

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

**October 27, 2008**

**OPENING ITEMS**

**1.01 Call to Order**

A meeting of the Board of School Directors, Derry Township School District was held on Monday, October 27, 2008, in the District Office Board Room. Mr. Charles Stover, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**1.02 Roll Call**

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

**Superintendent:** Dr. Linda Brewer

**Secretary:** Mr. Stephen Rineer

**Solicitor:** Mr. Brian Jackson

**Student Representative:** Mr. Andrew Rogers  
Ms. Kathryn Collier

**Press:** Mr. Dave Hunt                      HERSHEY CHRONICLE  
Mr. Josh Etterman                      HUMMELSTOWN SUN

**Representatives of the Administrative Staff:** Mr. Dan Tredinnick.

**Representatives of the Staff and Community:** Bunny Hottenstein, Christy M. Stover, Ben Stover, and Jack Stover.

### **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 October 13, 2008 School Board Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Malkoff and seconded by Dr. Parrish to approve the minutes of the October 13, 2008 Board meeting. All Board members present signified by a Yes vote.

### **MOTION CARRIED**

## **INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS**

### **3.01 Announcement of Executive Session**

Mr. Stover announced the Board met in executive session prior to the meeting to discuss matters related to personnel. All members of the Board were present.

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

None.

### **3.03 Standing Committee Report**

**Finance Standing Committee:** Mr. Barrett highlighted various topics that were discussed during the Finance Committee meeting. He stated that at every meeting the Committee will go deeper into what is currently happening in the finance realm. Since everyone is aware of the current economic challenges, the Committee would like to keep everyone updated on the short term and long term plans from both the revenue and expense perspective.

Going forward for the balance of the 2008-2009 budget year a forecasting model will be implemented that will review revenue and expense. So far in the first quarter of this budget year, the District is on target with revenue, which is a good sign. Of course, the carnage of the market in the last month is something that needs to be looked at, not only from the Committee's perspective, but from the constituent's revenue perspective.

Mr. Barrett highlighted information from the Treasurer's report. The total District budget is \$51,262,000 in round numbers. So far, the District has collected 33.5 million in revenues, which is a pretty substantial part of the budget. In the bank currently is about 29.5 million and that is about 57% on hand in case of what the total budget is. The remaining revenue, looking strictly at what's been collected and not what's in the fund balance on hand, would be approximately 18.1 million. That this the amount that needs to come in to the end of the year. Looking strictly at just the available balance and revenues versus the budget total, the District is currently at approximately 64.94%. The District is in a very good cash position. It is important to remember that the fund balance number (29 million) is collateralized. What that means is that if there would be any type of failure in the financial system with PNC where the funds are located, the District would have to be the first in line to receive those funds before anyone else and that is good news.

Additionally, the Committee reviewed where the District will be at the end of the 2007-2008 audit. The District looks fairly good as far as revenue and expense and the Committee hopes to provide a better report on that review in the future.

The Committee also looked at the 5 year capital plan to see if anything can be moved that isn't absolutely a priority and reorder those funds. Every capital project is up on the table for review from a finance perspective and also from an operating perspective. The key is to prioritize and plan a bit more closely for the remainder of the 2008-2009 year and also looking forward to the next two years. For example, there is a possibility that a construction project might occur at the Middle School and that would be a priority for funding over any other type of project. These types of priorities with the expenses and capital dollars will be reviewed very closely going forward.

Another topic discussed was putting a contingency plan in place. That doesn't mean that the contingency plan will be put in motion, but it is prudent from a business perspective to have a contingency plan for expenses, just in case the District's revenues falter. The Finance Committee provided some ideas to look into and as the meetings unfold and the weeks unfold, the Committee will be able to report what the contingency plans are. The Committee understands that the stakeholders are going through austerity moves on their own and they need to know that the Finance Committee is being a good steward with their monies.

Mr. Barrett concluded his report by thanking Mr. Rineer and Dr. Brewer and their team. The District has consistently come in very well in expenses over the last two or three budget cycles which is going to help tremendously because of what is in the fund balance and the what is able to be reserved moving forward.

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

### 4.01 Unfinished Business

None.

## NEW BUSINESS

### 5.01 Approval of Finance Report for September 2008

The administration recommended the approval of the September 2008 Finance Report as listed.

