

**SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



MINUTES
November 6, 2007
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 21st Century through school and community partnerships while addressing the diverse needs of all students

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the South Colonie Central Schools Board of Education was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Tim Ryan.

Roll Call

Brian Casey	<u>Present</u>	Robert Domenici	<u>Present</u>	Richard Dunn	<u>Present</u>
Vernon Fonda	<u>Absent</u>	Paul Gordon	<u>Excused</u>	Shelle Jaquish	<u>Present</u>
Neil Johanning	<u>Present</u>	Leonard Motto	<u>Present</u>	James T. Ryan	<u>Present</u>

Also present: Superintendent Michael J. Marcelle, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Anthony DeBlois, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services Beverly Miller, District Clerk Joyce Gay.

Motion by Mr. Domenici, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (7-0), to **enter** executive session to discuss personnel matters at 7:01 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (7-0), to **adjourn** executive session at 7:36 p.m.

2. PLEDGE TO FLAG

Mr. Ryan led the pledge to the flag.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Casey, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the minutes of the regular meeting on **October 16, 2007**, be approved.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Correspondence/Board Activities

Mr. Ryan:

- Offered condolences to the family of Michael McGowty, a 12-year employee of the District, who died in an automobile accident on October 28, 2007, and asked all those present to participate in a moment of silence in his memory.
- Attended the annual NYSSBA conference in New York City which was well attended, and participated in several excellent workshops with information beneficial to the work that we do in South Colonie.

Mr. Domenici:

- In his role as a BOCES board member, he reported that the organization has a goal of reaching out to the community to educate them about the BOCES functions and services.

Mr. Dunn:

- Attended his first NYSSBA conference and found it very interesting with informative and important workshops.

Mr. Motto:

- Also attended the NYSSBA conference, participated in several interesting workshops, and once again discovered that our District does a lot of things right.

Mr. Casey:

- Explained the formation of the “Stuff the Bus” project with the Toys for Tots division of the U.S. Marine Corps. This is a district-wide holiday project which will be conducted at Colonie Center. A district reception will be held at the Fuller Road Fire Hall on Tuesday, December 4, from 3:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Ms. Jaquish:

- As the South Colonie delegate to the Annual NYSSBA Business Meeting, she reported on the results of the resolutions acted upon at the meeting. She also gave a short report on some of the workshops she attended at the conference.

Mr. Johanning:

- Attended the NYSSBA conference and noted that many of the workshops he attended will be useful and beneficial to his work on Board committees.

B. Requests to speak:**Debbie Gentile, UPK teacher at Saddlewood**

Mrs. Gentile spoke at the board meeting on October 16 regarding the formation of a “Green Team” within the District. She clarified some of the points she made at that meeting and added more detail to the plan she originally proposed to the Board. Mr. Ryan and Mr. Marcelle asked Mrs. Gentile to give more information in writing regarding this proposal for further consideration.

Thomas Hoffman, 23 Debbie Marie Ct., Niskayuna NY 12309

Mr. Hoffman spoke to the issue of a Halloween movie which was shown to grade 8 students at Lisha Kill Middle School. Other parents, **John and Rose Gigliello, 17 Rolling Hills Road, Niskayuna NY 12309**, were also present and participated in this discussion.

5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND STUDY**A. Information Technology Update**

Jack Adams, Director of Information Technology, presented an update on all Information Technology accomplishments for 2006-07.

C. Board Committee Reports

- The Policy Committee and Facilities & Transportation Committee have met since the last board meeting. Committee chairpersons reported on the meetings to the full Board.
- Mr. Marcelle also gave a brief report on the Audit-Finance Committee meeting held on Friday, November 2, with the auditors from the State Comptroller's Office to discuss the preliminary findings from the audit conducted this past year.
- Ms. Jaquish, Board liaison to PTA Council, also gave a report of the October 29th meeting of PTA Council.

6. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following:

A. Committee on Special Education

Placements as indicated on the attached sheets.

