; Chelsea Zahn: Discus and shot put; Danielle DiCello: 4 x 400 relay, 4 x 100 relay; Emily McCarthy: 4 x 400 relay, 4 x 100 relay; Sierra French: 4 x 100 relay; Dulce Miller: 4 x 800 relay; BB Iannarelli: 4 x 800 relay.

Our track and field athletes won 14 medals at the WPIAL Track and Field Championship on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Kurt Bonnet finished second in the discus, Chelsea Zahn finished 5th in the discus and Matt Gregory finished 3rd in the 3200, 7th in the 1600 and 5th in the 4 x 800 relay. Matt, Kurt, and Chelsea will be representing the district at the State Championship on May 22-23.

Also doing well were Nick Gibson who finished 7th in the 800, John Corey who was 8th in the shot put and the 4 x 800 relay of Matt Gregory, Nick Gibson, Luke Alauzen, and Justin Angotti finished 5th just missing States by 1/2 second. The girls 4x400 relay of Jamie Pozonsky, Sara Tershel, Danielle DiCello, and Emily McCarthy finished 7<sup>th</sup>.

Congratulations to the Chess Team for their victory over Fox Chapel 3-1 with sophomore Jon Naser playing first board and winning his match. The Chess Club is under the direction of Fred Custer of Canonsburg Middle School.

## **Adjournment**

Mr. Romano wished Mr. Taranto, Mr. Daniels, and Dr. Nicolaus luck in their new positions. Mr. Romano adjourned the meeting at 7:54 P.M.

*Sharon L. Orbel*

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Board Secretary