

School Board Meeting October 1, 2007

The Regular monthly meeting of the Redbank Valley School Board was held, Monday October 1, 2007, 7:00 P.M., Redbank Valley High School Library. The following members were in attendance: Dee Bell, Louise Clemens, Randy Frampton, Vince Markle, Theodore Minich, Shirley Pastor, Glenn Watson, Kimberly Walls and Lou Ann Williams.

The regular school board meeting was called to order by Theodore Minich, President. Mr. Minich announced there was a work session at 6:30 P.M. and an executive session at 6:35 P.M. for personnel matters.

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Lou Ann Williams to approve the minutes for the Regular meeting, September 4, 2007 and Work Session meeting, September 10, 2007. Motion Carried Unanimously

Theodore Minich then asked for any Public Concern from the audience. There were no comments for public concern.

Student Representative were absent from the meeting and no report was presented.

Jason Knisely presented the Elementary Report. Mr. Knisely presented enrollment figures which are slightly up from the first day of school. Mr. Knisely commented on a program called Olweus Bullying Prevention designed for use in elementary and junior high schools. The program has been found to reduce bullying among children, improve the social climate of classrooms and reduce related antisocial behaviors, such as vandalism and truancy. Mr. Knisely introduced Laura Snyder, guidance counselor, who will be working in the elementarys' to implement this program at all the buildings. Ms. Snyder stated that she has had experience with the program and informed the school board as to situations which could be used in combating bullying. Mr. Knisely reported the open house was held at each building during the week of September 21' 2007. All three building were very well attended. Mr. Knisely then presented the elementary calendar for October.

Cheryl McCauley presented the Director of Education Report. Mrs. McCauley informed the board members of the new teacher induction program. The induction program requirements were reviewed as well as classroom management techniques discussed. Mrs. McCauley stated a core group of teachers from Redbank Valley who are developing classroom webpage's has been formed. This group has prepared training materials for the next wave of volunteers who will be working to develop a webpage for their classroom under the guidance of technology integrator Kristen Landers. Mrs. McCauley then presented information as to PSSA and DIBELS assessments analyzed by the teachers to determine strength and weakness in their classes. Teachers have been asked to identify ways in which

they will address the individual needs of students who scored below proficiency on these assessments and to begin progress monitoring of their students progress to improve.

Stephen Dobransky presented the Secondary Report. Mr. Dobransky informed the board members that the Dual Enrollment program will be offered to students for this school year with a funding commitment from the state of 66 percent of cost. This is the second year Redbank Valley has offered the opportunity to students to gain college level courses. Mr. Dobransky stated that Senior Project oral presentations were held September 21, 2007. Seventy Six presentations were graded with only one failure. Nine students will be presenting in the spring. Mr. Dobransky informed the board that PSAT exams will be offered to students October 17, 2007 at a cost \$13.00 for the test. This exam is offered at Redbank Valley to students as a service whereas students might have to travel to other places like colleges or other neighboring schools to take the exam usually on a weekend. Mr. Dobransky enclosed in his report the High School Library Use report for board members to review and noted the current enrollment figures.

Dr. Cornish presented the Superintendent Report. Dr. Cornish began by introducing the following teachers in attendance; Molly Greenwalt, Pam Brandon, Deborah Bonanno, Dianna Bain, Laura Snyder, Cheri Hornberger, Rachelle Kirkpatrick, Kathy Dinger, Jacklyn Davis, Shirley McDonald, Kristen Landers and Jodi Walter child specific aide at Mahoning elementary. Also in attendance a bus contractors Jerry and Edward Barrett, Barrett Busing Co. and William and Marsha Clupper from Valley Bus Company. Dr. Cornish presented information concerning a program being proposed to school boards by the Governor Rendall to participate in called "Common Cents". This program is designed to encourage school districts to share services with one another in order to increase efficient use of taxpayer's resources and improve service delivery for students. Consultants will conduct studies and provide specific recommendations about combining services and activities in 11 school related operations. These recommendation must be acted upon by the school board which are nonbinding. Dr. Cornish asked the board to consider this item later in the meeting. Dr. Cornish presented information concerning "Salvia Divinorum" a garden plant grown in greenhouses that has hallucinogenic effects. Dr. Cornish stated that this variety of plant is not grown in the Redbank Valley greenhouse and wished to halt rumors that our greenhouse was growing such a plant. Finally Dr. Cornish commented on a letter in his packet called "Painting a Tractor" in which he asked the board members to review at a later time.

