

**CANON-McMILLAN SCHOOL DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
OCTOBER 15, 2007**

The Canon-McMillan Regular School Board Meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M. by the President, Mr. Cianelli, at the Canon-McMillan Administration Building, 1 North Jefferson Avenue, Canonsburg, PA.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken.

Robert Arista	P	Adam Galambos	P	Robert Pintar	P
Kathleen Smith	A	Edward Yorke	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. Nick Bayat, Superintendent
- Dr. Helen McCracken, Assistant to the Superintendent
- Ms. Joni Mansmann, Director of Business and Finance
- Mr. Lee Schafer, Director of Support Services
- Ms. Linda Kappel, Federal Coordinator
- Mr. Francis DiSalle, Solicitor
- Ms. Sharon Avbel, Board Secretary
- Ms. Kathryn Gallagher, Student Board Representative
- Ms. Abigail Veydt, Student Board Representative

Agenda Approval

Mr. Arista made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pintar to approve the agenda.

The motion carried unanimously.

Items for Consideration

Mr. Yorke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Galambos that the Board accept the following minutes, treasurer's report, wage tax reports, and correspondence:

- Committee Meeting of the Board, September 17, 2007
- Regular Meeting of the Board, September 17, 2007
- Committee Meeting of the Board, October 1, 2007
- Committee Meeting of the Board, October 8, 2007
- Pre-Board Agenda Meeting, October 8, 2007

	Current	Year to	Budgeted	% of
FOR SEPTEMBER,	Collections	Date	2007-08	Expected
2007				
Canonsburg Borough	\$65,646.41	\$65,646.41	\$379,549	17.3%

North Strabane	40,073.31	40,073.31	1,479,735	2.7%
Cecil Township	31,859.88	31,859.88	1,349,823	2.4%

The motion carried unanimously.

Bills for Ratification and Approval

Mr. Arista made a motion, seconded by Mr. Galambos that the Board ratify and approve the following bills:

For Ratification:

FOR SEPTEMBER,

General Fund \$3,861,051.42

Athletic Fund 7,355.00

For Approval:

FOR OCTOBER, 2007

General Fund \$402,657.59

The motion carried unanimously.

Budget Transfers

Mr. Yorke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pintar that the Board approve the following budget transfers:

FOR OCTOBER, 2007

Budget Transfers Requiring Board Ratification Subsequent to Transfer

...\$603,966.52

The motion carried unanimously.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. DiSalle stated that his report was given in executive session.

Committee Reports

Ms. Grossman thanked the Board for allowing her to attend the PSBA Conference in Hershey. At the conference she voted on the PSBA platform. She attended a session regarding the Solanco Virtual Academy and asked for feedback from the administration on the idea of such a school. Ms. Grossman also spoke about the other sessions she attended at the conference.

Mr. Yorke, as the athletic chair, met with Mr. Montecalvo on October 3rd. Girls soccer has made the playoffs and boys cross country won two big meets. As the I.U. representative, Mr. Yorke mentioned the Health Consortium and as Treasurer, he is watching the budgetary reserve.

Student Representative Report

The student representatives reported that student pictures will be taken soon; there is a boys soccer game tonight; the district parent council meeting will be held at the high school on October 19; and the Powder Puff Game will be held on November 18. The students also talked about the Lead CM mentoring program.

Citizens Speak

No citizens addressed the Board.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Resignations

Mr. Yorke made a motion, seconded by Ms. Link that the Board approve the following resignations:

1. accept the resignation of John Hensel from his position as a maintenance worker, effective November 16, 2007 for the purpose of retirement. Mr. Hensel has worked for the district for 22 years.
2. accept the resignation of Carol Bosko from her position as a 2 1/4 hour cafeteria worker at Borland Manor Elementary, effective September 21, 2007.
3. accept the following extra-curricular resignations:
Brent McAuliffe Assistant Varsity Boys Swim Coach
Anthony Pesci H.S. Spring Musical Choral Director
Perry Weightman H.S. Newspaper Co-Sponsor
Shannon Crombie 9th Grade Head Girls Basketball Coach
Nick Mandich Head Boys Volleyball Coach

The motion carried unanimously.

Appointments

Mr. Yorke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Arista that the Board approve the following:

1. change the status of Chris Imhoff from a temporary 4 hour custodian at South Central Elementary to a 4 hour custodian at South Central Elementary, effective October 4, 2007.
2. hire Stacie Wheeler as a 2 1/2 hour cafeteria worker at North Strabane Intermediate effective October 16, 2007. Ms. Wheeler is currently a cafeteria substitute.
3. hire Judith Martin as a 2 1/2 hour cafeteria worker at Wylandville Elementary effective October 16, 2007. Ms. Martin is currently a cafeteria substitute.
4. change Karen Smith from a 2 3/4 hour cafeteria worker at Borland Manor Elementary to a 3 1/2 hour cafeteria worker at the High School effective October 17, 2007.
5. change Yvonne Patterson from a 5 hour cafeteria worker at Canonsburg Middle School to a 6 hour cafeteria worker at the same school effective October 16, 2007.
6. hire Raechel Lorusso as a paraeducator at First Street Elementary School at the contracted rate, effective October 17, 2007.

