

**SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**MINUTES**

**January 6, 2009  
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 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>
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. Johanning, 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. Johanning, seconded by Mr. Casey, and carried unanimously (8-0), to **adjourn** executive session at 7:47 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 December 16, 2008, and the special meeting on December 29, 2008, be approved.

**4. COMMUNICATIONS****A. Correspondence/Board Activities****Mr. Ryan:**

- Noted that a thank you letter was received from the Sand Creek Holiday Help Committee regarding the families that were assisted during the holiday season.
- Reminded board members that the first budget meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 13, at the District Office. Also, two additional open discussion budget meetings with question & answer sessions have been scheduled: February 12 at Veeder and March 5 at Shaker Road.
- In response to questions and inquiries about the board seat vacated by Mr. Fonda, the Board has four options: (1) Leave vacant until the annual board election date of May 19; (2) hold a special election to fill the seat until the expiration of the term (June 30, 2009); (3) appoint an individual to serve until the expiration of the term (June 30, 2009); (4) reduce the size of the board. Mr. Ryan noted that the Board will have a decision in the very near future on what option they will pursue.
- Noted that Mosaic Architects have submitted a request to the District to photograph the tech addition at Lisha Kill and specific areas at Veeder to use in their promotional materials. Parental release forms will be obtained for children who will appear in the photographs.

**Mr. Casey:**

- Attended a meeting of the Robotics Team at the high school – approximately 60 students involved in this activity.

**Mr. Johanning:**

- Reminded the board members that because of the snow day, the CCHS Potluck Dinner has been rescheduled to Thursday, January 8.

**B. No Requests** to speak.

**5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND STUDY****A. Board Committee Reports**

The Audit-Finance Committee, Information Systems Committee, and Strategic Planning Committee have met since the last board meeting. Committee chairpersons reported on the meetings.

**6. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

The Superintendent recommended approval of the following:

**A. Committee on Special Education**

Placements as indicated on the attached sheets.

**B. In-Service Courses**

1. One (1.0) in-service credit for participation in and completion of the 15-hour course "*Introduction to Braille*" (#08-09-23), sponsored by The Hadley School for Professional Studies. This is an online course to be conducted from January to April 2009. Lisa Marinucci (Shaker Road) is the contact person.
2. One-half (.5) in-service credit for participation in and completion of the 7.5 hour course "*Book Study: Still Learning to Read*" (#08-09-24), sponsored by South Colonie. The course will be held at Forest Park from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. and attendees should attend on any of the five following dates: February 4, 25, March 11, 25, April 8 or 29, 2009. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 teachers. Stacey Wranesh (CCHS) is the contact person.
3. One-half (.5) in-service credit for participation in and completion of the 7.5 hour course "*Book Study: Teaching with Intention*" (#08-09-25), sponsored by South Colonie. The course will be held at Forest Park from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. and attendees should attend on any of the five following dates: March 4, 18, April 1, 22, May 6 or 20, 2009. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 teachers. Stacey Wranesh (CCHS) is the contact person.
4. One (1.0) in-service credit for participation in and completion of the 15-hour course "*A Book Group: Keeping Up With New Children's Literature*" (#08-09-26), sponsored by South Colonie. The course will be held at Veeder School from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on January 20, March 3, March 31, April 21 & May 12, 2009 OR at Shaker Road School from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on January 22, March 5, April 2, April 23, and May 24, 2009. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 teachers. Stacey Wranesh (CCHS) is the contact person.

**C. Seminar on Educational Issues**

1. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “Improving Academic Achievement and Student Behavior” (SD#2008-09-57), sponsored by Frank Doberman, Ph.D. The workshop will be held on Monday, March 16, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the High School Library. Enrollment is restricted to Teachers and Teaching Assistants. Hal Sauter is the contact person.
2. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “Motivating Student Performance” (SD#2008-09-58), sponsored by Frank Doberman, Ph.D. The workshop will be held on Monday, May 11, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the High School Library. Enrollment is restricted to Teachers and Teaching Assistants. Hal Sauter is the contact person.
3. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “Conferring with Students in a Workshop Setting” (SD#2008-09-59), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Wednesday, January 21, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Shaker Road School Library. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 Teachers. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
4. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “Balanced Literacy” (SD#2008-09-60), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, January 27, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Forest Park School Library. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 Teachers. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
5. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “Language/Word Study” (SD#2008-09-61), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 24, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Roessleville School Library. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 Teachers. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
6. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “Strategies for Improving Reading Comprehension: Introduction to Reciprocal Teaching and QAR—Question Answer Relationships” (SD#2008-09-62), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Monday, March 9, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Forest Park School Library. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 Teachers. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
7. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “The Reading Block” (SD#2008-09-63), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 7, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Saddlewood School Library. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 Teachers. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
8. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “The Writing Block” (SD#2008-09-64), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Veeder School Library. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 Teachers. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
9. Six (6) contact hour of credit for participation in “The Daily 5: Fostering Literacy Independence in the Elementary Grades” (SD#2008-09-65), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Thursday, May 21 and 28, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Veeder School Library. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 Teachers. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.

