

**SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**M I N U T E S**

**January 31, 2012  
District Office**

**7:00 p.m.**



# CoRe VaLueS

We Believe:

- \* That all children can learn
- \* In educating the whole child so he/she can meet the District's Standards
- \* In focusing on student achievement
- \* In providing a comprehensive and enriched curriculum for all students reflecting the needs and available resources of the community
- \* That the combined commitment of the Board of Education, staff, parents, students, and community is the key to educational success

## Mission Statement

Preparing World Class Citizens for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century through school and community partnerships while addressing the diverse needs of all students

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the South Colonie Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Motto at 7:00 p.m.

**Roll Call**

Brian Casey	<u>Present</u>	Robert Domenici	<u>Excused</u>	Richard Dunn	<u>Present</u>
Shelle Jaquish	<u>Present</u>	Neil Johannning	<u>Present</u>	David Kiehle	<u>Present</u>
Leonard Motto	<u>Present</u>	James T. Ryan	<u>Present</u>	Edward Sim	<u>Present</u>

**Also present:** Superintendent Jonathan Buhner, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Tim Backus, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services & Strategic Planning Sheri Fisher, and District Clerk Joyce Gay.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- Motion by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Casey, and carried unanimously (8-0) to **enter** executive session to discuss employment matters relating to particular persons at 7:01 p.m.
- Motion by Ms. Jaquish, seconded by Mr. Sim, and carried unanimously (8-0), to **adjourn** executive session at 7:34 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE TO FLAG**

Mr. Motto led the pledge to the flag.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Johannning, seconded by Mr. Ryan, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the minutes of the regular meeting on January 17, 2012, be approved.

**4. COMMUNICATIONS****A. Correspondence/Board Activities****Ms. Jaquish:**

- Attended the PTA Council meeting on Monday, January 30.
- Attended the Policy Committee meeting on Monday, January 30.
- Attended the varsity basketball game on Friday, January 27 and commended the community for raising almost \$6,000 for Lewie Perkinson and his family.

**Mr. Ryan:**

- Has attended some girls' basketball games.
- Congratulated Lisha Kill Social Studies teacher John Meurs for receiving the "Top Teacher" award.
- Congratulated Roessleville teacher Susan Meyer who was nominated and selected as one of News Channel 13's *Top Teachers of the Year* for the Capital Region.
- Expressed condolences to the family of Kevin Shortis, a Lisha Kill custodian who passed away after an extended illness.

**Mr. Sim:**

- Attended the basketball game on Friday, January 27, which was a fund raiser for Lewie Perkinson and his family.
- Attended the Policy Committee meeting on Monday, January 30.

**Mr. Kiehle:**

- Attended two ice hockey games

**Mr. Johanning:**

- Attended “Math Night” at Roessleville Elementary School.
- Attended the Policy Committee meeting on Monday, January 30.
- Attended the PTA Council meeting on Monday, January 30.

**Mr. Motto:**

- Attended the basketball game on Friday, January 27, which was a fund raiser for Lewie Perkinson and his family.

**B. Two Requests to speak:**

Christine Mele, 5 Longwood Drive, Loudonville NY 12211

Rose Bikowitz, 3 Omah Terrace, Albany NY 12205

Both individuals are residents and parents of students in the school district. Mrs. Bikowitz and Mrs. Mele spoke to the board regarding Foreign Language classes and the importance of retaining this program in the middle schools.

**5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND STUDY****A. China**

Colonie High School Social Studies teacher Erin Lasky provided an update on the work that has taken place to secure a partnership with a school in China, along with an update on the visit to the Schodack school district to learn more about Distance Learning and Chinese language instruction. Two students – Ben Costello and Megan Vallee – also presented their opinions on Distance Learning after having visited a DL class in Schodack.

**B. Budget Discussion**

Mr. Buhner and Mrs. Fisher explained that the budget development is still in its early stages and that final numbers have not come in from the state regarding aid for 2012-13. Daily work continues on this project and Thursday, February 9, at Veeder Elementary School will be the first of the Q&A sessions for the community.

**6. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following:

**A. Committee on Special Education**

1. Placements as indicated on the attached sheets.

**B. In-Service Courses**

1. Three (3.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 45-contact hour course, "Photovoltaic Systems Theory & Design" (#11-12-44), sponsored by Hudson Valley Community College. The course will be held at HVCC TechSmart Campus, Malta NY, on the following dates: January 24, 31, February 7, 14, 21, 28, March 6, 13, 27, April 3, 17, 24, May 1 and May 8, 2012. John Gehres (CCHS) is the contact person.