The following reports were presented for information only; Maintenance Report; Cafeteria Report; IU#6 Report; CCAVTS Report.

Vince Markle left the meeting at 7:25 P.M. and returned at 7:29 P.M.

Discussion as to the transportation options were discussed at length with input coming from parents, bus contractors, and Dr. Cornish. Three options were presented for discussion which were enclosed in detailed in the board packet to the board.

During discussion of the options Dee Bell left the meeting at 7:47 P.M. and returned at 7:51 P.m.

At 7:52 P.M. Glenn Watson left the meeting.

A motion was made by Lou Ann Williams seconded by Randy Frampton to approve transportation option #2 for additional runs for elementary student at Mahoning Elementary. Motion Carried 8-Yes, 0-No, 1-Absent (Watson)

At 7:56 P.M. Mr. Watson returned to the meeting.

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Louise Clemens to approve the transportation contracts for the school year 2007-08. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Dee Bell seconded by Lou Ann Williams to approve the participation in Common Cents Program. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Lou Ann Williams seconded by Glenn Watson to approve September, 2007 Treasurers Report. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Glenn Watson seconded by Randy Frampton to approve the September, 2007 General Fund Expenditures amounting to \$2,006,941.96. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Randy Frampton to hire Jason Huffman elementary principal and pending receipt of all clearances. Motion Carried 8-Yes, 0-No, 1-Absentation (Watson)

A motion was made by Randy Frampton seconded by Shirley Pastor to approve salary for elementary principal a \$67,000.00 under the conditions of Act 93 agreement. Motion Carried 8-Yes, 0-No, 1-Absentation (Watson)

A motion was made by Louise Clemens seconded by Lou Ann Williams to hire Patrick Craig as social studies teacher at BS Step 1 \$32,436.00 according to RVEA contract and pending receipt of all clearances. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Glenn Watson seconded by Shirley Pastor to approve Joseph Harmon as mentor for hired social studies teacher. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Glenn Watson seconded by Louise Clemens to approve the following mentor; Mary Jane DiPippa for David Hepler, Deborah Bonanno for Eric Yoder. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Lou Ann Williams to approve Kristen Landers and Kathleen Snyder to attend Integrated Learning Conference, State College, Pa., November 5-7, 2007. Cost to be incurred by district \$1,244.78. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Lou Ann Williams to approve Phyllis Howard to attend TI-Nspire Workshop, Skaneateles, NY, November 3-4, 2007. Cost to be incurred by district \$656.30. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Louise Clemens seconded by Lou Ann Williams to approve Tracie Bonfardine to attend Cooperative Education Conference, State College, Pa., October 18-19, 2007. Cost to be incurred by district \$768.16. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Randy Frampton to approve Thomas Logan to attend Pennsylvania Business Education Association Conference, Hershey, Pa., November 15-16, 2007. Cost to be incurred by district \$392.50. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Glenn Watson to approve maternity leave for Autumn Boddorf, December 3, 2007 to February 25, 2008 with 55 unpaid days. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Kim Walls to add David J. Gittler to substitute bus/van drivers list pending receipt of all clearances. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Glenn Watson seconded by Shirley Pastor to approve Laura Heasley, Kim McCracken and Debra Doverspike to attend the Conference for PA First Grade Teachers, Hershey, Pa., November 26-27, 2007. Cost to be incurred by district \$1,339.00. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Shirley Pastor seconded by Glenn Watson to add Leah Leadbetter, William Kronen and Ruben Carrillo to substitute teacher list pending receipt of all clearances. Motion Carried Unanimously

A motion was made by Louise Clemens seconded by Glenn Watson to add Brian Bailey to substitute custodian list pending receipt of all clearances. Motion Carried Unanimously

Mr. Minich then asked for public concern before the meeting. A comment from the parents who attended the meeting asked the board as to what upgrades to Mahoning Elementary are planned for the future. Mr. Minich and Dr. Cornish responded that no action at this present time are planned for maintenance improvements. The parents then asked if the rumors are true that Mahoning Elementary is to be closed. Dr. Cornish responded that with declining enrollment throughout the district consideration will be made concerning the whole district on a whole.

A motion was made by Glenn Watson seconded by Shirley Pastor to adjourn the regular meeting at 8:15 P.M. Motion Carried Unanimously

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack E. Loughner, Jr.
Board Secretary