

**NO: I**  
**Minutes of the**  
**Board of School Directors**  
**DERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**Hershey, PA 17033**

**July 15, 2009**

**OPENING ITEMS**

**1.01 Call to Order**

A meeting of the Board of School Directors, Derry Township School District was held on Wednesday, July 15, 2009, in the District Office Board Room. Mrs. Beulah Chabal, Board President, called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**1.02 Roll Call**

**Directors Present:** Mr. Christopher Barrett  
Mrs. Beulah Chabal  
Dr. Donna Cronin  
Mr. John Gräb  
Mr. Alan Malkoff  
Dr. William Parrish  
Mr. Charles Stover

**Excused:** Dr. Henry Donahue  
Mrs. Ellen Sheffey

**Superintendent:** Dr. Linda Brewer

**Secretary:** Mr. Stephen Rineer

**Solicitor:** Brian F. Jackson

**Student Representative:**

**Press:** Ms. Monica van Dobeneck THE PATRIOT NEWS  
Mr. Dave Buffington THE SUN

**Representatives of the Administrative Staff:** Mr. Dan Tredinnick, Dr. Bernie Kepler, Mr. Sam Elias, Ms. Sue King, Mr. David Yarian, and Mr. Ed Consalo.

**Representatives of the Staff and Community:** Mark Shrift, Cindy Hertz, Ann Marie

Schupper, Mary Beth Hagan, Susan Foxx, Patricia McCorkle, Bob Welsh, David Schrader, Paul Hertzler, Christine M. Hoover, Kimberly Sullivan, Janice E. Mark, Jamel Ingalzo, Leslie Shearer, Matthew A. Welk, Megal Hulse, Michael Hulse.

### **1.03 Flag Salute**

Mr. Barrett led those gathered in the Salute to the American Flag.

## **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

### **2.01 Approval of June 22, 2009 School Board Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett and seconded by Dr. Parrish to approve the minutes of the June 22, 2009 School Board meeting. All Board members present signified by a Yes vote.

## **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

### **3.01 Announcement of Working Session**

Mrs. Chabal: This is the only Board meeting that we'll be having in July. There are a few items that we will be taking care of and then we will recess and move into a work session and we will be discussing the Master Plan for the campus and will have presentations relating to that Master Plan for our work session.

### **3.02 Recognition of Citizens (Agenda Items)**

None.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **4.01 Unfinished Business**

None.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **5.01 Approval of Campus Survey Agreement - Rettew Associates, Inc.**

The Administration recommended the Board authorize the commencement of negotiation of an agreement with Rettew Associates, Inc. for property surveying

services to support the services of Hayes Large Architects LLC. Such agreement will be prepared by the District's solicitor based on negotiated terms for the performance of desired work in a form and content acceptable to the Administration.

Mr. Barrett moved the Board approve the request and was seconded by Mr. Stover.

Dr. Cronin: I just had a quick question because not being on General Services, I missed out on a little bit. I know we have pieces. We've never had the whole thing done. I'm not an architect or a surveyor, so that's why I'm asking. Is there any way to take what we've already had done and piece it together so we have all the information?

Mr. Barrett: No.

Dr. Cronin: We don't have enough to do that. I just want to make sure. Thank you.

Mr. Barrett: It's a good question. That's the reason why we have to do it unfortunately.

Mrs. Chabal: Thank you. I would like to say that due to a possible conflict of interest, I will be abstaining.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Donahue – Absent

Parrish – Yes

Chabal – Abstain

Gräb – Yes

Sheffey – Absent

Cronin –Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Stover - Yes

6 Yes, 2 Absent, 1 Abstention

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### **5.02 Approval of Special Education Settlement**

The Administration recommended the District accept and execute an agreement to amicably resolve a special education matter in accordance with a confidential agreement between the District and the minor child/parents.

Dr. Parrish moved the Board approve the request and was seconded by Mr. Barrett.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Donahue – Absent

Parrish – Yes

Chabal – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Sheffey – Absent

Cronin –Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Stover - Yes

7 Yes, 2 Absent

## **MOTION CARRIED**

### 5.03 Personnel - Resignations

The Administration recommended the approval of the following resignations:

<b>Professional:</b>
<b>Confer, John</b> Learning Support Teacher High School Reason: Personal Effective: 08/25/09
<b>May, Robert</b> Health/PE Teacher High School Reason: Retirement Effective: 07/13/09
<b>Classified:</b>
<b>Mahraj, Heather</b> Library Aide Elementary School Reason: Personal Effective: 06/15/09
<b>Sweigart, Rebecca</b> General Food Service Worker Elementary School Reason: Personal Effective: 08/06/09
<b>Witmer, Heather</b> Teacher's Aide Elementary School Reason: Personal Effective: 06/05/09
<b>Limited Service Contract:</b>
<b>Collier, R. Chris</b> Varsity Assistant Football Coach High School Reason: Personal Effective: 07/13/09
<b>Confer, John</b> Game Manager/Equipment Manager Middle School Reason: Personal

Effective: 08/25/09

**May, Robert**

Head Varsity Football Coach

High School

Reason: Retirement

Effective: 07/13/09

**Walizer, John**

Assistant Varsity Golf Coach

High School

Reason: Accepting Assistant 9th Grade Football Coaching Position

Effective: 07/13/09

Dr. Parrish moved the Board approve the resignations and was seconded by Mr. Stover.

