

**SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**MEETING MINUTES**

**April 21, 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. 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. Domenici, seconded by Ms. Jaquish, and carried unanimously (8-0), to **adjourn** executive session at 7:24 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE TO FLAG**

Mr. Ryan led in the pledge to the flag.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Johanning, seconded by Mr. Casey, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the minutes of the regular meeting on March 31, 2009, be approved.

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

- The Colonie Youth Center is holding a fundraising event at Fuddrucker's restaurant on Wolf Road on Wednesday, April 29, from 12 to 8 p.m. A percentage of net sales will be credited to CYC.
- Thanked Senator Breslin and Assemblyman Reilly for helping South Colonie in this year's budget process in three specific areas: Eliminating the deficit reduction initiative, supporting full-day kindergarten initiative, and eliminating additional unfunded mandates for special education.

**Mr. Domenici:**

- Explained the BOCES budget process and how the BOCES board worked to arrive at a reasonable administrative budget for 2009-10.

**5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND STUDY****A. Foreign Language Instructional Program Report**

Supervisor Nora Callender presented an update on the District's Foreign Language Program. Cheryl Beckman, foreign language teacher at the high school, also participated in the presentation.

**B. School Report Card**

Assistant Superintendent Tim Backus presented the School Report Card, which reports student performance on state assessments, attendance data and demographics.

**C. Board Committee Reports**

The Accountability & Board Operations Committee has met since the last board meeting. Mr. Domenici, Committee Chair, gave a brief oral report.

**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. In-Service Courses**

1. Two (2.0) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 30-contact hour course, "Contemporary Chemistry for Teachers – Chem 501" (#09-10-01), sponsored by CCMR Institute and Cornell University. The course will be held at Cornell University on July 20-24, 2009 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. Steve Zaccari (CCHS) is the contact person.
2. One-half (.5) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 7.5-contact hours course, "K-6 ELA Summer Study Group – Part I" (#09-10-02), sponsored by South Colonie Schools. Dates and times of the class are: July 9, 2009 – 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.; July 14, 2009 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; July 17, 2009 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
3. One-half (.5) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 7.5-contact hours course, "K-6 ELA Summer Study Group – Part II" (#09-10-03), sponsored by South Colonie Schools. Dates and times of the class are: July 23, 2009 – 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.; July 28, 2009 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; July 30, 2009 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.
4. One-half (.5) in-service credits for participation in and completion of the 7.5-contact hours course, "K-6 ELA Summer Study Group – Part III" (#09-10-04), sponsored by South Colonie Schools. Dates and times of the class are: August 4, 2009 – 10:00 to 11:30 a.m.; August 11, 2009 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.; August 14, 2009 – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Stacey Wranesh is the contact person.

**C. Seminar in Educational Issues**

1. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in "We Are All Intelligent: We Just Learn Different" (SD#2008-09-86), sponsored by NYSUT. The workshop will be held Thursday, May 21, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Colonie Central High School. Enrollment is restricted to Teaching Assistants. Christine Zostant is the contact person.

2. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Everyday Use of the Smart Board in a Elementary Classroom” (SD#2008-09-87), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Shaker Road Elementary School. Jack Adams is the contact person.
3. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Introduction to Movie Maker – Level 1” (SD#2008-09-88), sponsored by South Colonie. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, May 5, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Sand Creek Middle School. Jack Adams is the contact person.
4. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Teaching English Language Learners to Read” (SD#2008-09-89), sponsored by Greater Capital Region Teacher Center. The workshop will be held on Friday, June 26, 2009, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Guilderland High School. Concetta Smith (Lisha Kill) is the contact person.

**D. Transportation Contracts**

1. A 30-day emergency transportation contract with Chalet Services, Inc., 3206 Rt. #81 Surprise, NY 12176, for transportation to the Robert C. Parker School for two (2) new resident students. Transportation will begin on Monday, April 6, 2009, and end on May 5, 2009, at a cost of \$160.00 per diem. The total cost of the emergency contract shall be \$2,560.00

**E. Contracts**

1. A contract with the Guilderland Central School District to provide Health and Welfare Services for the 2008-09 school year to ten (10) South Colonie resident students attending Christ the King School at a cost of \$560.79 per student. The total cost of this contract shall be \$5,607.90.
2. Agreement with the Colonie Youth Center, Inc., 272 Maxwell Road, Latham NY 12110, to operate Summer Day Camps at Roessleville Elementary, Shaker Road Elementary, and Lisha Kill Middle Schools from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. between June 29, 2009 to August 21, 2009.