1.	The Treasurer's Report for the month ending September 30, 2008 was summarized as follows:	
	• General Fund Revenues	\$19,487,872
	• General Fund Expenditures	7,433,689
	• Balance of Cash Plus Investments	29,551,831
2.	The listed schedule of investment transactions for the period beginning September 1, 2008 through September 30, 2008 had total interest earnings of \$72,348 comprised of the following:	
	• General Fund	\$4,563
	• Money Market	60,276
	• Certificates of Deposit	0
	• PA School District Liquid Asset Fund	168
	• PA Local Government Investment Trust	7,341
	The average interest rate for September 2008 was 3.06%	
3.	The September 2008 expenditures for the paid bills for all funds totaled \$2,115,790 excluding net payroll, retirement contributions, and debt service.	
4.	The October 2008 expenditures for the unpaid bills for all funds totaled	

	\$1,812,581.	
<b>5.</b>	The estimated expenditures of the General Fund for the month of October 2008 were in the following amounts:	
	• Operating Expenses	\$1,250,000
	• Utilities	132,500
	• Net Payroll (3 pays)	1,180,000
	• Employer Provided Insurance	315,900
	• Payroll Deductions	590,000
	• Employer Payroll Taxes (FICA/RET)	135,000
	• Debt Service	<u>0</u>
	<b>Total Estimated Expenditures</b>	<b>\$3,603,400</b>

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

All Board members present signified by a Yes vote.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.02 Requests for Payment - Elementary School HVAC Project**

The Administration recommended the approval of the following invoices as reviewed and approved by Mr. Consalo:

<b>Elementary School HVAC Improvements:</b>		
1.	Trane, Inc. (HVAC Contractor) Application No. 6	\$45,000.00
2.	Trane, Inc. (HVAC Contractor) Invoice No. 81065035	\$4,875.00
3.	Trane, Inc. (HVAC Contractor)	\$3,600.00

	Invoice No. 81065109	
--	----------------------	--

Mrs. Chabal moved the Board approve the request and was seconded by Mrs. Sheffey.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes  
 Chabal – Yes  
 Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes  
 Gräb – Yes  
 Malkoff – Yes

Parrish – Yes  
 Sheffey – Yes  
 Stover - Yes

9 Yes

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.03 Acceptance of Gift**

The Administration recommended accepting the following gift:

<i>Donated by:</i>	Hershey Little League
<i>Item:</i>	Improvements to Hershey Memorial Field
<i>Specifications:</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cinder block (8" block) dugouts on existing concrete pads</li> <li>• Replaced existing backstop behind home plate with new 3 foot brick wall and 40 feet of netting</li> <li>• Moved sections stands behind home plate</li> <li>• Moved left field fence in from 356 feet to 320 feet and put in new warning track</li> <li>• Fence in down the third base line with 3 foot fence from dugout to left field fence enclosing the field</li> <li>• Covered all fences with navy blue wind screen with team logo and Trojans printed in orange</li> <li>• Put all new orange fence caps around the field</li> </ul>
<i>Value:</i>	\$66,286.00

Dr. Parrish moved the Board approve the request and was seconded by Mrs. Chabal.

Mr. Stover thanked the Hershey Little League and commented that it has done an outstanding job. The Board has a hard time spending tax dollars to make improvements to athletic fields and the Little League did this work on their own and it's a delight to see the children able to enjoy it.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover – Yes

9 Yes

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.04 Foreign Excursion - Final Approval - Middle School Students - Montreal and Quebec City, Canada - January 29 - February 2009**

The Administration recommended the final approval of a foreign education excursion for Hershey Middle School Students to Montreal and Quebec City, Canada from January 29 to February 2, 2009 as proposed by Leslie Shearer in accordance with Board Policy 121.1.

The District reserves the right to cancel the excursion based on events that could pose a heightened or security risk.

Mr. Malkoff moved the Board approve the request and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Dr. Parrish commented that this trip has been done for several years and the students come back raving about it. It seems to be worthwhile.

Dr. Cronin commented that this trip is taking place during one of the long weekends and it was discussed scheduling it that way. She thought it was great that it was able to be done.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover – Yes

9 Yes

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.05 Approval of Overnight Field Trip/Excursion - Hershey High School Choirs - Roxbury, NJ and New York City - March 2009**

The Administration recommended the approval of the following overnight field trip/excursion:

<i>Group:</i>	Hershey High School Choirs
<i>Destination:</i>	Roxbury Township, NJ and New York City, NY
<i>Purpose:</i>	Participate in high school choral adjudication and Broadway Show
<i>From:</i>	March 20, 2009
<i>Until:</i>	March 22, 2009
<i>Trip Leader:</i>	Joe Farrell

The District reserves the right to cancel the excursion based on events that could pose a heightened or security risk.