10. Three (3) contact hour of credit for participation in “Using the Continuum of Learning” (SD#2008-09-66), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, May 26, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Shaker Road School Library. Enrollment is restricted to K-4 Teachers. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
11. Nine (9) contact hours of credit for participation in “Chinese: Beginning Mandarin” (SD#2008-09-67), sponsored by South Colonie Continuing Education Program. The workshop will be held for ten weeks beginning on Thursday, March 5, 2009, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Colonie High School, Room 210. Elyse Fogelman (Forest Park) is the contact person.

**D. Student Trips**

Group: Veeder Grade 3 Students (130)  
 Destination: Bronx Zoo, New York City  
 Date: May 27, 2009  
 Responsible: Richard Thompson  
 Transportation: Chartered Bus  
 Cost: Individuals (approx. \$30)

**E. Contracts**

1. A contract with the North Greenbush Central School District for the 2008-09 school year to provide health and welfare services to six (6) South Colonie resident students attending LaSalle Institute located in the North Greenbush Central School District. The total cost of this contract shall be \$1,228.86.
2. A contract with the Bethlehem Central School District for the 2008-09 school year to provide health and welfare Services for one (1) South Colonie resident student attending St. Thomas School located in the Bethlehem Central School District. The total cost for this contract shall be \$742.00.

**F. Change Orders**

1. **Kasselman Electric**, P. O. Box 984, Albany NY 12201-0984
  - #10-2 **Increase \$4,744.00**  
 Due to recent fire inspections by the school district and review by Mosaic Associates, two additional smoke doors are required in the corridors at Shaker Road to bring school corridors up to code.
  - #10-3 **Increase \$5,941.00**  
 Install conduit lines to Forest Park pump station to alleviate drainage problem.
  - #10-9 **Increase \$2,825.00**  
 Investigation of severed electrical line and temporary repair.
2. **WeatherGuard Roofing Co.**, 2880 Curry Road, Schenectady NY 12303
  - #7-5 **Increase \$350.00**  
 Due to raising of the roof installation, additional wood blocking to accommodate flashing.
  - #7-6 **Increase \$4,200.00**  
 Roofing adjustments found, during construction, to be necessary.

- #7-7 **Increase \$1,575.00**  
During the roofing construction process, it was discovered that the roof hatch at Saddlewood was not properly working and required replacement.
- #7-8 **Increase \$1,575.00**  
During the roofing construction process, it was discovered that the roof hatch at Shaker Road was not properly working and required replacement.
- #7-9 **Increase \$1,990.00**  
During the roofing construction process, it was discovered that the roof hatch at Sand Creek was not properly working and required replacement.
- #7-10 **Increase \$965.00**  
Due to the natural slope of the gypsum on the roof above the boiler room and verification of correct installation of tapered insulation on the roof, Mosaic Associates and IBS Engineering have designed a new drain to go into the boiler room roof at Saddlewood Elementary School.
3. **Zandri Construction Corp., 98 Niver Street, Cohoes, NY 12047**
- #6-9 **Increase \$1,731.00**  
Removal of asbestos floor tile in Rooms 33 & 34 at Sand Creek to install new floor traps to correct a plumbing issue. New tile provided and installed.
- #6-10 **Increase \$21,939.00**  
Addition of two smoke doors to be installed in Shaker Road Elementary School.
- #6-11 **Decrease \$660.00**  
Credit for steel installation at Saddlewood, not able to be performed.
- #6-12 **Decrease \$225.00**  
Credit for steel installation at Shaker Road, not able to be performed.

**E. Non-Resident Tuition Rates – 2008-09 School Year**

**Regular Education Students:**

Half-Day Kindergarten	\$5,685.00
Full Day, Grades K-6	\$8,710.00
Full Day, Grades 7-12	\$9,508.00

**Special Education Students**

Half Day Kindergarten	\$24,600.00
Full Day, Grades K-6	\$27,625.00
Full Day, Grades 7-12	\$28,423.00

**G. Clerk's and Treasurer's Reports – November 2008**

Motion made by Mr. Domenici, 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 Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated January 6, 2009, be approved.

**8. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT**

Motion made by Mr. Motto, seconded by Mr. Gordon, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated January 6, 2009, be approved.