**F. Use of School Bus**

1. Use of school bus by the Albany County Sheriff’s Office for S.W.A.T. School on Wednesday, April 22, 2009 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The training site will be at the old Ann Lee Nursing Home parking lot near the airport. Driver will not be needed for the exercises and the bus will not be moved from where it is parked; therefore, driver’s wages and mileage fees will be waived.

**G. Declare as Surplus**

1. 1996 International/Thomas wheelchair bus – VIN #1HVBDABKOTH276292  
Mileage: 129,654

**H. Donations**

1. Jolene Crowley (formerly Jolene Cornell, wife of Mark Cornell), donated two large filing cabinets of Mark's violin sheet music to the school district music department. The two filing cabinets and sheet music is valued at \$500.00.
2. Donate the wheelchair bus, declared as surplus in Item G.1. above, to Fuller Road Volunteer Fire Department to be used in training exercises.
3. Plug Power, Inc., 968 Albany Shaker Rd., Latham NY 12110, donated office supplies (binders, file folders, manila folders, staplers, tape dispensers, clipboards, hole punches) to South Colonie valued at \$755.00.

**I. Bid Awards****1. Reconstruction Work at Library Area at Colonie Central High School**

Awards to low bidders meeting specifications:

**General Construction**

Mid-State Industries, Ltd., 1105 Catalyn St., Schenectady NY 12303

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Contract No. 13     | \$96,711         |
| Alternate 1G        | \$14,811         |
| <b>Total Amount</b> | <b>\$111,522</b> |

**HVAC**

Angelo Chiodo Heating & Air Conditioning, LLC, 618 Wolf St., Syracuse NY 13208

|                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Contract No. 14     | \$71,200        |
| <b>Total Amount</b> | <b>\$71,200</b> |

**Electric**

Harold R. Clune, Inc., 30 Prospect Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020

|                     |                 |
|---------------------|-----------------|
| Contract No. 15     | \$60,700        |
| <b>Total Amount</b> | <b>\$60,700</b> |

**Total of All Contracts:           \$243,422**

**2. Workers' Compensation Third Party Administrator Contract**

Award to Benetech, One Dodge Street, Wynantskill NY 12198 for a term of three (3) years – July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2012.

Motion made by Mr. Dunn, seconded by Mr. Gordon, 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. Motto, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated April 21, 2009, be approved.

**8. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT**

Motion made by Ms. Jaquish, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated April 21, 2009, be approved.

**9. RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION PERSONNEL**

The duly qualified voter of said School District named below is hereby appointed to act as Inspectors of Election and/or Assistant Clerks at said special district meeting. Each Inspector of Election and Assistant Clerk appointed for said special district meeting, as herein provided, shall serve without compensation. The Clerk of said School District is hereby authorized and directed to give written notice of appointment to the persons herein respectively appointed as Permanent Chairmen, Inspectors of Election and Assistant Clerks for said special district meeting.

**Lizzi, Melissa**

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

**10. POLICIES****One Reading & Adoption**

Policy 2510 – New Board Member Orientation

Policy 5020 – Equal Education Opportunities

**Abolish:**

Policy 4751 – Acceleration for Pupils Admitted to SUNY Albany

**Reviewed:**

Policy 4200 – Curriculum Development

Regulation 5020-R – Equal Educational Opportunities

Policy 5120 – School Census

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:**

2510-R.1 – Overview of Board Service

2510-R.2 – New Board Member Orientation & Training

Motion made by Mr. Motto, seconded by Ms. Jaquish, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the above actions on stated policies be approved.

**11. RESOLUTIONS**

*National Physical Education and Sports Week* – May 4-8, 2009

*National School Nurse Day* – May 6, 2009

*Asian Pacific-American Heritage Month* – May 2009

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

**12. ADOPTION OF BUDGET**

The 2009-10 Budget was developed through a series of work sessions from January to April and is presented for adoption. A concerned District resident, Barbara DelCogliano, 30 Ives Court, presented a *Request to Address the Board* on the subject of the 2009-10 budget. She addressed some issues she has with class sizes being impacted in the proposed budget as well as some other concerns.