B. Seminar on Educational Issues

1. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in "Teaching with Graphic Novels" (SD#2007-08-#41), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The class will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2008, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Beltrone Living Center. Jessica LaFex (Lisha Kill) is the contact person.
2. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in "Teachers as Writing Mentors" (SD#2007-08-#42), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The class will be held on Thursday, February 7, 2008, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Proctor's. Jessica LaFex (Lisha Kill) is the contact person.
3. Six (6) contact hours of credit for participation in "Writing Matters: Exploring Writing Lessons with the Capital District Writing Project" (SD#2007-08-#43), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The class will be held on Saturday, March 1 and March 22, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Beltrone Living Center. Jessica LaFex (Lisha Kill) is the contact person.
4. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in "Improvisation for Teaching Writing" (SD#2007-08-#44), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The class will be held on Monday, March 3, 2008, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Proctor's. Jessica LaFex (Lisha Kill) is the contact person.
5. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in "Flipping the Switch II: Getting Reluctant Writers Writing" (SD#2007-08-#45), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The class will be held on Saturday, March 29, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Farnsworth Middle School. Jessica LaFex (Lisha Kill) is the contact person.

6. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “SmartBoard Training” (SD#2007-08-46), sponsored by South Colonie. Enrollment is limited to Roessleville teachers and the class will be held on Monday, November 5, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Roessleville Library. Jack Adams is the contact person.
7. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Portfolio Development” (SD#2007-08-47), sponsored by South Colonie. Enrollment is limited to second year teachers and the class will be held on Tuesday, November 13, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the high school library. Tim Backus is the contact person.
8. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Differentiated Instruction” (SD#2007-08-48), sponsored by South Colonie. Enrollment is limited to third year teachers and the class will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2007, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Lisha Kill library. Tim Backus is the contact person.
9. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “New York State Historical Places Fair” (SD#2007-08-49), sponsored by Upstate NY Teaching of American History Project. The workshop will be held on Saturday, November 10, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Saratoga Spa State Park. John Moak (Shaker Road) is the contact person.
10. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Teaching About the Global Economy: “It’s All About Exchange Rates” (SD#2007-08-50), sponsored by The Federal Reserve Bank of New York. The workshop will be held on Saturday, November 17, 2007, from 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Colonie Central High School. Tim Backus is the contact person.
11. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “The Age of Rembrandt: Dutch Paintings in the Metropolitan Museum of Art” (SD#2007-08-51), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The workshop will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Metropolitan Museum of Art. Jeanne Bush (Lisha Kill) is the contact person.
12. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “East Meets West” (SD#2007-08-52) sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The workshop will be held on Saturday, December 1, 2007, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Metropolitan Museum of Art. Connie Smith (Lisha Kill) is the contact person.

C. Student Trips

1. Group: Sand Creek Grade 6 Students (200)
Destination: Silver Bay, NY
Date: March 17-20, 2008
Responsible: Jim Brown
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals

2. Group: Sand Creek Grade 7 Meteorites (100)
Destination: New York City
Date: March 27, 2008
Responsible: Rachel Pollay
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals

3. Group: Sand Creek Peer Leadership Grades 5-8 (32)
Destination: Camp Chingachgook, Lake George NY
Date: April 9-10, 2008
Responsible: Dan DeMarco, Jessica Hines
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals

4. Group: Lisha Kill Student Council (50)
Destination: Camp Chingachgook, Lake George NY
Date: May 1-2, 2008
Responsible: Jodie Ferrara, Rockie Tassie
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals

5. Group: Sand Creek Grade 8 Students (200)
Destination: Baltimore MD/Washington DC/Arlington VA
Date: May 13-16, 2008
Responsible: Cathy Vigars, Lisa McGee
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising

6. Group: Sand Creek Grade 5 Students (215)
Destination: Bronx Zoo, New York
Date: May 15, 2008
Responsible: Kristie Bowers, Tara Kiely
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising

7. Group: Veeder Grade 3 Students (135)
Destination: Bronx Zoo, New York
Date: May 21, 2008
Responsible: Richard Thompson
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising

8. Group: Sand Creek Grade 7 Students (200)
Destination: Great Escape, Lake George NY
Date: May 27, 2008
Responsible: Melissa Vogt, Stacy Furman
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising

