

**SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOLS  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**MINUTES**

**October 20, 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 Board of Education was called to order by Mr. Casey at 7:02 p.m.

**Roll Call**

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

Also present: Superintendent Jonathan Buhner, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction Tim Backus, Assistant Superintendent for Management Services Beverly Miller, and District Clerk Joyce Gay.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Motion by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (7-0), to **enter** executive session at 7:03 p.m. to discuss employment matters relating to particular persons and collective bargaining negotiations.

Motion by Mr. Johanning, seconded by Mr. Domenici, and carried unanimously (7-0), to **adjourn** executive session at 7:30 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE TO FLAG**

Mr. Casey led the pledge to the flag.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Ms. Jaquish, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the minutes of the regular meeting on **October 6, 2009**, be approved.

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

Governor Patterson has designated October 19-23, 2009, 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 board members with individual gifts. The PTA Council provided special refreshments to celebrate the occasion.

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

- Attended the New York State School Boards (NYSSBA) Annual Conference in New York City, October 15-18, 2009.
- Noted that Officer Greg Jensen will be returning to South Colonie as a DARE officer as of January 1, 2010.

**Ms. Jaquish:**

- Attended the NYSSBA Annual Conference in New York City and served as a voting delegate to the Annual Business Meeting.

**Mr. Domenici:**

- Has been involved in the BOCES Board meetings, dealing with special education issues and the BOCES budget decisions.
- Thanked fellow Board members for their expressions of concern regarding his son who has been serving with the armed forces in Afghanistan.

**Mr. Dunn:**

- Attended the NYSSBA Annual Conference in New York City

**Mr. Kiehle:**

- Attended the football game between Shaker and Colonie on October 9.
- Re-stated his goal to visit each school in the District this year to get an overview of how each is managed. He visited three more schools and noted that each principal has been very hospitable and helpful.

**Mr. Johanning:**

- Attended the PTA annual Presidents and Principals Dinner on Monday, October 19, and was pleased with the South Colonie representation at the event. He noted that our PTA Council President Clare Hart was presented with the Jane Skrzypek Volunteer of the Year Award by the Northeastern Region PTA.
- Attended several volleyball and soccer games
- Attended the Shaker Road Book Fair

**Mr. Ryan:**

- Attended the NYSSBA Annual Conference in New York City and participated in several workshops which were very informative.
- Thanked Ms. Jaquish for being the South Colonie delegate for the NYSSBA Annual Business Meeting.
- Stated that he would like some of our musical groups to audition for the opportunity to perform at next year's NYSSBA conference in New York City.

- C. A Request to Speak was submitted by Mr. Ray Burnside, 3 Peter Drive, Albany NY 12205, and he read a letter written to the Board of Education (attached) regarding the issue of school bus traffic on Peter Drive. Mr. Buhner and Mr. Casey responded to questions from Mr. Burnside.

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

Jack Adams, Director of Information Technology, presented an update on the Information Technology Department. Justin DeFazio, Art teacher at the high school, and Darko Sedlar, District Technology Facilitator, also participated in the presentation.

**B. Board Committee Reports**

The Audit-Finance Committee and Information Systems Committee have met since the last board meeting. Oral reports on both meetings were given by Mr. Buhner and Mr. Johanning.

**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. Seminar on Educational Issues**

1. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Revisiting an Overview of the Continuum of Literacy Learning – What to do after the Fountas and Pinnell Assessment?” (SD#2009-10-25), sponsored by South Colonie. Enrollment is limited to twenty (20) K-6 teachers. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, November 17, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Saddlewood Library. Suzanne Moore is the contact person.
2. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Phonics, Spelling and Word Study – Module 6 of the Continuum of Literacy Learning” (SD#2009-10-26), sponsored by South Colonie. Enrollment is limited to twenty (20) K-6 teachers. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, December 8, 2009, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Saddlewood Library. Suzanne Moore is the contact person.
3. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Guided Reading – Module 7 of the Continuum of Literacy Learning” (SD#2009-10-27), sponsored by South Colonie. Enrollment is limited to twenty (20) K-6 teachers. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Saddlewood Library. Suzanne Moore is the contact person.
4. Three (3) contact hours of credit for participation in “Interactive Read-Aloud and Literature Discussion – Module 1 of the Continuum of Literacy Learning” (SD#2009-10-28), sponsored by South Colonie. Enrollment is limited to twenty (20) K-6 teachers. The workshop will be held on Tuesday, March 2, 2010, from 4 to 7 p.m. at Saddlewood Library. Suzanne Moore is the contact person.

