

**REGULAR MEETING, SOUTH ORANGETOWN CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT,
BOARD OF EDUCATION, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2010**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Pitruzzella called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER
7:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Mrs. Pitruzzella
Mr. Spiro
Mr. De Vincenzo
Mrs. Uhl

Dr. Mitchell, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Ann Vaccaro-Teich, Deputy Superintendent
Members of Administration
Members of Community

Absent: Mr. Jacobs

ROLL CALL

III. INFORMATION & PROPOSALS

Board Announcements

Mrs. Pitruzzella asked all in attendance to observe a moment of silence for a teaching assistant who passed away on Wednesday, September 1, 2010.

- Mrs. Pitruzzella welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mrs. Pitruzzella, on behalf of the Board, congratulated Dr. Mitchell on his acceptance into Columbia University Teachers College Education Policy Fellowship Program. The program is a ten-month professional development experience designed to focus on leadership development and policy implementation.
- Staff Opening Day – Mrs. Pitruzzella attended the Staff Opening Day at TZHS. Mrs. Pitruzzella stated she shared the role of the Board of Education with the staff. She also stated the guest speaker, Dr. Michael Fowlin was inspiring.

Superintendent's Report

Staff Opening Day – September 1, 2010

Dr. Mitchell reported on Staff Opening Day. In summarizing his opening remarks Dr. Mitchell spoke to the staff about changes in Education laws; linking of student performance with teacher evaluations in Math, Science, and English; increase in the number of charter schools, privatized management of schools; and assessment scores recalibrated to get Federal Race to the Top Funds. Dr. Mitchell told the staff we should be data informed not data driven.

Guest speaker Clinical Psychologist Dr. Michael Fowlin, shared his insights about the human components of the district's work: diversity within schools and classrooms and fostering a respectful environment. Dr. Fowlin tried to get the staff to reflect about themselves, their differences and similarities and those of others. He made connections to people who are struggling with difficult issues and personal challenges and providing support and comfort to them; understanding the various needs and

INFORMATION &
PROPOSALS

Board
Announcements

Superintendent's
Report

Staff Opening
Day

struggles of the children in our schools who may be coming from difficult personal and family challenges; creating a community in schools to build connections so that everyone is connected and supported; and recognizing the power of the teacher in positively influencing the lives of their students.

Back to School Readiness

Back to School
Readiness

Facilities & Security

Facilities &
Security

Phil Scala, Director of Facilities, welcomed Tom Warren in his new position as Maintenance Supervisor. Mr. Scala presented to the Board an overview of the work that was completed during the summer. Some of the work at the various buildings included painting of classrooms, repairing clocks, replacement of window shades, mulching of play areas, and paving of parking lots and sidewalks. In all, over 69 assignments were completed.

Mr. Scala also reported on Bowles Security, the district's new security company. Mr. Scala stated that their organization and professionalism is excellent. Mr. Tim Hayes is the supervisor of the security guards. Mr. Scala assured the Board that all doors are locked, cameras are operating, and this year, staff id's will include 2010-2011 stickers. He completed his presentation by telling the Board schools are ready to be opened to students.

Mrs. Pitruzzella, on behalf of the Board, thanked the maintenance and custodial staff for all their work in preparing the buildings for the arrival of staff and students.

Dr. Mitchell also thanked Mr. Scala and his staff for their work.

TZHS "C" Wing Peer Review

TZHS "C: Wing
Peer Review

Mr. Bill Champion from EMG, a company appointed by the board to perform a Peer Review Study of the "C" wing at TZHS, reported on their findings. The review was conducted due to elevated classroom temperatures during September to October and May to June in the new addition, known as "C" wing, at TZHS. Mr. Champion stated the new classrooms were constructed within industry standards in force at the time of construction and has been well-maintained. Initial findings indicate that temperatures are higher in these classrooms most likely due to wall and roof construction and low airflow. Mr. Champion presented four solutions to the temperature issues in these classrooms: perform airflow testing of the ventilation units; relocation of the intake louvers on the ventilators; installation of exhaust fans on the roof above each classroom to increase ventilation; or installation of air conditioning.

