

**SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOLS
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



MINUTES
November 4, 2008
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

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

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>Present</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 Jonathan W. Buhner, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Tim Backus, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services Beverly Miller, and District Clerk Joyce Gay.

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

Motion by Mr. Casey seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (8-0), to **adjourn** executive session at 7:18 p.m.

2. PLEDGE TO FLAG

Mr. Ryan led in the pledge to the flag.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion made by Mr. Gordon, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the minutes of the regular meeting on **October 21, 2008**, be approved.

4. COMMUNICATIONS**A. School Board Recognition Week Appreciation**

District Clerk Joyce Gay indicated that Governor Patterson has designated October 20-24, 2008 as *School Board Recognition Week*. To show appreciation to the Board for their leadership and commitment to providing better educational opportunities for South Colonie students, the South Colonie Administrators' Association and South Colonie Teachers' Association presented the board with individual gifts. The PTA Council provided special refreshments to celebrate the occasion, and Mrs. Gay read a letter of appreciation to the Board from the PTA Council.

B. Correspondence/Board Activities**Mr. Ryan:**

- Reminded board members that CAPSBA will be conducting a Saturday workshop on November 8. If anyone is interested in attending, please call the Superintendent's office.

Mr. Domenici:

- Has attended BOCES meetings regarding budget matters.

Mr. Dunn:

- Noted that the planned activities at Shaker Road Elementary School on the day of the bus vote were excellent and well attended by parents and community members.

Mr. Casey:

- Reported that the “Stuff the Bus” Campaign is starting up and will begin at Toys ‘R Us on November 6 & 7. Additionally, buses will be parked at Northway Mall and Kohl’s Plaza on Friday, November 28. The goal this year is to exceed last year’s donations of 10,000 toys.

Mr. Johanning:

- Attended the PTSA parent forum at the high school and was not very pleased with the attendance but that all questions were answered and concerns were addressed by the administration.
- Attended the Faculty Recital and the fall concerts at the high school.

- C. **No Requests** to speak.

5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND STUDY**A. Character Education Update**

Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Tim Backus introduced three programs (and presenters) located in three separate schools which highlight portions of the Character Education initiative:

Bully Prevention – Roessleville School – Coordinator Mary Beth Tedesco

Peer Mentor Program – Lisha Kill Middle School – Rockie Tassie & Dawn Peplowski

Anti-Bully Program (*Creek Fest*) – Sand Creek Middle School – Jill Penn, Stephanie Harrison, Abby Hutton, Amanda Samuels, Nick Mastromarchi, and Jeff Zelka (PTA).

B. Budget Calendar

The draft of the 2009 Budget Calendar was reviewed and discussed. Mr. Johanning asked if it would be feasible to hold some of the budget meetings in different school buildings. Mr. Buhner indicated that the Accountability & Board Operations Committee will review the logistics for this. The Budget Calendar will be placed on the December 2nd Board agenda for adoption.

C. Board Committee Reports

The Policy Committee met on October 27, 2008, and Chair Leonard Motto reported on the meeting.

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 “Using Data to Inform Instruction” (SD#2008-09-49), sponsored by South Colonie Schools. The class will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Colonie High School. Enrollment is limited to second-year teachers and teaching assistants. Tim Backus is the contact person.

2. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Differentiated Instruction” (SD#2008-09-50), sponsored by South Colonie Schools. The class will be held on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Colonie High School. Enrollment is limited to third-year teachers and teaching assistants. Tim Backus is the contact person.
3. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Portfolio Development (Professional and for Student Use” (SD#2008-09-51), sponsored by South Colonie Schools. The class will be held on Tuesday, December 9, 2008, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Sand Creek Middle School. Enrollment is limited to second-year teachers and teaching assistants. Tim Backus is the contact person.
4. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “OPA! The Greek Experience: Cultural and Historical Insights to Modern Greek Language” (SD#2008-09-52), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The class will be held on Wednesday, November 5, 2008, from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Sand Creek Middle School. Terri Korb is the contact person.
5. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Global Education for a Global Community” (SD#2008-09-53), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The class will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 2008, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Shenendehowa Central School. Terri Korb is the contact person.

C. In-Service Course

1. Two (2.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 30-hour course “For Pleasure and Beyond: A Year-Long Study Group of New Fiction for Middle and High School Students” (#08-09-22). The course is sponsored by Capital Region BOCES and will be held at Lisha Kill Middle School on the following dates: November 17, December 15, 2008, January 12, February 10, March 16, May 11, and June 8, 2009. Christine Balkwell (Sand Creek) is the contact person.