**C. Student Trips**

1. Group: CCHS Studio in Drawing/Painting (80-90)  
Destination: Clark Museum, Williamstown, Massachusetts  
Date: April 20, 2010 & April 21, 2010  
Responsible: Christine Festin  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals
2. Group: CCHS Wind Ensemble, Symphonic Band, Concert Band (200)  
Destination: Six Flags New England, Agawam Massachusetts  
Date: May 22, 2010  
Responsible: Lon Walker  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising

3. Group: Sand Creek Grade 6 Students (52)  
Destination: Norman Rockwell Museum, Stockbridge, Massachusetts  
Date: October 30, 2009  
Responsible: Sue Anne Shank  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals
4. Group: Sand Creek Grade 6 Students (165)  
Destination: Broadway, New York City  
Date: December 9, 2009  
Responsible: Mrs. Dongelewic, Mrs. Pollicino, Mrs. Forezzi, Mrs. Finnegan  
Transportation: Chartered Bus  
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
5. Group: Sand Creek Peer Leadership (32)  
Destination: Camp Chingachgook, Lake George, NY  
Date: April 15 & 16, 2010  
Responsible: Daniel DeMarco, Jessica Maguire  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals
6. Group: Sand Creek Grade 8 Students (200-225)  
Destination: Baltimore, Maryland, Washington, DC  
Date: May 11-14, 2010  
Responsible: Catherine Vigars, Lisa McGee  
Transportation: Chartered Bus  
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
7. Group: Sand Creek Grade 6 Students (108-140)  
Destination: Charlton, Massachusetts  
Date: May 11-14, 2010  
Responsible: Jim Brown  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals
8. Group: Sand Creek 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band (60)  
Destination: Six Flags New England, Agawam Massachusetts  
Date: Saturday, May 15, 2010  
Responsible: Michelle Cannistraci  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
9. Group: Sand Creek Grade 5 Students (200)  
Destination: Bronx Zoo, New York  
Date: May 20, 2010  
Responsible: Dan DeMarco  
Transportation: Chartered Bus  
Cost: Individuals

10. Group: Sand Creek 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band (50)  
Destination: Great Escape, Lake George NY  
Date: May 21, 2010  
Responsible: Jeffrey Kirsty  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals
11. Group: Sand Creek Grade 7 Students (250)  
Destination: Great Escape, Lake George NY  
Date: May 27, 2010  
Responsible: Melissa Vogt, Stacey Sebert  
Transportation: Chartered Bus  
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
12. Group: Lisha Kill Grade 6 Orchestra/Band/Chorus (160)  
Destination: Six Flags-Great Escape, Lake George NY  
Date: May 15, 2010  
Responsible: Dana Probeyahn, Susan Brynolfson, Pat Fatato  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
13. Group: Lisha Kill Grade 5 Students (168)  
Destination: Bronx Zoo, Bronx, NY  
Date: May 20, 2010  
Responsible: Deena Griffith  
Transportation: Chartered Bus  
Cost: Individuals, Fund Raising
14. Group: Sand Creek 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band (72)  
Destination: Six Flags New England, Agawam Massachusetts  
Date: June 2010 (Day TBD)  
Responsible: Terri Korb  
Transportation: School Bus  
Cost: Individuals

**D. Transportation Contracts**

1. A 30-day emergency contract with Chalet Services, Inc. 3206 Rt #81, Surprise, NY 12176, for transportation, including a monitor to the Wildwood School on Curry Road at a cost of \$175.00 per diem. Transportation will begin October 5, 2009 and end November 3, 2009. The total cost of this contract shall be \$3,500.00.
2. A 30-day emergency contract with Chalet Services, Inc. 3206 Rt #81, Surprise, NY 12176, for transportation of a homeless family from Troy to Colonie Central High School and Sand Creek Middle School at a cost of \$95.00 per diem. Transportation will begin October 5, 2009 and end November 3, 2009. The total cost of this contract shall be \$1,900.00

3. Transportation contracts for the 2009-10 school year awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, **Chalet Services, 3206 Rt #81, Surprise, NY 12176**, as follows:

<u>ROUTE</u>	<u>Cost Per Diem</u>	<u>Cost Per Mile</u>
#17 Questar III	\$69.00	\$1.95
#18 Sand Creek Middle School	\$51.00	\$1.95
#19 Wildwood (Curry Road)	\$133.00	\$1.95
#20 CCHS/Sand Creek Middle School	\$72.00	\$1.95