9. Group: Lisha Kill Grade 7 (Team 7) Students (105)
Destination: Great Escape, Lake George NY
Date: June 4, 2008
Responsible: Stephanie Copeland
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals
10. Group: Shaker Road Grade 4 Students (80)
Destination: Farmer's Museum, Cooperstown NY
Date: April 10, 2008
Responsible: John Moak
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals
11. Group: CCHS Line & Cue (55)
Destination: New Amsterdam Theater, New York City
Date: April 2, 2008
Responsible: Ed Meagher
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals
12. Group: Veeder 4th Grade Students (170)
Destination: Museum of Science, Boston, Massachusetts
Date: June 5, 2007
Responsible: 4th Grade Teachers
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising

D. Surplus Equipment

Declare as scrap three hundred one (301) technology items listed on the attached sheets. All items were destroyed by water damage at Saddlewood Elementary School. The district's insurance carrier is responsible for disposal.

E. Contract

A contract with the Lansingburgh Central School District for the 2007-08 school year to provide health and welfare services to eighteen (18) South Colonie resident students attending Catholic Central High School located in the Lansingburgh Central School District. The total cost of this contract shall be \$6,319.26.

F. Clerk's and Treasurer's Reports – September 2007

Motion made by Ms. Jaquish, seconded by Mr. Domenici, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the above stated **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS** be approved.

7. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION

Motion made by Mr. Motto, seconded by Mr. Casey, and carried unanimously (7-0), (Mr. Johanning abstained from voting on Item A.1) that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated November 6, 2007, be approved.

8. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT

Motion made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated November 6, 2007, be approved.

9. RESOLUTION

American Education Week (November 11-17)

Motion made by Ms. Jaquish, seconded by Mr. Motto, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the above resolution be approved.

10. CERTIFICATION OF VOTE**Proposition #1 – Bus Purchases: APPROVED**

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Machine Totals:	613	211
Absentee Ballots:	51	42
TOTALS	664	253

Motion made by Mr. Johanning, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the above certification be approved.

11. POLICIES**First Reading:**

Policies 3221, 3222, 3223, 3225 – *Job Descriptions*

Policy 4340-R – *Continuing Education Programs Regulation*

Policy 6640 – *Fixed Assets Inventory*

Policy 6650 – *Internal Claims Auditor*

Policy 6830 – *Expense Reimbursement*

Revision:

Policy 9290 – *Supplemental Compensation Rates*

Motion made by Ms. Jaquish, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the revised Policy 9290 be approved.

12. RESOLUTION

Whereas, South Colonie Central School District has been named as a defendant in a lawsuit initiated by Howard Kushner and Claire Bianchi, individually, and Howard Kushner and Claire Bianchi, as Parents and Natural Guardians for child “AK”, and

Whereas, the action is venued within the United States District Court, Northern District of New York, Civil Case Number 1:07-CV-0058, and

Whereas, the parties are desirous of resolving the instant litigation, and

Whereas, the attorneys for the respective parties have negotiated a settlement,

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED:

1. The Board of Education for the South Colonie Central School District approves the settlement according to the terms of the Confidential Settlement Agreement and further authorizes the Superintendent of Schools to execute any and all documents necessary to effectuate the settlement.

The question of the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly put to a vote on roll call, which resulted as follows: Motion by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Domenici, and carried unanimously (7-0):

Brian Casey	<u>Yes</u>	Robert Domenici	<u>Yes</u>	Richard Dunn	<u>Yes</u>
Vernon Fonda	<u>Absent</u>	Paul Gordon	<u>Absent</u>	Shelle Jaquish	<u>Yes</u>
Neil Johanning	<u>Yes</u>	Leonard Motto	<u>Yes</u>	James T. Ryan	<u>Yes</u>

13. CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

Motion made by Mr. Casey, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the regular meeting scheduled for November 20, 2007, shall be re-scheduled for Tuesday, November 27, 2007.

14. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mr. Marcelle acknowledged the following people present at the meeting: Director of Human Resources David Seaver, Director of Information Technology Jack Adams, SCTA President Jeff Dutcher, Lisha Kill Principal Fran Coccozza, Lisha Kill Associate Principal Joe Guardino, High School Associate Principal Michael Marohn, Supervisor of Guidance, Health, Technology, & Central Registration Dave Pace, and newly appointed teacher Peter DeMarco.

