

**MARPLE NEWTOWN SCHOOL DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, August 11, 2009
BOARD ROOM
MINUTES**

PRESENT: **Board:** President Dave McGinley, Vice President Edward Partridge,
Mrs. Nancy Galbraith, Mrs. Dana Kauffman,
Mr. Michael Molinaro, Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro, and Mr. Richard Sokorai.

Administration: Dr. Merle Horowitz, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Mr. Lance Freeman,
Dr. Constance Bompadre, Mr. Joseph Driscoll, Mrs. Denise Land

Audience: 16

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. David McGinley called the meeting to order at 6:40 p.m. and thanked everyone in attendance.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Fred Dewey led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Mr. Joseph Driscoll called the roll. Mr. Richard Carpenter was absent; all other Board members were in attendance.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. David McGinley asked for a motion to accept the agenda, as presented. Mr. Michael Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Mr. Richard Sokorai. Mr. McGinley then asked if there were any changes. Mr. Edward Partridge asked to add the following two motions to 6.03: Resignations:

ADMINISTRATIVE

MOTION: To approve the following administrative resignation, item 1.

- 1) Rodd Luckenbill –Assistant Principal
Paxon Hollow
Effective: August 25, 2009
Reason: Other Employment

MOTION: To approve the following professional resignation, item 1.

- 1) Cynthia Gill – Mathematics Teacher
High School
Effective: August 24, 2009
Reason: Other Employment

Mr. Partridge then asked to have Item 1 under 6.05 Appointments: Professional changed to read:

- 1) Danielle Schildt – LTS Elementary Teacher
B.S. – Eastern University: Elementary Education; Certification: Elementary K-6;
2 Yrs. Experience
Loomis Elementary
Salary: \$40,788.00
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: Matthew Piccara (Resigned)

Mr. Partridge then asked to have Item 1 under 6.06 Reassignments changed to read:

- 1) Eileen Bellew – Food Services Manager
From: 12.0 Month work year
To: 11 Month work year
Effective: July 1, 2009
Salary: \$82,000.00

Mr. Michael Molinaro then asked for three additional motions under the Facilities and Transportation section of the agenda:

District Wide Security Project

MOTION: To approve the District Wide Security Project contractor's Change Order No. 3 To replace door hardware on thirty (30) doors throughout the district that are outdated and cannot be made compatible to the new electronic devices at a cost of \$16,000.00.

Facilities

MOTION: To approve the Paxon Hollow Middle School Hot Water Replacement Project plumbing contractor's Change Order No. 1 to replace the flue, vent pipe, and appropriate roof work at a cost of \$2,700.00.

MOTION: To approve the Paxon Hollow Middle School Roof Replacement Project roofing contractor's Change Order No. 1 to repair the roof top duct work throughout the entire roof at a cost of \$11,500.00.

With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (Agenda Items Only)

There were no public comments on agenda items.

6. HUMAN RESOURCES AND POLICY COMMITTEE

6.01 Committee Report – Edward C. Partridge, Chairperson

6.02 RETIREMENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mr. Partridge then asked for a motion to approve the following administrative retirement, item 1.

- 1) Anthony Caso – School Police
Operations
Effective: January 15, 2011
Reason: Retirement

Mr. Michael Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro. With no further discussion, the motion passed: 8-0

CLASSIFIED

Mr. Partridge then asked for a motion to approve the following classified retirement, item 1.

- 1) Mr. Hugh Ward – Mail Clerk
Business Office
Effective: July 31, 2009
Reason: Retirement

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

RESIGNATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following administrative resignation, item 1.

- 1) Rodd Luckenbill –Assistant Principal
Paxon Hollow
Effective: August 25, 2009
Reason: Other Employment

Mr. Molinaro made the motion seconded by Dr. Shapiro.

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith stated that Mr. Luckenbill has done a wonderful job in the district, and will be hard to replace.

With no further discussion, motion passed, 8-0

PROFESSIONAL

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following professional resignation, item 1.

- 1) Cynthia Gill – Mathematics Teacher
High School
Effective: August 24, 2009
Reason: Other Employment

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.

With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

CLASSIFIED

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following classified resignations, items 1 through 4.