#### **E. Contracts**

1. A contract with The Center for Disability Services, Inc. to provide educational services beginning on September 9, 2009 and ending on June 25, 2010 for South Colonie students enrolled in the contractor's school. Tuition shall be \$38,743.00 for the school year component pending STAC SED approval. Partial months shall be paid on a pro-rated basis of \$968.57 per week for the school year component.
2. A contract with The Charlton School/Ketchum-Grande Memorial School, P. O. Box 47, Burnt Hills, NY 12027, to provide educational services for the 2009-10 school year for South Colonie students enrolled in the contractor's school. Tuition shall be \$2,990 monthly for the school year component pending STAC SED approval. The maintenance per diem rate of \$243.63 includes room and board plus the medical/health services set by NYS Department of Health.
3. An agreement between Achievements, PLLC, 623 New Loudon Road, Latham, NY 12110, and South Colonie Central Schools, to provide Physical Therapy services 1.5 days per week from September 21, 2009 through November 6, 2009, at a rate of \$248 per full day.

#### **F. Tax Refunds**

1. Refund of 2008-09 taxes to John and Elizabeth LaClair, Tax Map #60.21-1-6, located at 325 Ferris Road, Schenectady, NY 12309, in the amount of \$118.98. The property was improperly assessed; refund is issued in compliance with a Small Claims Assessment Review decision. Refund is made without interest.
2. Refund of 2009-10 taxes to Deborah Barnum, Tax Map #60.21-1-6, located at 1143 Clute Crest Drive, Schenectady, NY 12309, in the amount of \$337.65. The property was improperly assessed; refund is issued in compliance with a Small Claims Assessment Review decision. Refund is made without interest.
3. Approval of application RP-556 for Refund and Credit of Real Property Taxes for 2009 submitted by Albert Loffredo for property located at 49 Oakmont Street, Niskayuna, NY 12309, Tax Map #60.7-1-37. Property owner signed up for the income verification program and should have received the Enhanced STAR. The amount of refund is \$455.83 and is made without interest.

**G. Declare as Surplus**

One (1) Canon AP200X typewriter, Serial #A620299567, Fixed Asset Tag #3280. Item is located at Colonie High School. Due to age and condition, item is beyond repair.

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

**7. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION**

Motion made by Ms. Jaquish, seconded by Mr. Dunn, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated October 20, 2009, be approved.

**8. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT**

Motion made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated October 20, 2009, be approved.

**9. RESOLUTIONS**

*National High School Education Month* (November)

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

**10. CERTIFICATION OF VOTE**

**Proposition – Bus Purchases: APPROVED**

	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Machine Totals:	695	342
Absentee Ballots:	33	47
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>728</b>	<b>389</b>

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

**11. AGREEMENT FOR INTERNAL AUDITING SERVICES**

Approval of an agreement between **School District Compliance Specialists**, 120 Warrior Way, Middleburgh, NY 12122 and South Colonie Central Schools for internal auditing services to be performed at the cost of \$6,500.00 (all inclusive) for the 2009-10 school year. Any additional days will be billed at \$650 per day (all inclusive).

Motion made by Mr. Kiehle, seconded by Mr. Johanning, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the above Agreement for Internal Auditing Services be approved.

**12. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

SCTA President Jeff Dutcher noted that there were several Teaching Assistants and School Monitors present at the meeting and that both groups are currently working under an expired contract. Mr. Buhner responded that the District is committed to working toward a resolution and hopes both sides can return to the process as soon as possible.

**13. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Mr. Buhner acknowledged the following staff members present: SCTA President Jeff Dutcher, Director of Transportation Peter Tunny, Roessleville Elementary School Principal Marybeth Tedisco.

**14. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- October 22, 2009 – Facilities Committee – 7:30 a.m. – Wolf Road Diner
- October 26, 2009 – Policy Committee – 6:00 p.m., District Office
- November 3, 2009 – Regular Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – District Office
- November 6, 2009 – Transportation Committee – 7:30 a.m. – Wolf Rd Diner
- November 17, 2009 – Accountability & Bd Operations – 7:30 a.m. – Wolf Rd Diner
- November 17, 2009 - Regular Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 p.m. – District Office
- November 18, 2009 – Information Systems Committee – 7:30 a.m. – Wolf Rd Diner
- November 30, 2009 – Policy Committee – 6:00 p.m., District Office

**15. ADJOURN**

Motion made by Mr. Ryan, seconded by Mr. Kiehle, and carried unanimously (7-0), that the regular meeting be adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