D. Student Trips

1. Group: Sand Creek Grade 6 Students (80-90)
Destination: Silver Bay, NY
Date: March 23-26, 2009
Responsible: Jim Brown
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals
2. Group: Sand Creek Peer Leadership Grades 5-8 (32)
Destination: Camp Chingachgook, Lake George NY
Date: April 6-7, 2009
Responsible: Dan DeMarco, Jessica Hines
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals

3. Group: Lisha Kill Student Council (60)
Destination: Camp Chingachgook, Lake George NY
Date: April 23-24, 2009
Responsible: Jodie Ferrara, Rockie Tassie
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals
4. Group: Sand Creek Grade 8 Students (180-225)
Destination: Baltimore MD/Washington DC/Arlington VA
Date: May 12-15 2009
Responsible: Cathy Vigars, Lisa McGee
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
5. Group: Sand Creek Grade 5 Students (250-275)
Destination: Bronx Zoo, New York
Date: May 21, 2009
Responsible: Kristie Bowers, Tara Kiely
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
6. Group: Lisha Kill Grade 6 Performing Groups (150)
Destination: Great Escape, Lake George, New York
Date: May 16, 2009
Responsible: Dana Probeyahn, Pat Fatato, Susan Brynolfson
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals
7. Group: Sand Creek Grade 7 Students (250)
Destination: Great Escape, Lake George NY
Date: May 28, 2009
Responsible: Melissa Vogt
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals
8. Group: Sand Creek Grade 6 Students (84)
Destination: Ecotarium, Worcester, Massachusetts
Date: May 28, 2009
Responsible: C. Taglione, J. Dongelewic, L. Pollicino, L. Forezzi
Transportation: Chartered Bus
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
9. Group: Lisha Kill Social Studies Class (15-20)
Destination: Fort William Henry, Lake George, NY
Date: May 2009
Responsible: Robin Sacco
Transportation: School Bus
Cost: Individuals

10. Group: Sand Creek Grade 6 Students (80-85)
 Destination: Metropolitan Museum of Art & Broadway (New York City)
 Date: March 25, 2009
 Responsible: S. Shank, W. Luke, A. Ralston
 Transportation: Chartered Bus
 Cost: Individuals

E. Tax Refunds

1. Refund of 2008-09 property taxes to Rita & Don Colon in the amount of \$743.59. The property is located at 17 South Fagan Avenue (Tax Map #60.19-4-20), Schenectady, NY 12304, in the Town of Colonie. Refund is in compliance with a State of New York Albany County Supreme and County Court decision. Refund is made without interest.
2. Refund of 2008-09 property taxes to Jon & Kimberly Kennedy in the amount of \$452.55. The property is located at 14 Amanda Way (Tax Map #7.18-1-71), Niskayuna, NY 12309, in the Town of Colonie. Refund is in compliance with a State of New York Albany County Supreme and County Court decision. Refund is made without interest.
3. Refund of 2008-09 property taxes to Guy & Virginia Mogavero in the amount of \$267.69. The property is located at 427 Fillmore Avenue (Tax Map #60.8-2-5), Schenectady, NY 12304, in the Town of Colonie. Refund is in compliance with a State of New York Albany County Supreme and County Court decision. Refund is made without interest.
4. Refund of taxes made payable to Robert L. Jacobson, as attorneys for the Eckerd Corporation located at 463 Albany Shaker Road, Loudonville, NY 12211 (Tax Map #43.3-1-16) in the amount of \$63,264.65 as follows:

2004-2005	\$13,969.38
2005-2006	\$16,636.17
2006-2007	\$16,103.80
2007-2008	\$16,555.30

 Refund is in compliance with a New York State Supreme Court decision and Decision of the Appellate Division. Refund is made without interest.

F. Clerk's and Treasurer's Reports – September 2008

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

7. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION

Motion made by Mr. Casey, seconded by Ms. Jaquish, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated November 4, 2008, be approved.

8. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT

Motion made by Mr. Motto, seconded by Mr. Domenici, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated November 4, 2008, be approved.

9. RESOLUTIONS

American Education Week (November 16-22)

New York State School-Related Professionals (SRP) Recognition Day (November 18)

Motion made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (8-0) that the above resolutions be approved.

10. POLICIES**Reading & Approval:**

Policy 1120 – *School District Records*

Policy 1120-E – *Application for Public Access to Records*

Policy 1120-R – *School District Records Regulations*

These policies were rescinded because of the policy language. They will be revised and re-submitted for approval at a future meeting.

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

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Machine Totals:	841	806
Absentee Ballots:	52	62
TOTALS	893	868

Proposition #2 – CCHS Press Box: NOT APPROVED

	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>
Machine Totals:	763	855
Absentee Ballots:	42	74
TOTALS	805	929

Motion made by Mr. Casey, seconded by Mr. Gordon, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the above certification be approved.

12. CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

Motion made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Ms. Jaquish, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the regular meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2009, shall be re-scheduled to Tuesday, March 31, 2009.

13. RESOLUTION

Whereas, the Board of Education, pursuant to New York State Education Law §1709(2), shall establish rules and regulations for the maintenance of order on school property; and
Whereas, the South Colonie Central School District maintains and operates playgrounds at each of its elementary and middle schools; and
Whereas, the Board of Education desires to place signs at each of its playgrounds indicating that each playground will be closed during the winter months due to frozen and unsafe ground;

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED:

1. The Board of Education for the South Colonie Central School District adopts the follow rule which shall be posted at each of its playgrounds at the discretion of the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds:

PLAYGROUND CLOSED at this time due to frozen protective surfacing.