- 1) Margaret Enos – Theme Editor
High School
Effective: July 12, 2009
Reason: Personal
- 2) Margaret Palomino - Theme Editor
Paxon Hollow
Effective: June 17, 2009
Reason: Personal
- 3) Laurie Gallen – .5 Summer Custodial Assistant
Operations
Effective: June 25, 2009
Reason: Personal
- 4) Julie Vottero - .5 Summer Custodial Assistant
Operations
Effective: June 24, 2009
Reason: Personal

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.

With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

LEAVES

PROFESSIONAL

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following professional leaves, items 1 through 2.

- 1) Kristina Hughes – Health/Physical Education Teacher
Paxon Hollow
Effective: September 1, 2009 through January 22, 2010
Reason: Child Rearing Leave

- 2) Christine Irvine – Elementary Special Education Teacher
Loomis Elementary
Effective: September 8, 2009 through November 6, 2009
Reason: Medical Leave
Effective: November 9, 2009 through November 13, 2009
Reason: FMLA

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

APPOINTMENTS

PROFESSIONAL

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following professional appointments, items 1 through 11.

- 1) Danielle Schildt – LTS Elementary Teacher
B.S. – Eastern University: Elementary Education; Certification:
Elementary K-6; 2 Yrs. Experience
Loomis Elementary
Salary: \$40,788.00
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: Replaces Renee Weinstein (Retired)

- 2) Elisa Menocal Rooney – German\French Teacher
B.A.-German Foreign Language Education: University of Pennsylvania;
M.A.-Foreign Language Education: Villanova University; Certification:
German\French\Spanish; 27 Yrs. Experience
Paxon Hollow

Salary: \$46,630.00
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: Replaces Eva Kaufmann (Retired)

- 3) Jami Nichols – English Teacher
B.S. English: Brigham Young University; Certification: English 7-12 (Pending); 0 Yrs. Experience
High School
Salary: \$40,788.00
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: Replaces Thomas Williams (Retired)
- 4) Shannon Clarke – LTS Special Education Teacher
M.S. – Special Education: University of Scranton; B.S. Elementary Education: University of Scranton; Certification: Special Education N-12, Elementary Education K-6; 0 Yrs. Experience
High School
Salary: \$40,788.00
Effective: September 1, 2009 through January 22, 2010
Reason: Replaces Leah Graeff (Child Rearing Leave)
- 5) Jeffrey Poake – Special Education Teacher
B.S.-Elementary\Special Education: Eastern University; Certification: English \Special Education; 0 Yrs. Experience
High School
Salary: \$40,788.00
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: Replaces Christian Jaspersen (Reassigned)
- 6) William Cawley – English Teacher
B.A.-English Education: University of Delaware; Certification: English 7-12; 0 Yrs. Experience
High School
Salary: \$40,788.00
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: Replaces Thomas McHugh (Retired)
- 7) Kelly Donaldson - LTS .5 Elementary Math Specialist
Russell/Loomis Elementary
BS-Elementary Education: West Chester University; Certification: Elementary Education; 0 Years Experience
Loomis\Russell Elementary
Salary: \$40,788.00
Effective: September 1, 2009 through January 22, 2010
Reason: Replaces Nina Marczyk (Child Rearing Leave)

- 8) Jessica Clendaniel – LTS Elementary Counselor
B.A.- psychology: University of Delaware; M.Ed.-School Counseling:
Wilmington University; Pending Certification: Elementary School
Counselor; 0 Yrs. Experience.
Russell Elementary
Salary: \$40,788.00
Effective: September 1, 2009 through January 22, 2010
Reason: Replaces Kimberly Polonsky (Child Rearing Leave)

- 9) Lisa Loura-Savitz – Homebound Instructor
B.A.-Psychology: University of Pennsylvania; M.S.-Elementary
Education: St. Joseph’s University; Certification: Elementary; 4 Yrs.
Experience
Pupil Services
Salary: \$29.00 per hour
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: As Needed

- 10) Meredith Marks – Elementary Reading Specialist
B.S. – Elementary Education: University of Delaware; M.S.-Reading:
Widener University; Pending Certification: Elementary\ Reading
Specialist; 8.5 Yrs. Experience.
Russell Elementary
Salary: \$46,630.00
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: Replaces Joanne Boulanger (Reassigned)

- 11) Michael Militello – LTS Mathematics Teacher
B.A. – Secondary Mathematics Education: West Chester University
Certification: Math 7-12; 0 Yrs Experience
High School
Salary: \$40,788.00 (Pro-rated)
Effective: September 1, 2009
Reason: Replaces Tara Lauria-Wark (Child Rearing Leave)

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following classified appointments, items 1
through 9.