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Joyce Gay  
District Clerk

**A. Leave of Absences**

Name: Christine Fox  
Position: Reading teacher  
Type: Child Care Leave  
Building: Forest Park Elementary School  
Effective Date: October 20, 2009  
Ending Date: December 23, 2009

**B. Appointment**

Name: Melissa McConville  
Address: 277 Osborne Road, Loudonville, NY 12211  
Type: 3 Year Probationary  
Tenure Area: Special – Teaching Assistant  
Building: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: October 21, 2009  
End of Probationary Period: October 20, 2012  
Salary: According to the SCTA Teaching Assistant contract  
Certification: Level 1 Teaching Assistant

**C. Long Term Replacement**

Name: Michelle Buonanno  
Address: 11 Cypress Point, Clifton Park, NY 12065  
Type: Long Term Replacement  
Teaching Area: Reading  
Building: Forest Park Elementary School  
Effective Date: October 20, 2009  
Ending Date: December 23, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule II, Step 3, pro-rated  
Education: B.S. from SUNY Geneseo; M.S. from SUNY Albany  
Certification: Initial in Literacy (Birth-Grade 6)

**D. Long Term Substitute**

1. Name: Michelle Buonanno  
Address: 11 Cypress Point, Clifton Park, NY 12065  
Type: Long Term Substitute  
Teaching Area: Reading  
Building: Forest Park Elementary School  
Effective Date: October 6, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 3  
Education: B.S. from SUNY Geneseo  
Certification: Initial in Literacy (Birth-Grade 6)

2. Name: Brendan Scannell  
Address: 239 Milton Avenue, Ballston Spa, NY 12020  
Type: Long Term Substitute  
Teaching Area: Science  
Building: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: October 6, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1, pro-rated  
Education: B.S. from Stockton State College of NJ  
Certification: Initial in Biology 7-12
  
3. Name: Danielle Beach  
Address: 62 Killean Park, Albany, NY 12205  
Type: Long Term Substitute  
Teaching Area: English  
Building: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: October 8, 2009  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1  
Education: B.S. from SUNY Albany  
Certification: Initial in English Language Arts 7-12

**E. Substitute Teachers**

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

**F. Increase of Appointment**

1. Name: Jill Durant  
Teaching Area: Guidance Counselor  
Building: Colonie Central High School  
Increase: .25  
Effective Date: September 1, 2009 to October 23, 2009
  
2. Name: Jason Blind  
Teaching Area: Guidance Counselor  
Building: Colonie Central High School  
Increase: .25  
Effective Date: September 1, 2009 to October 23, 2009
  
3. Name: Raymond Molloy  
Teaching Area: Guidance Counselor  
Building: Colonie Central High School  
Increase: .25  
Effective Date: September 1, 2009 to October 23, 2009

4.     Name: Roberta Raymond  
       Teaching Area: Guidance Counselor  
       Building: Colonie Central High School  
       Increase: .25  
       Effective Date: September 1, 2009 to October 23, 2009

**G.     Co-Curricular – 2009-10 School Year**

Appointment at the approved rate of compensation:

Lisha Kill Middle School

Chess Club	Robin Sacco	
Morning Announcement Club	Robin Sacco	
Ski Club	Brook Bourgeois	.50

**A. Resignation**

Name: Heather J. Ilardo

Position: Permanent Food Service Helper (FP)

Effective: October 17, 2009

Reason: Accepted a position outside the District

**B. Retirement**

Name: Michele McAllister

Position: Permanent School Bus Driver (BG)

**REVISED Effective Date:** December 24, 2009

**C. Leave of Absence:**

Name: Karen Willey

Position: Permanent School Monitor (SC)

Effective: October 13, 2009 to December 31, 2009

Reason: Personal

**D. Appointments**

1. Name: John Day

Address: 151 Vaughn Drive, Albany, New York 12205

Position: School Bus Driver Substitute

Effective: October 14, 2009

Salary: \$13.75 per hour

2. Name: Kathleen Pavone

Address: 7 Fairway Lane, Schenectady, New York 12304

Position: Clerk Typist I-PT (Substitute)

Effective: October 21, 2009

Salary: \$9.75 per hour

3. Name: Kathleen Pavone

Address: 7 Fairway Lane, Schenectady, New York 12304

Position: School Monitor Substitute

Effective: October 21, 2009

Salary: \$9.00 per hour

4. Name: Michele Patentreger

Address: 8 Melissa Court, Albany, New York 12205

Position: School Nurse Substitute

Effective: October 21, 2009

Salary: \$16.50 per hour

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

Gina Hilson

Caitlin O'Brien