15. FUTURE MEETINGS

- Special Meeting: Superintendent Search – Thursday, November 15 – 5:30 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 27, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.
- Regular Board Meeting: Tuesday, December 11, 2007 – 7:00 p.m.

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Motto, and carried unanimously (7-0), to **enter** executive session to discuss personnel matters at 9:20 p.m.

Motion by Mr. Motto, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (7-0), to **adjourn** executive session at 10:07 p.m.

17. ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Casey, seconded by Ms. Jaquish, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the regular meeting be adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Gay
District Clerk

11/27/2007

A. Resignations

Acceptance of the following resignations from the District:

1. Name: Carla Perrone
Position: ESL teacher
Effective Date: November 21, 2007
Reason: Accepted another position outside the District
2. Name: Peter DeMarco
Position: Long Term Replacement Elementary Education teacher
Effective Date: November 1, 2007
Reason: Accepted another position in the District
3. Name: Gregory Sulz
Position: Temp Part-Time Teaching Assistant
Effective Date: November 1, 2007
Reason: Accepted another position in the District

B. Leave of Absence

Acceptance of the following leave of absence:

Name: Kelly Coppola
Position: Science teacher
Type: Child Care
Building: Colonie Central High School
Effective Date: November 5, 2007
Ending Date: January 25, 2008

C. Appointments

Acceptance of the following appointment:

Name: Peter A. DeMarco
Address: 6 Gould Drive, Scotia, NY 12302
Type: 3 Year Probationary
Tenure Area: Elementary Education
Building: Lisha Kill Middle School
Effective Date: November 1, 2007
End of Probationary Period: October 31, 2010
Salary: Schedule I, Step 1 pro-rated
Education: B.A. from Marist College
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grade 1-6)

D. Long Term Replacement

Approval of the following long-term replacement appointments:

1. Name: Gregory Sulz
Address: 2 Hay Path, Watervliet, NY 12189
Type: Long Term Replacement
Teaching Area: Elementary Education
Building: Sand Creek Middle School
Effective Date: November 1, 2007
Ending Date: June 30, 2008
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1, pro-rated
Education: B.S. from SUNY Oneonta
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)

2. Name: Amanda Knaggs
Address: 610 Sanders Avenue, Scotia, NY 12302
Type: Long Term Replacement
Teaching Area: Science
Building: Colonie Central High School
Effective Date: November 5, 2007
Ending Date: January 25, 2008
Salary: Salary Schedule II, Step 1
Education: B.A. from Syracuse University; M.A. from Union College
Certification: Initial in Biology 7-12

E. Long Term Substitute

Approval of the following long-term substitute appointments:

Name: Kelly Boyea
Address: 750 Delaware Ave., Apt. 1A, Delmar, NY 12054
Type: Long Term Substitute
Teaching Area: Elementary Education
Building: Veeder Elementary School
Effective Date: October 24, 2007
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1
Education: B.S. from SUNY Geneseo; M.A. from the College of St. Rose
Certification: Initial in Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)

F. Substitute Teachers

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

G. Increase of Appointment

Approval of the following increase of appointment for the 2007-08 school year:

Name: Amanda Knaggs

Teaching Area: Science

Building: Colonie Central High School

Increase: .05

Effective Date: November 5, 2007 to January 25, 2008

Approval of the following revision of the increase of appointment for the 2007-08 school year:

Name: Kelly Coppola

Teaching Area: Science

Building: Colonie Central High School

Increase: .05

Effective Date: September 1, 2007 to November 4, 2007 and
January 28, 2008 to June 30, 2008

H. Co-Curricular*Colonie Central High School*

Appointment of the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation for the 2007-08 school year:

Intramural:	Season II Weight Training	John Preston
	Season III Weight Training	Kevin Halburian

Rescind the following co-curricular position appointment:

Intramural:	Season III Weight Training	John Preston
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Sand Creek Middle School

Creation of the following additional co-curricular position for the 2007-08 school year:

