

**MANHEIM TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS MEETING**

**District Office**

**June 14, 2010**

**7:30 p.m.**

**MINUTES**

Hannah Bartges, President, called the meeting of the Manheim Township Board of School Directors to order at 7:30 p.m. School directors present were Mark Anderson, Hannah Bartges, Lynn Miller, William Murry, Tom O'Brien, Don Reed, and Tom Winters. Also present were Gene Freeman, Superintendent; John Riegel, Assistant Superintendent; Tim Williams, Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum/Instruction & Technology; Joe Kurjiaka, Chief Operating Officer; Katherine Setlock, Director of Pupil Services, Tom Koch, Plant Manager; and Jill Gaissert, substitute Board Secretary.

Absent: Barbara Carr, Susan Doub, Bekah Fry and Sam Rosen

Visitors present are recorded in the official school board guest book. A quorum was present, and due notice had been published.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mrs. Bartges led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Roll Call Vote**

Mrs. Bartges announced that unless otherwise stated, each vote taken at this meeting will be considered a roll call vote and the secretary will record any negative votes or abstentions.

**Approval /Modification of  
Agenda**

Mrs. Bartges asked if there were any agenda items that should be removed from the consent portion of the agenda. Mr. O'Brien asked for the Drug Testing policy, 227.1, to be moved from Consent to the Superintendent's Report.

Mr. Murry moved and Mr. Anderson seconded the motion to approve the revised consent agenda.

Voice vote with all members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**Manheim Township  
Citizens' Comments**

Mrs. Bartges invited citizens in the audience to comment on any item on the agenda.

Mr. Fred Crouter, 346 Travis Lane, asked about the Drug Testing Policy, 227.1. He stated his opinion that 1) a student suspected of drug use should be tested immediately, 2) a student who is found to be a user should only return to school under a rehabilitation program, and 3) the word 'may' in the policy should be changed to 'shall'.

David Woods, 1525 Mission Road, commended the Board for tackling the difficult problem of drug use. He said that random drug testing should apply to the entire student body as well as all staff. He suggested that the district look for the cheapest, most effective way to test for drugs.

## Consent Agenda

Lisa Woods, 1525 Mission Road, asked if the random drug testing will include testing for alcohol use. Dr. Freeman replied that, at this time, the district is not including a panel for alcohol. Alcohol metabolizes more quickly than other drugs, so the drug testing is not as effective for alcohol.

Mr. O'Brien moved and Mr. Anderson seconded approval of the following consent agenda items:

- A. Treasurer's Report (attachment)
- B. Personnel Report, revised (cover) (attachment)
- C. Approval to award low bids meeting specifications to various vendors for 2010-2011 district-wide art supplies totaling \$49,054.91 (cover) (summary)
- D. Approval of the Athletic Insurance program for Student Athletic insurance for the 2010-2011 school year at a cost of \$12,500 (cover) (quote)
- E. Approval to submit PlanCon Part F, including the Resolution on F20, for the Landis Run Intermediate School Project to the PA Department of Education for the Department's approval (cover) (PlanCon F)
- F. Adoption of the Resolution implementing Homestead and Farmstead Exclusions for the 2010-2011 fiscal year as required under the Taxpayer Relief Act (cover) (resolution)
- G. Approval of a Reimbursement Resolution to allow us to reimburse our Capital Reserve Fund for monies used in connection with the Landis Run Intermediate School Project (cover) (Resolution)
- H. Approval to utilize the following institutions to handle all investment transactions during the 2010-2011 school year: (cover)
  - Fulton Bank
  - PA School District Liquid Asset Fund
- I. Approval of legal counsel: (cover) (letter)
  - General Solicitor: Hartman Underhill & Brubaker, through December 2010
  - Special Education: McNees, Wallace & Nurick, through December 2010
  - PlanCon/Bond: Kozloff & Stoudt, for the 2010-2011 school year
- J. Approval to authorize the Business Manager to make necessary year-end budget transfers for the 2009-2010 school year (cover)
- K. Appointment of voting delegates; Barb Carr, Don Reed, Mark Anderson and Tom Winters as an alternate, to the PSBA Legislative Policy Council (cover)
- L. Approval of second reading and adoption of new School Board policies (cover):
  - 200 Enrollment of Students (attachment)

- M. Approval of second reading and adoption of revised School Board policies (cover):
- 006 Local Board Procedures (attachment)
  - 104 Nondiscrimination in Employment and Contract Practices (attachment)
  - 335 Family and Medical Leaves (attachment)
  - 347 Workers' Compensation Transitional Return-To-Work Program (attachment)
  - 504 Employment of Classified Employees (attachment)
  - 707.1 Posting of Regulations (attachment)
  - 810 Transportation (attachment)
  - 818 Contracted Services (attachment)
- N. Ratification of the decision of the Judiciary Committee in the case of a student, 2009/10-5, who violated School Board Policy #218 Student Discipline (cover) (attachment)

Voice vote with all members present voting aye. Motion carried.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### **227.1 Drug Testing**

Mr. O'Brien said that although he tremendously believes in the need for help in drug prevention, he does not feel that the Board has done due diligence. He has a background in Drug and Alcohol prevention, but does not feel that this policy is ready to come before the Board for a vote.