**9. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT**

Motion made by Mr. Johanning, seconded by Mr. Motto, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the attached Memorandum of Agreement between South Colonie Administrators' Association and the South Colonie Central School District be approved.

**10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Mr. Buhner acknowledged the following people present at the meeting: Director of Human Resources David Seaver, SCTA President Jeff Dutcher, CCHS Associate Principal Christopher Robilotti and South Colonie residents Sue Gordon and James Ambrose.

**11. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- Facilities & Transportation Committee: Tuesday, January 13, 7:30 a.m., Wolf Rd Diner
- Budget Meeting, Tuesday, January 13, 7:00 p.m., District Office
- Accountability & Board Operations Committee: Tuesday, January 20, 6:00 p.m., D.O.
- Regular Board of Education Meeting, Tuesday, January 20, 2009, 7:0 p.m.
- Policy Committee Meeting: Monday, January 26, 2009, 6:00 p.m., D.O.

**12. ADJOURN**

Motion made by Mr. Domenici, seconded by Mr. Gordon, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the regular meeting be adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

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Joyce Gay  
District Clerk

**A. Resignation**

1. Name: Bridgette McGowan  
Position: Special Education teacher  
Location: Sand Creek Middle School  
Effective Date: January 27, 2009  
Reason: Personal

**B. Leave of Absence**

1. Name: Kelly Coppola  
Position: Science teacher  
Type: Child Care Leave Extension  
Building: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: January 30, 2009  
Ending Date: April 9, 2009
2. Name: Victoria Green  
Position: Elementary Education teacher  
Type: Child Care Leave Extension  
Building: Forest Park Elementary School  
Effective Date: January 30, 2009  
Ending Date: April 9, 2009
3. Name: Theresa DiMarino  
Position: Elementary Education teacher  
Type: Child Care Leave  
Building: Shaker Road Elementary School  
Effective Date: January 16, 2009  
Ending Date: June 30, 2009
4. Name: Karen Baumeister  
Position: Elementary Education teacher  
Type: Child Care Leave  
Building: Lisha Kill Middle School  
Effective Date: January 15, 2009  
Ending Date: February 13, 2009

**C. Temporary Part-Time Appointments**

1. Name: Kimberly DonVito  
Address: 23 Churchill Square, Niskayuna, NY 12309  
Type: Temporary Part-time (.95)  
Teaching Area: Special – Teaching Assistant  
Building: Sand Creek Middle School  
Effective Date: January 5, 2009  
Ending Date: June 30, 2009  
Salary: According to the SCTA Teaching Assistant contract, pro-rated  
Certification: Teaching Assistant Level 1

2. Name: Debra McKenna  
Address: 9 Darren's Way, Albany, NY 12205  
Type: Temporary Part-time (.95)  
Teaching Area: Special – Teaching Assistant  
Building: Sand Creek Middle School  
Effective Date: January 5, 2009  
Ending Date: June 30, 2009  
Salary: According to the SCTA Teaching Assistant contract, pro-rated  
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grade 1-6)

D. **Long Term Replacement**

1. Name: Amanda Knaggs  
Address: 610 Sanders Avenue, Scotia, NY 12302  
Type: Long Term Replacement  
Teaching Area: Science  
Building: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: January 30, 2009  
Ending Date: April 9, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule II, Step 2, pro-rated  
Education: B.A. from Syracuse University; M.A. from Union College  
Certification: Initial in Biology 7-12
2. Name: Amber Whalen  
Address: 1269 County Rt. 59, Cambridge, NY 12816  
Type: Long Term Replacement  
Teaching Area: Elementary Education  
Building: Forest Park Elementary School  
Effective Date: January 30, 2009  
Ending Date: April 9, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 2, pro-rated  
Education: B.S. from SUNY Oneonta  
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)
3. Name: Ryan Getwright  
Address: 10 Hallak Drive, Ballston Spa, NY 12020  
Type: Long Term Replacement  
Teaching Area: Elementary Education  
Building: Shaker Road Elementary School  
Effective Date: January 16, 2009  
Ending Date: June 30, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1  
Education: B.S. from SUNY Plattsburgh  
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)

4. Name: Danielle Gushlaw  
Address: 3-D Russet Oaks, Ballston Lake, NY 12019  
Type: Long Term Replacement  
Teaching Area: Elementary Education  
Building: Lisha Kill Middle School  
Effective Date: January 15, 2009  
Ending Date: February 13, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 2, pro-rated  
Education: B.S. from SUNY Plattsburgh  
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)
  