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7. hire the following extra-curricular personnel at the contracted rate:
Kathleen Rheam Sophomore Class Sponsor \$1,033
8. appoint Scott Drakeley as a volunteer assistant boys basketball coach.
9. approve the Addendum to the Professional and Support Staff Substitute List, dated October, 2007.

The motion carried unanimously.

Sabbatical Leave

Ms. Link made a motion, seconded by Mr. Galambos that the Board approve a medical sabbatical leave of absence for Millie Hendricks from October 4, 2007 through January 22, 2008.

The motion carried unanimously.

Student Trips

Mr. Yorke made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pintar that the Board approve the requests from the Canonsburg Middle School Symphonic Band and the Canonsburg Middle School Top 24 to perform at this year's PMEA Conference, April 17-19, 2008 in Hershey with the expenses being covered by the district at an estimated cost of \$19,000.

The motion carried unanimously.

Policy Revision

Mr. Pintar made a motion, seconded by Mr. Arista that the Board approve the revision to Policy 304, Employment of District Staff.

Ms. Grossman and Mr. Arista had concerns about the Board making the final decision on the hires. Mr. Romano made a motion, seconded by Mr. Pintar to table this item and discuss it further at an upcoming committee meeting.

The motion to table carried unanimously.

Bids

Mr. Yorke made a motion, seconded by Ms. Link that the Board award the bid for the middle school auditorium plaster repairs to Laso Contractors at a cost of \$15,215 and award the bid for the middle school tree trimming to Ken's Tree Trimming at a cost of \$1,600 to \$1,850.

The motion carried unanimously.

Auditing Services

Ms. Link made a motion, seconded by Mr. Galambos that the Board use the professional services of Herbein & Company, Inc. to complete specific auditing procedures as outlined in the proposal for a fee not to exceed \$7,600 plus out of pocket expenses effective October 22, 2007.

The motion carried unanimously.

Recognition

The Board recognized the following:

Canonsburg Middle School teachers Mindy Wright and Julie Gaetano have received a McDonald's MAC grant for a hands-on activity to host the Zoomobile as part of a larger Science Expo on Environmental Issues.

High school chorus student Kailey Watters has been selected to participate in the PMEA District 1 Honors Choir Festival on October 19-20, 2007 at Derry Area High School.

Tanner Barnes and Sachin Ravi have been named Commended Students in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program. These students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.4 million students who entered the 2008 competition by taking the 2006 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

Twenty-nine (29) students at Canon-McMillan High School have earned the designation of AP Scholar by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program (AP) exams. About 18 percent of the more than 1.4 million high school students in more than 16,000 secondary schools worldwide who took AP Exams performed at a sufficiently high level to merit the recognition of AP Scholar. The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams taken in May 2007. Eight students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are Katie Babeji, Angela Barney, Sydney Brandtonies, Anna Hofrichter, Abhinav Mittal, Andrew Sabol, Rachel Tsupros, and Lizzie Young. Six students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or high on four or more of these exams. These students are David Cutone, Ross Gallardy, Bethany McNeill, Sachin Ravi, Nicholas Semanderes, and Levi Zielinski. Fifteen students qualified for the AP Scholar Award by completing three or more AP Exams, with grades of 3 or higher. The AP Scholars are Briana Adams, Matthew Baker, Elizabeth Bakisae, Tanner Barnes, James Brancho, David Gorman, Steven Haines, Ryan Lani, Rachel Quinlan, Alexandra Schratz, Joyce Tan, Joshua Wentz, Jennifer Wherry, Jonathan Witsberger, and Olivia Zozom. Of this year's award recipients at Canon-McMillan High School, 4 were juniors in the 2006-2007 school year: Tanner Barnes, Ryan Lani, Jonathan Witsberger, and Sachin Ravi. These students have one more year in which to complete college-level work and possibly earn another AP Scholar Award.

The No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools award, one of the most prestigious education awards in the country, distinguishes and honors schools for helping students achieve at very high levels and for making significant progress in closing the achievement gap. For the first time in the history of the Canon-McMillan School District, an elementary school has been awarded this distinguished honor. First Street Elementary School, under the leadership of Dr. Dawn Nicolaus, is one of 287 in the country recognized for its student achievement.

The No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors public and private elementary, middle and high schools that are either academically superior or that demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement to high levels. The schools are selected based on one of two criteria: 1) Schools with at least 40 percent of their students

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from disadvantaged backgrounds that dramatically improve student performance to high levels on state tests; and 2) Schools whose students, regardless of background, achieve in the top 10 percent of their state on state tests or in the case of private schools in the top 10 percent of the nation on nationally-normed tests.

Under No Child Left Behind, schools must make Adequate Yearly Progress, or AYP, in reading and language arts and mathematics. Each state—not the federal government—sets its own academic standards and benchmark goals, because each state knows best what goals and criteria are most appropriate for its school districts.

In addition, Dr. Nicolaus was one of 18 principals in the country (out of 90 that applied) to be selected to present a professional development learning opportunity to conference attendees.

Dr. Nicolaus, Mrs. Shaffer and Ms. Coyne will represent the school and be honored at an awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. on November 12-13. We are all proud of this accomplishment!!

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Mr. Cianelli adjourned the meeting at 7:36 P.M.

Sharon L. Arbel

Secretary