- 1) Janet Burt – Theme Editor
Paxon Hollow
Salary: \$15.00 per hour
Effective: September 8, 2009
Reason: Replaces Margaret Palomino (Resigned)

- 2) Elaine Dougherty – Theme Editor
Paxon Hollow
Salary: \$15.00 per hour
Effective: September 8, 2009
Reason: Replaces Margaret Enos (Resigned)
- 3) Ryan Philip Dunn – Summer Custodial Assistant
Operations
Salary: \$8.25 per hour
Effective: July 7, 2009
Reason: Replaces Laurie Gallen\Julie Vottero (Resigned)
- 4) Michael Farrelly –Maintenance Mechanic
Operations
Salary: \$23.93 per hour
Effective: July 27, 2009 through September 1, 2009
Reason: Temporary Position
- 5) Michelle Pantellas – Non-Instructional Assistant
Worrall Elementary
Salary: \$9.42 per hour
Effective: September 8, 2009
Reason: Replaces Elaine Cahill (Resigned)
- 6) Karen Logie – Title I Assistant (Math)
Paxon Hollow
Salary: \$13.09 per hour
Effective: September 21, 2009
Reason: New Title I Position
- 7) Marianne Spiotta – Title I Assistant (Math)
Culbertson Elementary
Salary: \$13.09 per hour
Effective: September 21, 2009
Reason: Title I Position
- 8) Thomas McKenna – Bus Driver
Transportation
Salary: \$19.84 per hour
Effective: August 12, 2009
Reason: Replaces Aubrey Stanley (Terminated)
- 9) John Riccio – Bus Driver
Transportation
Salary: \$19.84 per hour

Effective: August 12, 2009
Reason: Replaces Robert McAllister

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

6.06 REASSIGNMENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following administrative reassignment, item 1.

- 1) Eileen Bellew, Food Services Manger
From: 12.0 Month work year
To: 11 Month work year
Effective: July 1, 2009
Salary: \$82,000

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
Dr. Shapiro asked if the Food Services secretary would also have the same schedule. Mr. Joseph Driscoll responded that she is already a part-time secretary who works at an hourly rate and is off in the summer.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

CLASSIFIED

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following administrative reassignment, item 1.

- 1) Anthony Roselli
From: Head Custodian
To: Custodian
Loomis Elementary
Salary: \$14.28 per hour
Effective: July 1, 2009
Reason: Voluntary Reclassification

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

6.07 SECONDARY SUMMER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the appointment of the following professional staff for the Secondary Summer School Program at a rate of \$29.00 per hour. The following staff will be used on an as-needed basis as determined by student enrollment:

Jason Kwon – Mathematics
Scott Wanner – Social Studies

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
With no further discussion, passed: 8-0

6.08 ESY PROGRAM

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the appointment of the following personnel for the ESY Program. The following staff will be used on an as-needed basis as determined by student enrollment.

Professional Staff – Learning Support - \$29.00 per hour
Dana Locher

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
With no further discussion, passed: 8-0

6.09 ACTIVITY CONTRACTS

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the following personnel to activity contracts for services rendered in the 2008-2009 school year, item 1.

1) Joseph Messina – Audio-Visual Coordinator
Paxon Hollow Middle School
Contract Amount: \$1,302.00
Effective: Retroactive to 2008-2009 school year

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.
With no further discussion, passed: 8-0

6.10 MARPLE NEWTOWN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSOCIATION COMPENSATION AND BENEFIT PLAN

Mr. Partridge asked for a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Marple Newtown School District and the Marple Newtown Administrative Association regarding the terms and conditions of the 2009-2010 Marple Newtown Administrative Association Compensation and Benefit Plan, to be in effect during the July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 term only, as presented.

Mr. Molinaro made the motion, seconded by Dr. Shapiro.

With no discussion, motion passed: 8-0

7. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

7.01 Committee Report – Richard Sokorai, Chairman

Bills for Payment

Mr. Richard Sokorai asked for a motion to approve and authorize payment of General Fund bills in the amount of \$6,732,122.46, Capital Reserve bills in the amount of \$548,493.38, Capital Fund bills in the amount of \$91,874.75 and Food Service bills in the amount of \$15,799.52.