Thank you for helping us keep our children safe.

By order of the SCCS Board of Education.

Motion made by Mr. Motto, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the above stated resolution be adopted.

14. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Mr. Buhner acknowledged the following people present at the meeting: Dave Seaver, Jeff Dutcher (SCTA), Chris Robilotti, Tom Nicholson, Rose Gigliello (parent).

15. FUTURE MEETINGS

- Facilities & Transportation Committee: Wednesday, November 5, 7:30 am., Wolf Rd Diner
- Accountability & Board Operations Committee: Tuesday, November 18, 6:00 p.m., D.O.
- Policy Committee: Monday, November 24, 6:00 p.m., District Office

16. ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Casey, seconded by Ms. Jaquish, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the regular meeting be adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

A. Resignation

Name: Adrienne Ladd
Position: Science Teacher
Location: Central Avenue Learning Center
Effective Date: January 24, 2009
Reason: Personal

B. Leave of Absence

Name: Gretchen Heller Davis
Position: Science teacher
Type: Child Care Leave Extension
Building: Lisha Kill Middle School
Effective Date: January 30, 2009
Ending Date: June 30, 2009

C. Long Term Replacement

Name: John Curran
Address: 42 Wendell Street, Rensselaer, NY 12144
Type: Long Term Replacement
Teaching Area: Science – Earth Science
Building: Lisha Kill Middle School
Effective Date: August 31, 2008
Ending Date: June 30, 2009
Salary: Salary Schedule II, Step 4, pro-rated
Education: B.S. and M.S. from the College of St. Rose
Certification: Supplementary Initial in Earth Science

D. Long Term Substitute

1. Name: Christina Latter
Address: 249 Starr Road, Ravena, NY 12143
Type: Long Term Substitute
Teaching Area: Elementary Education
Building: Veeder Elementary School
Effective Date: October 20, 2008
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 2
Education: B.S. from SUNY Oneonta
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)

2. Name: Christine Burke
Address: 208 Mohawk Trail, Niskayuna, NY 12309
Type: Long Term Substitute
Teaching Area: Elementary Education
Building: Forest Park Elementary School
Effective Date: October 28, 2008
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1
Education: B.S. from the College of St. Rose
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)

E. Substitute Teachers

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

F. Coordinators for the 2008-2009 School Year

Approval of the following revisions from subject coordinators to coordinators for the 2008-09 school year per the Board of Education Policy 9290:

SAT/PSAT	Kimberly Moutray
Plan Testing	Kimberly Moutray

A. Resignation:

1. Name: Melissa Austin
Position: Permanent Food Service Helper (HS)
Effective: October 27, 2008
Reason: Personal

B. Leave of Absence:

1. Name: Mary Tibbitts
Position: Permanent Food Service Helper (SR)
Effective: December 11, 2008 to March 6, 2009
Reason: Personal

C. Appointments

1. Name: Jaime Bobersky
Address: 19 Arrow Street South, Schenectady, New York 12304
Position: Break-In School Bus Driver (Emergency Conditional)
Effective: November 3, 2008
Salary: Not paid during training
2. Name: William J. Harvey
Address: 10 North Street, Albany, New York 12205
Position: Probationary School Bus Driver
Effective: October 20, 2008
Salary: \$15.25 per hour, per CSEA Contract
Hours: 5.0 hours per day
Current Location: Bus Garage
Probationary Period: October 20, 2008 to April 20, 2009
3. Name: Nancy K. Melius
Address: 20 Harwich Drive, Albany, New York 12205
Position: Food Service Helper Substitute (Emergency Conditional)
Effective: October 27, 2008
Salary: \$9.10 per hour

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

Kathleen Ault	Eileen Germaine	Debra Messier-Nagengast
Jen Lan Boyer	Keri Gionet	Ellen Oliver
Patti Clark	Andrew Hawthorne	Mark D. Pennock
Kristina Coffey	Michelle Holtslander	Joan Qualtere
Christine Colagiovanni	Joan Hudecek	Catherine Shastany
Terrance Cosgrove	Darcie Labine	Pamela Shatraw
Patricia Crider	Michelle Lane	Debbie Sterge
Kristen Daley	Nina Lawrence	Thomas Tuper
Daniel Fahrenkopf	Laura Louis	Kele VanLare
Kimberly Ferracane	Holly McCormack	
Rose Ellen Flint	Kaitlyn Meehan	

D. Change of Appointments

- Name: Maria Butler
Address: 59 Tennessee Avenue, Albany, New York 12205
Position: Permanent School Monitor
Hours Change: 6.5 hours per day to 7.0 hours per day
Effective Date: November 3, 2008
Current Location: Lisha Kill Middle School
- Name: Concetta Vona
Address: 15 Everett Road, Albany, New York 12205
Position: Permanent School Monitor
Hours Change: 7.0 hours per day to 6.5 hours per day
Effective Date: November 3, 2008
Current Location Change: Lisha Kill Middle School to Sand Creek Middle School