5. Name: Amanda Ralston  
Address: 1001 Louis Road, Schenectady, NY 12303  
Type: Long Term Replacement  
Teaching Area: Special Education  
Building: Sand Creek Middle School  
Effective Date: January 30, 2009  
Ending Date: June 30, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule II, Step 2, pro-rated  
Education: B.S. from SUNY Oneonta; M.A. from the College of St. Rose  
Certification: Initial in Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)

E. **Long Term Substitute**

1. Name: Danielle Gushlaw  
Address: 3-D Russet Oaks, Ballston Lake, NY 12019  
Type: Long Term Substitute  
Teaching Area: Elementary Education  
Building: Lisha Kill Middle School  
Effective Date: December 19, 2008  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 2  
Education: B.S. from SUNY Plattsburgh  
Certification: Initial in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)
  
2. Name: Alison Mayer  
Address: P.O. Box 62, Duanesburg, NY 12056  
Type: Long Term Substitute  
Teaching Area: Special Education  
Building: Forest Park Elementary School  
Effective Date: December 19, 2008  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1  
Education: B.S. from the College of St. Rose  
Certification: Initial in Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6) and  
Initial in Childhood Education (Grades 1-6)

**F. Substitute Teachers**

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

**G. Co-Curricular**

Appointment of the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation for the 2008-09 school year:

*Sand Creek Middle School*

Math Club

Rachel Graber beginning December 1, 2008

Math Club

Matthew Widmann end December 1, 2008

**H. Homework Club Instruction**

Appointment of the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation from January 20, 2009 to April 23, 2009 per the Board of Education Policy 9290:

*Veeder Elementary School*

Joseph Gluck .25

Alice O'Neill .25

**I. After School Computer Assisted Instruction for the 2008-2009 School Year**

Appointment of the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation from January 20, 2009 to April 23, 2009 per the Board of Education Policy 9290:

*Forest Park Elementary School*

Nancy Huntley .25

Lisa Prinzo .25

**A. Resignation**

Name: Kimberly DonVito

Position: Temporary School Monitor (SC)

Effective: January 4, 2009

Reason: Accepted another position in the District

**B. Appointments**

1. Name: Raffaele Micale  
Address: 12 Hartwood Street, Albany, New York 12205  
Position: School Bus Driver Substitute (Emergency Conditional)  
Effective: December 16, 2008  
Salary: \$13.50 per hour
2. Name: Evan Crisafulli  
Address: 26 Woodridge Drive, Loudonville, New York 12211  
Position: School Monitor Substitute (Emergency Conditional)  
Effective: January 7, 2009  
Salary: \$8.75 per hour
3. Name: Zachary Despart  
Address: 1601 Tina Lane, Castleton, New York 12033  
Position: School Monitor Substitute (Emergency Conditional)  
Effective: January 7, 2009  
Salary: \$8.75 per hour
4. Name: Candace Morgan  
Address: 351 Clove Road, Castleton, New York 12033  
Position: School Monitor Substitute (Emergency Conditional)  
Effective: January 7, 2009  
Salary: \$8.75 per hour
5. Name: Caitlin L. O'Brien  
Address: 39 Hampshire Way, Niskayuna, New York 12309  
Position: School Monitor Substitute (Emergency Conditional)  
Effective: January 7, 2009  
Salary: \$8.75 per hour
6. Name: David Powalyk  
Address: 1 Chanelle Court, Loudonville, New York 12211  
Position: School Monitor Substitute (Emergency Conditional)  
Effective: December 18, 2008  
Salary: \$8.75 per hour

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7. Name: Layne Woodard  
Address: 10 Janine Drive, East Greenbush, New York 12061  
Position: School Monitor Substitute (Emergency Conditional)  
Effective: January 7, 2009  
Salary: \$8.75 per hour
8. Name: Kristine Isaksen  
Address: 13 Thoroughbred Way, Clifton Park, New York 12065  
Position: Probationary Senior Keyboard Specialist (Emergency Conditional)  
Effective: January 7, 2009  
Salary: Schedule D, Step 2 per CSEA Contract  
Hours: 7.5 hours per day  
Current Location: Bus Garage  
Probationary Period: January 7, 2009 to July 7, 2009
9. Reappointments as emergency conditional for compliance with NYS Education Law:
- |                        |                      |                  |
|------------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Christine Colagiovanni | Michelle Holtslander | Mark D. Pennock  |
| Patricia Crider        | Michelle Lane        | Joan Qualtere    |
| Linda Davis            | Holly McCormack      | Dawn Thomas      |
| Margaret Desmond       | Lisa Meurs           | Thomas Tuper     |
| Rose Ellen Flint       | Judy Nicholson       | Jeanne VanPatten |
| Eileen Germaine        | Kathryn O'Brien      |                  |
| Gina Hilson            | Diane Parower        |                  |