**C. Contracts**

1. A contract with the North Greenbush Central School District for the 2011-12 school year to provide health and welfare services to 8.1 South Colonie resident students attending LaSalle Institute located in the North Greenbush Central School District. The health service cost per pupil is \$236.07. The total cost of the contract shall be \$1,912.17.
2. Contract with Northeast Associates in Rehabilitation, LLC, 1721 Central Avenue, Albany NY 12205, for services to South Colonie Schools to provide staff (Job Coaches) to work at employment sites with students during the school day. Job Coaches will be responsible for providing orientation to work tasks, developing and implementing strategies for completion of work tasks, monitoring student behavior, and generally assisting students in being competent workers. Rate to be billed is \$32.50 per hour with a maximum amount of \$125,400 per contract year. The contract year will be July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013.

**D. Donations**

1. Donation of \$250 from Colonie Boys' Lacrosse Booster Club for the *Bigger, Faster, Stronger* Program

**E. Tax Refunds**

1. Refund of 2011-12 property taxes, payable to Koeppl Martone & Leistman, LLP, attorneys for the petitioner, in the amount of \$4,932.52 as follows:  
1814 Central Avenue (Tax Map #29.14-1-23) Colonie Realty Associates  
1818 Central Avenue (Tax Map #29.14-1-22) Colonie Realty Associates  
Properties were improperly assessed. Refund is in compliance with a January 17, 2012, New York State Supreme Court Decision and is made without interest.

**F. Re-Appropriation of 2011-12 Budget**

Re-appropriation of the 2011-12 budget in the amount of \$250. The total re-appropriated budget is \$91,179,584. Information is on the attached sheet.

**G. Clerk's and Treasurer's Reports – December 2011**

Motion made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the above stated **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS** be approved.

## 7. **PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION**

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Kiehle congratulated Mrs. Lucas on her retirement.

Motion made by Mr. Kiehle, seconded by Mr. Casey, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated January 31, 2012, be approved.

## 8. **PERSONNEL – SUPPORT**

Motion made by Mr. Johanning, seconded by Mr. Sim, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated January 31, 2012, be approved.

## 9. **RESOLUTIONS**

*National School Counseling Week* – February 6-10, 2012

Motion made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Jaquish, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the above stated resolutions be approved.

## 10. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Two District parents (one of the parents is an officer of the South Colonie Friends of Music organization) spoke to the Board in regard to maintaining the Grade 4 Strings Program and emphasized its importance to the students in their musical endeavors.

## 11. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Mr. Buhner welcomed all observers who were present and acknowledged the following who were also in attendance: Director of Human Resources David Seaver, SCTA President John Ryan, SC Administrators Association President Randy Rench.

## 12. **FUTURE MEETINGS**

- February 7, 2012 – **BUDGET MEETING** – 7:00 p.m. – District Office  
**TOPICS:** Support Services, Debt Service, Continuing Ed, Interscholastic Athletics
- February 9, 2012 – **BUDGET MEETING** – 7:00 p.m. – Veeder Elementary School  
*Open Discussion with Q & A Session*
- February 14, 2012 – Audit-Finance Committee – 6:00 p.m. – District Office
- February 14, 2012 – Regular Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – District Office
- February 16, 2012 – Information Technology Committee – 7:30 a.m. – District Office
- March 1, 2012 – Facilities Committee – 7:30 a.m. – District Office
- March 6, 2012 – Regular Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – District Office  
**BUDGET TOPICS:** Special Education & Pupil Personnel Services

- March 13, 2012 – **BUDGET MEETING** – 7:00 p.m. – Shaker Road Elementary School  
*Open Discussion with Q & A Session*
- March 14, 2012 – District Communications Committee – 7:30 a.m. – District Office
- March 15, 2012 – **BUDGET MEETING** – 7:00 p.m. – District Office  
**TOPICS:** Fringe Benefits and Instructional Program
- March 20, 2012 – Graduation/Hall of Fame Committee – 6:00 p.m. – District Office
- March 20, 2012 – Regular Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – District Office  
**TOPIC:** Presentation of 1st draft of 2012-13 Budget
- March 26, 2012 – Policy Committee – 6:00 p.m. – District Office
- April 3, 2012 – Audit-Finance Committee – 6:00 p.m. – District Office
- April 3, 2012 – Regular Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – District Office  
**TOPIC:** Presentation of 2<sup>nd</sup> draft of 2012-13 Budget
- April 5, 2012 – Information Technology Committee – 7:30 a.m. – District Office
- April 17, 2012 – Academic Achievement Committee – 7:30 a.m. – District Office
- April 17, 2012 – Policy Committee – 6:00 p.m. – District Office
- April 17, 2012 – Regular Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – District Office  
**TOPIC:** Adoption of the 2012-13 Budget
- April 18, 2012 – Strategic Planning Committee – 7:30 a.m. – District Office