Mr. O'Brien stated that the impetus for the creation of this drug testing policy came from a 2007 survey that students admitted was not taken seriously, so the results were inaccurate. Mr. O'Brien said that for the 2009 survey, for which we do not yet have the results, students went to their peers asking them to answer the questions honestly so that the survey results would be true.

Mr. O'Brien said, given the constraints of federal law, which prevents us from testing all students, perhaps there is a better alternative, a more effective alternative, for prevention than drug testing.

Mr. Reed noted that this policy has been before the Board for two months. At this time, if a student is found under the influence or in possession, that student is likely expelled. While expelled, the district must still pay to have that student educated. The cost of educating those students is more than the cost of the drug testing program. In terms of, can we test all students; no we cannot because there is a law that says we can't. But there is provision in the policy for students and parents to volunteer to opt in for the random drug testing.

Mr. Murry said at this time, legislation prevents us from including all students in this drug testing policy. However, we do have a Code of Conduct that does cover the behavior expectation for all students.

Dr. Winters said he believes the drug testing policy is necessary, although he also has questions. A concern that he has had for many years is public education trying to do by law what it must do, but ending up being distracted from educating students by involvement in all of societal issues within the schools.

Mr. Anderson suggested that as the policy plays out, alternatives can be explored. He also remains concerned about those students that will not fall under this policy. The issue of alcohol is still a concern that the Board will have to find a way to address. Mr. Anderson felt that this drug testing policy is a one tool to help students address the issue of drug use.

Mrs. Miller stated we all know that there are no easy answers to the problem of drug use. She feels that the district has to do something for the fall. Like Mr. Anderson, she is in favor of moving forward with the policy and revisit the results in a year.

Dr. Freeman said this policy is meant to be preventative, not punitive. It is one more tool to give students an out to say to their peers, "I can't because of this policy". Dr. Freeman compared the policy to a speed bump, you won't slow everybody, but it defines what the expectations are.

Mr. Murry moved and Mr. Anderson seconded approval of the second reading and adoption of new School Board policy #227.1 Drug Testing (attachment)

Voice vote with 6 members present voting aye. Mr. O'Brien voted nay. Motion carried.

#### **Previous Minutes**

Mr. Reed moved and Mr. Murry seconded approval of the Secretary's minutes of the May 13, 2010 Work Session meeting, and May 20, 2010 regular meeting of the Board of School Directors.  
(cover) (5.13.10) (5.20.10)

Voice vote with all members present voting aye. Motion carried.

#### **2010-2011 General Fund Budget**

Mr. Reed moved and Mr. Anderson seconded approval of the 2010-2011 General Fund Budget in the amount of \$75,896,576 on form PDE-2028 (cover) (budget)

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of School Directors of the Manheim Township School District that the following taxes are hereby levied for school purposes for the school year beginning July 1, 2010, payable at the times and subject to the penalties and discounts, as provided in the Local Tax Collection Law of 1945, as amended

1. A tax of 17.0299 mills on assessed value of all property taxable for school purposes in this school district. (Levied under authority of 672 of the Public School Code, as amended.)

2. Motion directing the secretary to note in the minutes that the following taxes are continued under the authority of Act 511 and in each instance are reenacted without change for 2010-2011:
  - a. A tax of .50% of Earned Income
  - b. School District share of combined Local Services Tax - \$10.00
  - c. Realty Transfer Tax - .50%
3. Recommend that the District institute its property tax installment payment plan for 2010-2011 as follows:
  - First payment @ one-third base rate to be paid by August 31, 2010, second payment @ one-third base rate to be paid by November 1, 2010, and third payment @ one-third base to be paid by January 3, 2011

Voice vote with all members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**Envisions Enterprises Agreement**

Mr. Reed moved and Mr. Murry seconded approval of Envisions Enterprises Agreement, pending approval of the fee schedule, effective July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2012 (cover) (agreement)

Voice vote with all members present voting aye. Motion carried.

**Reports Filed**

Dr. Freeman stated that the following reports have been filed: (attachments)

- School Lunch Claim Form, April 2010
- 2009-2010 Civil Rights Data Collection

**Citizens' Comments**

Mrs. Bartges invited Manheim Township citizens' comment on any subject.

Mr. Crouter, 346 Travis Lane, requested information on a trip he heard that the Board was taking to California.

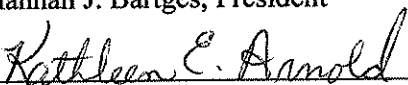
Dr. Freeman responded that 9 people; himself, 4 administrators and 4 Board members, will attend the Apple Executive Briefing in California. Apple is paying for one quarter of the cost. The group will spend three days learning what the future of technology in education will look like over the next ten years. One goal is to better allocate funds in the budget that the district will spend for digital tools and 21<sup>st</sup> century learning. Some of the topics on the agenda are: reinventing the learning environment and digital media for teaching and learning,

**Adjournment**

Mr. Reed moved and Mr. Murry seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:26 p.m..

Voice vote with all members present voting aye. Motion carried.

  
Hannah J. Bartges, President

  
Kathleen E. Arnold, Secretary