Mr. Edward Partridge made the motion, seconded by Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro.
With no discussion, motion passed: 8-0

8. FACILITIES AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

8.01 Committee Report – Michael Molinaro, Chairman

Bid Award

Mr. Michael Molinaro asked for a motion to approve Luzon, Inc., 8451 Executive Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19153 as the lowest responsible bidder for the Asbestos Abatement to be performed in the basement area of Marple Newtown High School at a cost of \$47,800.00. This project is funded as part of the High School Renovation and Addition Project and is within the estimated budget.

Mr. Richard Sokorai made the motion, seconded by Mr. Edward Partridge.
Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro asked if there would be no more asbestos in the building once the renovation project and asbestos removal is complete. Mr. Michael Dumin responded, stating that there is never a guarantee that no more asbestos would be discovered, but we will be as close to one hundred percent asbestos free as possible.
Dr. Shapiro then asked if this what was sent out to bid was part of the original project and therefore taken into consideration as a cost of the renovation. Mr. Dumin responded that it was.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0.

District Wide Security Project

Mr. Molinaro asked for a motion to approve the District Wide Security Project contractor's Change Order No. 3 to replace door hardware on thirty (30) doors throughout the district that are outdated and cannot be made compatible to the new electronic devices at a cost of \$16,000.00.

Mr. Richard Sokorai made the motion, seconded by Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

Facilities

Mr. Molinaro asked for a motion to approve the Paxon Hollow Middle School Hot Water Replacement Project plumbing contractor's Change Order No. 1 to replace the flue, vent pipe, and appropriate roof work at a cost of \$2,700.00.

Mr. Richard Sokorai made the motion, seconded by Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

Mr. Molinaro asked for a motion to approve the Paxon Hollow Middle School Roof Replacement Project roofing contractor's Change Order No. 1 to repair the roof top duct work throughout the entire roof at a cost of \$11,500.00.

Mr. Richard Sokorai made the motion, seconded by Dr. Jeffrey Shapiro.
Mr. Molinaro asked Mr. Michael Dumin to explain more details regarding this motion. Mr. Dumin stated that, when the air-conditioning was put in Paxon, the units were installed on the roof. Recent roof testing has shown that there are no seals around the unit, and it leaks into the building through the insulation. The roofer needs to cut this out in order to seal the roof properly.
With no further discussion, motion passed: 8-0

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Mr. David McGinley asked for comments from the audience.

Ms. Jasmine Kojouri, student, asked if the Board had considered all options before deciding to impose activity fees for extra-curricular activities. The fees are harmful to students and the school, and keep some students from participating in activities. This impacts students because colleges are looking for candidates who are well rounded. Ms. Kojouri asked if the Board had considered a flat fee of five to ten dollars for each student to have the opportunity to participate in extra-curriculars. Mr. McGinley responded that the Board looked at every possible option before deciding on activity fees. He also stated that no student would be denied participation in any activity, that hardship funds are available to insure the fair consideration of all students.

Mr. Richard Sokorai then stated that the program will be re-visited each year, and appropriate adjustments will be made.

Dr. Shapiro asked Ms. Kojouri if she had read the communication regarding activity fees, noting that a maximum of seventy-five dollars would be collected from individual students, while a maximum of \$250.00 would be applied to families with more than one student participating in extra-curricular events.

Ms. Kojouri asked how many eligible students were in the district, and how many actually participate in activities. Mr. McGinley responded that, out of approximately 2,000 students, between 1,200 and 1,400 participate, which should generate approximately seventy-five to eighty thousand dollars.

Mrs. Nancy Galbraith stated that she was on the committee, with a cross section of students, administrators, teachers and family members. No one likes this option, but it is better than any of the alternatives, not the least of which would be more severe program cuts.

Ms. Kojouri asked if additional meetings could be held to discuss other options.

Mr. McGinley replied that it would be impossible this year, because the budget has been voted on and accepted.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. McGinley asked Dr. Horowitz if she had any comments. Dr. Horowitz re-iterated that the loss of Mr. Rodd Luckenbill will be deeply felt by the District. He was an excellent addition to Paxon Hollow, and he will be sorely missed and difficult to replace. She wished him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Mr. McGinley adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Joseph Driscoll, Board Secretary