Dr. Parrish: I'd like to make a comment. I think as a member of this Board and on behalf of certainly the majority of this Board, we would like to thank Coach May for his 3 decades plus service to our School District. Certainly being the head football coach or head coach in any sport isn't easy. You can't always measure the success of a coach by wins and losses. We certainly all know that Coach May has had a successful run as coach here and at McDevitt High School. That's wonderful. Everybody knows that.

I think though you can go back and look at the dozens of kids who played for Coach May and had the opportunity to play in college at all levels. Currently, we have at least two kids who coach college football at the Division 1 level and Coach May did a lot more for kids than just coach football.

There's also a side to Coach May that many don't know. Gump was one of the go-to guys for the kids who had problems in our High School. If you talked to the teachers and the people who know him best, he had a special place for the kids who had special needs, kids who had problems with the law, kids who needed that little extra touch, Gump was always there for them. Gump also had a special place in his heart for children outside this school. Many of you may not know that Gump established a program at the Penn State Medical Center called "Beaming Buddies". It's a program that provides support for families and children and opportunities for families of children who are being treated with radiation therapy to get out of the hospital, to get out into the community to events at the Giant Center and events at the stadium. These are things that people have no idea of and he is 100% responsible for that program.

I want to wish Coach May all the best. As you know or probably read by now, he's going to be an assistant coach at Bloomsburg University. He made a decision that he thought was in the best interest of this football program and his family to move on and I think we'll miss Gump in many ways that people on July 15, 2009 don't realize. So all the best to Coach May.

Mr. Stover: I echo Dr. Parrish's sentiments. I can honestly say that I have close personal friends who would come close to laying down their life for Gump May. I also have close personal friends who, shall we say, don't hold that opinion. I find myself as a Board member in the unenviable position where no matter what I say, somebody's not going to like what I say, do, or how I vote, but that's what it's like to be on a Board.

If you attended the School Board meeting last May, we got to list to countless number of people who shared their experiences of how Gump May has affected their lives. I was personally taught by Coach May going through high school back in the 70s at Derry Township, so I've known him most of my adult life. I have a total respect for him. I know some people don't, but the dedication that he has shown our District is incredible. I think he should be honored for that, and I thank him for everything that he did for our District and wish him well at Bloomsburg.

Mr. Barrett: Out of curiosity, I see that Mr. Elias is here, so at some point, I don't know if it's more appropriate at the resignation side after they're accepted or at the Personnel – General to have a briefing of what our plans are moving forward. I know we're into parts of the season and things are starting. Are you prepared, Sam?

Mr. Elias: Yes.

Mr. Barrett: Okay.

Mrs. Chabal: Let's do that after. We'll finish this and that will be more appropriate in another moment.

Mr. Barrett: I really appreciate you being here to say that, because I know that that has been a question. As a personal point too, I just want to add to what Mr. Stover and Dr. Parrish said. Personally, Gump always used to get my name wrong. He'd call me up and he'd say my name and I never had the heart to correct him. He just was always the nicest person and I think he has a heart of gold. It's kind of interesting when you see all these people retire that are the heart and soul of your institution, you have to thank them for everything that they've given, because 38 years is a long time. I would like to say thanks too.

Mrs. Chabal: Thank you.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Absent

Gräb – Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Absent

Stover - Yes

7 Yes, 2 Absent

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.04 Personnel - General**

1.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following appointments:
	<b>Professional:</b>
	<b>Peifer, Kimberlee</b> (replacing Tamsin Scola) Health/PE Teacher Elementary School Temporary Professional Bachelors, Step 1 Salary: \$40,281.25 Effective: 08/18/09
	<b>Classified:</b>
	<b>Kimmel, Timothy</b> Substitute Bus Driver District-wide Salary: \$14.14 per hour Effective: 07/16/09 (pending receipt of Act 34 and 151 clearances)
	<b>Transfer of Classified Staff:</b>
	<b>Behrendt, Lucille *</b> From: Custodian High School To: Bus Driver (replacing Kathy Boyd) District-wide Level A: 5.0 hours per day Salary: \$16.00 per hour Effective: 08/31/09
	<b>Limited Service Contracts:</b>
	<b>Peifer, Kimberlee *</b> (vacant position) Assistant Field Hockey Coach Middle School Level III, Group C, Step 1 Salary: \$1,354 Effective: 08/17/09
	<b>Walizer, John *</b> (replacing Nathan Erdman) Assistant 9th Grade Football Coach High School Level II, Group A, Step 14 Salary: \$3,792 Effective: 08/17/09
	<b>Yingst, David *</b> (replacing John Confer) Game Manager/Equipment Manager