### 13. ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Casey, seconded by Mr. Ryan, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the regular meeting be adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

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Joyce Gay  
District Clerk  
2/8/2012

**A. Tenure Appointment**

Tenure appointment to the following personnel, having satisfactorily completed appropriate probationary period, effective on the date indicated.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Tenure Area</u>	<u>Tenure Date</u>
Gregory Sulz	Teaching Assistant	03/01/2012

**B. Retirement**

1. <u>Name:</u>	Grace Lucas
<u>Position:</u>	Elementary Education Teacher
<u>Location:</u>	Forest Park Elementary School
<u>Effective Date:</u>	July 1, 2012

**C. Long-Term Substitutes**

1. <u>Name:</u>	Danielle Brancato
<u>Address:</u>	347 Ushers Road, Ballston Lake, NY 12019
<u>Type:</u>	Long Term Substitute
<u>Teaching Area:</u>	Elementary Education
<u>Location:</u>	Sand Creek Middle School
<u>Effective Date:</u>	January 9, 2012
<u>Salary:</u>	Salary Schedule I, Step 1
<u>Education:</u>	B.S., University of Hartford, M.S., Nova Southeastern University
<u>Certification:</u>	Permanent in Elementary Education (PK-6)
2. <u>Name:</u>	Stephanie Deeb
<u>Address:</u>	84 Dane Court, Latham, NY 12110
<u>Type:</u>	Long Term Substitute
<u>Teaching Area:</u>	Childhood Education
<u>Location:</u>	Lisha Kill Middle School
<u>Effective Date:</u>	January 24, 2012
<u>Salary:</u>	Salary Schedule I, Step 1
<u>Education:</u>	B.S., SUNY Plattsburgh
<u>Certification:</u>	Initial in Childhood Education (1-6)

**D. Salary Adjustment**

Salary adjustment for additional duties/class coverage at \$26.00 per day:

<u>Name:</u>	Joseph Coleman
<u>Position:</u>	Teaching Assistant
<u>Location:</u>	Lisha Kill Middle School
<u>Effective Dates:</u>	January 23, 2012 to April 6, 2012

**E. Substitute Teachers**

Approval of substitute teachers on the attached list for regular, conditional or emergency conditional appointments.

**F. Lunch Supervision for the 2011-12 School Year**

**Veeder Elementary School**

**Rescind** the following previously approved position at the approved rate of compensation:

Sarah Raymond .5

**Appoint** the following previously approved position at the approved rate of compensation:

Veronica Delancey-Smith .5 to 1.0

**G. Memorandum of Agreement**

Approval of the Memorandum of Agreements between the South Colonie Administrators' Association and the South Colonie Central School District dated January 23, 2012 for the current contract expiring June 30, 2014.

**A. Appointments**

1. Name: Leonard Crouch  
Address: 38 Oakwood Drive, Albany, NY 12205  
Position: Break-In Bus Driver  
Effective: February 1, 2012  
Salary: Not paid during training
  
2. Name: Joseph Hodson  
Address: 312 Kings Road, Schenectady, NY 12304  
Position: Break-In Bus Driver  
Effective: February 1, 2012  
Salary: Not paid during training
  
3. Name: Donna Palaszynski  
Address: 235 Old Niskayuna Road, Latham, NY 12110  
Position: Food Service Helper Substitute  
Effective: February 1, 2012  
Salary: \$9.50 per hour
  
4. Name: Sherri Tucker-Fyan  
Address: 18 Hanifin Avenue, Albany, NY 12205  
Position: Food Service Helper Substitute  
Effective: January 30, 2012  
Salary: \$9.50 per hour

**B. Notification**

Notification with regret of the death on January 24, 2012, of Kevin Shortis, Custodial Worker. Mr. Shortis was an employee of the District for over 10 years.