Motion by Mr. Johanning, seconded by Mr. Motto, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the 2009-10 Budget in the amount of **\$88,610,700** be adopted.

**13. PROPERTY TAX REPORT CARD**

Motion by Mr. Casey, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the attached Property Tax Report Card be approved.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

**No comments.**

**15. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Mr. Buhner acknowledged the following people present at the meeting: Director of Human Resources David Seaver, SCTA President Jeff Dutcher, High School Associate Principal Michael Marohn, South Colonie residents Jeff Zelka, Barbara DelCogliano, David Kiehle and Ted Thompson.

**16. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- Policy Committee: Monday, April 27 – 5:30 p.m., District Office
- PTA “*Meet the Candidates*” Night – Monday, April 27 - 6:30 p.m., District Office
- Public Hearing on Recommended Budget – Tuesday, May 5 - 7:00 p.m. – Saddlewood Regular Board of Education Meeting at 7:30 p.m. – District Office
- Facilities & Transportation Committee: Tuesday, May 12 – 7:30 a.m., Wolf Road Diner
- Annual Budget Vote & Board Election – Tuesday, May 19 – 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

**ALL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS**

**17. ADJOURN**

Motion made by Mr. Motto, seconded by Mr. Casey, and carried unanimously (8-0), that the regular meeting be adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

A. **Tenure Appointment**

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

| <i>Name</i>   | <i>Tenure Area</i> | <i>Tenure Date</i> |
|---------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Linda Gresens | Teaching Assistant | 05/07/2009         |

B. **Substitute Teachers**

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

**A. Retirement**

1. Name: Stephen Benedict, Jr.  
Position: Superintendent of Buildings & Grounds I (DO)  
Effective: October 17, 2009

**B. Resignations**

1. Name: Kevin Donovan  
Position: Custodial Worker (HS)  
Effective: April 4, 2009  
Reason: Personal
2. Name: Jean Freedman  
Position: School Monitor (RV)  
Effective: April 10, 2009  
Reason: Accepted a position outside the District

**C. Leave of Absence:**

1. Name: Judith Book  
Position: Permanent School Monitor (SC)  
Effective: May 26, 2009 to June 30, 2009  
Reason: Personal

**D. Appointments**

1. Name: Anthony Renna  
Address: 806 Park Avenue, Albany, New York 12208  
Position: School Bus Driver Substitute  
Effective: April 6, 2009  
Salary: \$13.50 per hour
2. Name: Juliet King  
Address: 4 Candlewood Court, Albany, New York 12205  
Position: Probationary Part-Time Food Service Helper  
Effective: April 20, 2009  
Salary: \$9.76 per hour, per CSEA Contract  
Hours: 3.0 hours per day  
Current Location: Colonie Central High School-Main  
Probationary Period: April 20, 2009 to January 20, 2010

3. Name: Dawn Thomas  
Address: 18 Ferrara Avenue, Schenectady, New York 12304  
Position: Probationary Part-Time Food Service Helper  
Effective: April 6, 2009  
Salary: \$9.76 per hour as per CSEA Contract  
Hours: 3.0 hours per day  
Current Location: Lisha Kill Middle School  
Probationary Period: April 6, 2009 to January 6, 2010
  
4. Name: Diane Darling  
Address: 32 Reber Street, Albany, New York 12205  
Position: School Monitor Substitute  
Effective: April 27, 2009  
Salary: \$8.75 per hour
  
5. Name: Diane Darling  
Address: 32 Reber Street, Albany, New York 12205  
Position: Typist Substitute  
Effective: April 27, 2009  
Salary: \$9.50 per hour
  
6. Reappointments as emergency conditional for compliance with NYS Education Law:  
  

|                 |                 |                  |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Patricia Crider | Candace Morgan  | Jeanne VanPatten |
| Gina Hilson     | Judy Nicholson  | Layne Woodard    |
| Nancy Melius    | Caitlin O'Brien |                  |

**E. Change of Appointment**

1. Name: Joseph Micare  
Address: 38 Bridle Path, Albany, New York 12205  
Position Change: Temporary School Monitor to Probationary School Monitor  
Hours: 6.75 hours per day  
Salary: \$10.91 per hour as per Teamsters Contract  
Effective: March 27, 2009  
Current Location: Colonie Central High School  
Probationary Period: March 27, 2009 to November 27, 2009