1.0 Season II Boys Basketball

Appointment of the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation for the 2007-08 school year:

Intramural:	Season II Weight Training	Melissa Moscov
	Season II Boys Basketball	Gregory Lanni

Rescind the following co-curricular position appointments:

Intramural:	Season II Weight Training	Carmine Taglione
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I. Study Hall Supervision for the 2007-08 School Year

Sand Creek Middle School

Creation of the following additional study hall supervisor position for the 2007-08 school year:

1.0 Study Hall Supervisor

Approval of the following study hall supervisor for the 2007-08 school year:

Carol Barry-Macken

J. Cafeteria Supervision for the 2007-08 School Year

Sand Creek Middle School

Approval of the following revisions of cafeteria supervisors for the 2007-08 school year:

Benjamin Roberts from 1.0 to 0.25 ending November 1, 2007

Sarah Sherman from 0.5 to 0.875 effective November 1, 2007

Patrick Morgan 0.375 effective November 1, 2007

K. Interscholastic

Creation of the following additional interscholastic positions for the 2007-08 school year:

1.1 Indoor Track Coach positions

0.3 Assistant Wrestling Coach position

A. Resignations:

Approval of the following support staff resignations:

1. Name: Glenn Greinke
Position: School Bus Driver
Effective: October 17, 2007
Reason: Accepted a position outside the District
2. Name: Charles Haynes
Position: School Bus Driver
Effective: September 1, 2007
Reason: Accepted a position outside the District
3. Name: Michael Link
Position: School Bus Driver
Effective: November 12, 2007
Reason: Accepted a position outside the District
4. Name: James McCann
Position: School Bus Driver
Effective: September 1, 2007
Reason: Accepted a position outside the District
5. Name: Patrick McDonald
Position: School Bus Driver
Effective: November 9, 2007
Reason: Accepted a position outside the District

B. Leave of Absence:

Approval of the following support staff leave of absence:

Name: Mary Tibbitts
Position: Food Service Helper (SR)
Effective: February 28, 2008 thru April 28, 2008
Reason: Personal

C. Appointments

Approval of the following support staff appointments:

1. Name: Robert Lemerise
Address: 2 Fairway Lane, Schenectady, New York 12304
Position: School Monitor Substitute (Emergency Conditional)
Effective: October 26, 2007
Salary: \$8.50 per hour

2. Name: Walida Muhammad
Address: 457 Second Street, Albany, New York 12206
Position: Temporary School Monitor (Emergency Conditional)
Effective: November 6, 2007 to June 30, 2008
Salary: \$9.71 per hour
Hours: 4.5 hours per day
Current Location: Private School
Probationary Period: November 6, 2007 to May 6, 2008

3. Name: Kristen Barrell
Address: 3009 Squire Boulevard, Slingerlands, New York 12159
Position: School Nurse Substitute (Emergency Conditional)
Effective: November 7, 2007
Salary: \$16.00 per hour

4. Reappointments as emergency conditional for compliance with NYS Education Law:

Claudia Burnham	Helen Kosakowski	Margaret Romand
Kristina Coffey	Martine Male	Heather Marie Ross
Patricia Crider	Sieglinde McDonagh	Maribeth Shanley
Lori DiPace	Stephen Mohr	Linda L. Sperber
Laura Ebel	Linda Murray	Ronald Surdam
Gail Eckert	Dawn Newcomb	Ralph Tashjian
Jena Freedman	Ellen Oliver	Douglas Tribble, Jr.
Nancy Gallagher	Stanley Olsiewski	Madeline Vrochopoulos
Charlotte Gardner	Lana Otty	Tracy Waddell
Mary Ann Gerstenberger	Aileen Peabody	Barbara Wickert
Christina Haas	Mark D. Pennock	Nancy Wolff
Debra M. Johnson	Christine Priore	Kiamesha Wright
Melissa Kivelin-Thomas	Joan Qualtere	

C. Notification

Notification with regret of the death on October 28, 2007, of Mr. Michael McGowty, an Automotive Mechanic at the Bus Garage. Mr. McGowty was an employee of the District for over twelve years.