	<p>Middle School  Salary: \$6,000  Effective: 08/25/09</p>
	<p><b>Transfer of Coaching Staff:</b></p>
	<p><b>Erdman, Nathan *</b> (replacing Mark Painter)  From: Assistant 9th Grade Football Coach  High School  To: Head 9th Grade Football Coach  High School  Effective: 08/17/09</p>
	<p><b>Painter, Mark *</b> (replacing Robert May)  From: Head 9th Grade Football Coach  High School  To: Interim Head Varsity Football Coach  High School  Level I, Group A, Step 22  Salary: \$6,772  Effective: 08/17/09</p>
2.	<p>The Administration recommended the approval of the following personnel for additional hours:</p>
	<p><b>Waggoner, Dawn *</b>  Special Education Secretarial Support (Paid by Access Funds)  Elementary School  Salary: \$16.45 per hour  Effective: 07/01/09 through 08/14/09 (retroactive)</p>
3.	<p>The Administration recommended the approval of the following request in accordance with District Policies 435 &amp; 439</p>
	<p><b>Brown, Julee</b>  Learning Support Teacher  High School  Paid/Unpaid Childbearing/rearing Leave  Effective: on or about 07/24/09 through 10/05/09</p>
	<p><b>Umberger, Jill</b>  Fourth Grade Teacher  Intermediate Elementary School  Paid/Unpaid Childbearing/rearing Leave  Effective: on or about 09/29/09 through 11/10/09</p>
	<p><b>* This individual is currently an employee and/or volunteer. Clearances are on file.</b></p>

Mr. Barrett moved the Board approve the personnel recommendations and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Dr. Brewer: This would be the appropriate time for Mr. Elias to talk about all the Limited Services contracts that are here that put the football coaching staff intact.

Mr. Elias: I think it's important for you to understand the whole process of the past 5 days, because it's been difficult.

Before we talk about where they are being placed and the reason. We have 12 coaches on our staff, 7<sup>th</sup> grade through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. I met with every one of them individually as a group and we spent hours, because the most important thing that I wanted to make sure was, first of all that they stick together and finish the season out. This is a terrible time, 4 weeks before the season, and I wanted to make sure that my thoughts of who should take over temporarily would not create a division among the different coaches and their personalities. We have some in-house individuals that have aspirations of being head coach. If you pick one, the other may decide to do something else. It was critical. We had a long meeting Sunday night and they all agreed that whoever my decision was that they would work together. One person made the comment that we worked 7 months with the kids and asked them to do everything possible and they did it. I think the least we could do is 4 months of giving a commitment to the kids. I want you to know that we've got everything in place and after hours and hours of discussion with coaches, we had decided that I wanted to go with a coach who had the most experience in handling the overall operation. The most important thing is there will be very little change in dynamics of learning personalities with what we are doing. The kids all know our coaches. The only person that's minus right now in our football program is Coach May. We've had another coach step up who is a former coach to come into the program to help us out. I feel confident that he will do as best as possible with the lateness of this resignation. Certainly, losing a leader like Coach is not good at this time, but I think we're going to be okay. Mark Painter, who I have recommended, has previous head coaching experience. I think with the dynamics and lateness, I think he is the perfect fit to have somebody with experience and understanding of what needs to be done in the short term. We'll talk later about the long term, but right now it's just necessary to understand that our football program in the middle school level, freshman level, and varsity level is in good shape staff-wise and I'm confident that our kids when we start officially August 17, we will be prepared and hopefully have a good year.

I would be glad to answer any questions you may have.

Mr. Barrett: You're saying that this is an interim staff?

Mr. Elias: Yes.

Mr. Barrett: I noticed Mark is always working with kids a lot. Even in the programs at the elementary school like basketball, he's always around helping kids and coaching.

Mr. Elias: He coaches community sports, too. He lives in the community. His kids go to school here, the young kids. I think he's the perfect fit for this time to get us through the season that is 4 weeks away.

Mrs. Chabal: Thank you Sam. Are there any further questions before we take a vote?

Dr. Cronin: I had a question that has to do with the elementary school new PE teacher. It's temporary? Is there a reason why that's only temporary and not a full or do we always start off as a temporary?

Dr. Kepler: Any new professional employee is called a "Temporary Professional Employee" until they obtain tenure.

Dr. Cronin: Thank you.

Mrs. Chabal: Thank you Donna.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Chabal – Yes

Cronin –Yes

Donahue – Absent

Gräb – Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Absent

Stover - Yes

7 Yes, 2 Absent

## **MOTION CARRIED**

## **RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS**

### **6.01 Recognition of Citizens**

None.

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **7.01 Announcement of Staff Development Conference**

Kimberly Brown, Michelle O'Brien  
Professional Learning Communities at Work Institute  
Philadelphia, PA  
August 13 - 15, 2009  
Expenses: \$1,016.75 (each)

## **ADJOURNMENT**

## **8.01 Adjournment**

The next School Board meeting will be held on Monday, August 10, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Board Room.

Dr. Cronin moved to adjourn, with a second by Mr. Malkoff and, approved by unanimous voice vote by all members.

Mrs. Chabal: We will be meeting in post-executive session after our work session for personnel issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Stephen E. Rineer  
Secretary to the Board  
Approved at the August 10, 2009 meeting

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Beulah Chabal  
President of the Board

LDM