The Board discussed the recommendations and the costs involved. On asking for Dr. Mitchell's recommendation, he responded by stating that the temperatures in those classrooms can be unbearable, the education calendar may be changing, and the space could be utilized during the summer for staff development; therefore his recommendation would be to air condition the rooms. A board member expressed concern over the perception to the community. Dr. Mitchell said the costs would be covered within the parameters of the maintenance budget.

The Board requested a detailed costs report and budgetary information before a decision will be made.

Roofing Referendum Discussion

Roofing
Referendum
Discussion

Dr. Mitchell presented the roofing referendum plan to the Board. The objective of the discussion was to decide the scope of the project (should it be expanded to include the Greenbush building and the Palisades School which is currently being leased); how much of the Capital Reserve Fund will be used to fund the project; the amount of the bond and the impact to the taxpayers. Phase I of the project, approved by voters on May 18, 2010, was replacing the most critical areas of the SOMS and TZHS roofs. Phase II of the project will be for the balance of the middle school and high school roofs and exterior restoration; roofs on the elementary schools and exterior restoration. In addition, included would be the re-roofing and exterior restoration at Greenbush and the Palisades School.

The cost of Phase II, based on the median bid price from June 2010, is \$8,665,220. The net impact to homeowners with an average assessment of \$200,000 is \$0.67 (cents) per month through 2014, after which the next effect is zero due to expiring debt.

The Board will continue discussion at the September 16th meeting, at which time they will be asked to vote on resolutions as to the scope of the work and authorize Special District Meeting (bond vote) on November 16, 2010. If approved by voters, work will begin over the summers of 2011 and 2012.

Discussion: The Board discussed the re-roofing of the Palisades School and adjourned to executive session for further discussion.

Motion to adjourn to Executive Session for discussion related to contract negotiations by Mrs. Uhl, Seconded by Mr. Spiro at 8:57 p.m.

Motion to reconvene the public meeting at 9:10 p.m. by Mrs. Uhl, Seconded by Mr. De Vincenzo

Goals & Action Plans

Goals & Action
Plans

NYS Assessment Data Update

NYS Assessment
Data Update

Ms. Lynn Gorey, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction, presented a data and update plan for 2010. Her presentation explained the recalibration of the cut scores for the grades 3-8 ELA and math assessments; elimination of the grade 5 and 8 social studies assessments; elimination of the grade 8 foreign language proficiency exams and AIS modification for the 2010-2011 school year.

PUBLIC
COMMENTARY –
None

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTARY – NONE

V. PRESENTATIONS/BOARD DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

BOARD DISCUSSION

BOARD
DISCUSSION

- **NYSSBA Training Opportunities** – the Board will review opportunities at the September 16th meeting and discuss whether to have one resolution that would

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allow board members to attend conferences provided funds are available in the budget.

- **Policies** – Recording and Podcasting of Board Meetings will be discussed further at the September 16th Board Meeting
- **Committees** – Board Liaisons for Committees:
 - Policy Subcommittee – Rosemary Pitruzzella & Annmarie Uhl
 - Audit Committee – Leon Jacobs
 - Technology Committee – Steve Spiro
 - Education Foundation – Guy De Vincenzo
 - Wellness Committee – Rosemary Pitruzzella
 - Curriculum Council – Rosemary Pitruzzella
 - Professional Development – Annmarie Uhl

Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session at 10:35 p.m. to discuss the employment history of a particular individual by Mr. De Vincenzo, Seconded by Mr. Spiro.

Motion to reconvene the public meeting at 11:00 by Mrs. Uhl, Seconded by Mr. Spiro.

ACTION ITEMS

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Mr. Spiro

Seconded by Mr. Uhl

RESOLVED: that the following Consent Agenda Items be approved (see resolutions marked with an asterisk {*})

*

RESOLVED: that Schedule 10/11, P-3 Professional Personnel, be approved as attached (*see blue schedule*).

*

RESOLVED: that Schedule 10/11, C-3, Civil Service Personnel, be approved as attached (*see blue schedule*).

*

RESOLVED: that Schedule 10/11, H-3, Committee on Special Education, be approved as attached (*see blue schedule*).

*

Resolution to Accept Financial Reports – July 2010

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of the South Orangetown CSD has received from the District Treasurer the monthly financial schedules as stated below

FURTHERMORE, the Board has had an opportunity to review the reports, question items and receive responses from the Deputy Superintendent and District Treasurer

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education of the South Orangetown Central School District accept the following financial schedules for July 2010

Resolution to Change BOE Meeting Date from: October 21st moved to October 20th

ACTION ITEMS

CONSENT AGENDA

Schedule 10/11, P-3, Professional Personnel

Schedule 10/11, C-3 Civil Service Personnel

Schedule 10/11, H-3 Committee on Special Education

Resolution to Accept Financial Reports, July 2010

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Schedule 2010-2011 T-JULY	Treasurer Reports
Schedule 2010-2011 BT- JULY	Budget Transfers
Schedule 2010-2011 FR- JULY 1	General Fund Financial Reports
Schedule 2010-2011 FR- JULY 2	School Lunch Fund Financial Reports
Schedule 2010-2011 FR- JULY 3	Special Aid Fund Financial Reports
Schedule 2010-2011 FR- JULY 4	Capital Fund Financial Reports
Schedule 2010-2011 FR- JULY 5	Debt Service Fund Financial Reports
Schedule 2010-2011 W- JULY 1	General Fund Warrants
Schedule 2010-2011 W- JULY 2	School Lunch Fund Warrants
Schedule 2010-2011 W- JULY 3	Special Aid Fund Warrants
Schedule 2010-2011 W- JULY 4	Capital Fund Warrants
Schedule 2010-2011 W- JULY 5	Trust Fund Warrants

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Resolution to Accept Claims Auditor Report – July 2010

RESOLVED: that the Board of Education of the South Orangetown School District accept the attached Claims Auditor Reports for the month of July 2010 (see appended reports). Be it also noted that copies of the reports were also being provided to the Audit Committee.

Motion to accept Consent Agenda carried unanimously.

B. New Business

- **Board Retreat & Goals** – will be discussed at October 7, 2010, Board Meeting.

Resolution to
Accept Claims
Auditor Report –
July 2010

New Business

Board Retreat &
Goals

ADJOURNMENT

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mrs. Uhl

Seconded by Mr. Spiro

RESOLVED: the meeting is adjourned at 11:14 p.m.

11:14 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa Campanella
District Clerk

Certificated Personnel

I APPOINTMENTS

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following part-time teacher:

- **Rita Kwan**, .5 foreign language teacher at TZHS; step 3MA+30, salary \$65,656 (pro-rated); Mandarin (5 – 9) and (7 – 12) Initial Certificate; effective 9/1/10 – 6/30/11

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following leave replacement teacher:

- **Michelle Carbone**, 1.0 science leave replacement teacher (replacing D. Kramarczyk) at SOMS, step 1MA, salary \$54,421 (pro-rated); Earth Science (7 – 12) Supplementary Certificate; effective 9/1/10 – 1/30/11

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the appointment of the following substitute teacher for the 2010-2011 school year at the contractual rate of pay according to the SOSTA contract:

- **Mariam Ghaly**

SCHEDULE 10-11-C3- Classified (Civil Service) Personnel

DATE OF MEETING: September 2, 2010

**SOUTH ORANGETOWN
CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

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Classified (Civil Service) Personnel

I RETIREMENT

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the resignation of the following for the purpose of retirement:

- **May Mui, Teacher's Aide, WOS, 10 years in the District, effective 8/24/10.**