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

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Chabal – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Stover - Yes

9 Yes

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.06 Personnel – Resignations**

The Administration recommended the approval of the following resignations:

<b>Classified:</b>
<b>Wallace, Kimberly</b> General Food Service Worker Elementary School Reason: Personal Effective: 10/08/08 (Retroactive)
<b>Limited Service Contract:</b>
<b>Clouser, Emma</b> Assistant Middle School Girls' Basketball Coach Middle School Reason: Personal Effective: 10/21/08

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



Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover - Yes

9 Yes

**MOTION CARRIED**

**5.07 Personnel – General**

1.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following appointments:
	<b>Classified:</b>
	<b>Douglas, Melanie</b> Substitute Secretary District-wide Salary: \$13.22 per hour Effective: 10/28/08 (pending receipt of Act 114 clearance)
	<b>Grobbelaar, L. Karen</b> Substitute Teachers' Aide District-wide Salary: \$9.94 per hour Effective: 10/28/08 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances)
	<b>Hickey, Carrie *</b> (replacing Kimberly Wallace) General Food Service Worker Elementary School Level A: 4.0 hours per day Salary: \$12.75 per hour Effective: 10/28/08
	<b>Miller, Jacquelyn</b> Substitute Secretary District-wide Salary: \$13.22 per hour Effective: 10/28/08 (pending receipt of Act 34, 151, and 114 clearances)
2.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following request in accordance with District Policies 435 & 439:
	<b>Ecenrode, Kristyn</b> Grade 5 Teacher Elementary School Paid/Unpaid Childbearing/rearing Leave Effective: On or about 01/23/09 for a period of 12 weeks
3.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following requests in

	accordance with District Policy 438.1:
	<b>Spangler, Donna E.</b> Spanish Teacher Middle School Compensated Professional Development Leave Effective: 01/19/09 through the end of the 2008-09 school year
	<b>Umberger, Billie June</b> Grade 6 Teacher Middle School Compensated Professional Development Leave Effective: 01/19/09 through the end of the 2008-09 school year
4.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following additions to the 2008-2009 Guest Teacher List: <b>Armstrong, Jennifer</b> <b>Banks-Baumbach, Judith</b> <b>Gacesa, Linda</b>
	<i>* This individual is currently an employee and/or volunteer. Clearances are on file.</i>

Mrs. Chabal moved the Board approve the personnel recommendations and was seconded by Mr. Barrett.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Chabal – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Malkoff – Yes

Stover - Yes

9 Yes

## **MOTION CARRIED**

## **DELEGATES REPORTS**

### **6.01 Dauphin County Technical School Report**

No report.

### **6.02 Derry Township Tax Collection Association Report**

Mr. Malkoff reported that the Derry Township Tax Collection Association will be meeting on November 13, 2008.

### **6.03 Harrisburg Area Community College Report**

Dr. Donahue reported that the Board will be meeting on November 12, 2008 to interview candidates for the vacancy on the HACC Board of Trustees and a decision will be made some time after that.

### **6.04 Capital Area Intermediate Unit Report**

Mrs. Sheffey reported that the Capital Area Intermediate Unit met on October 23, 2008 and the meeting was held at the Hilltop Academy. The Hilltop Academy is the new school opened by the IU in September. It is a beautiful facility and they use black lab therapy dogs. The school has four therapy dogs to soothe the children and prevent disruptive behavior and a therapy dog was brought one in to our meeting. During the meeting the lease was approved for CASA to transfer to Strawberry Square. The approval is contingent upon getting the financing for the build out. Mayor Stephen Reid will be the honorary campaign chairman for the capital campaign to hopefully fund the CASA transfer to Strawberry Square.

Dr. Donahue: "What kind of children go to the Hilltop Academy?"

Mrs. Sheffey responded: "Special needs children."

Dr. Donahue: "From all the schools?"

Mrs. Sheffey: "We do not send any children there."

Dr. Brewer: "Not at the moment."

Dr. Donahue: "We don't send them there, because we don't have the students that need that."

Dr. Donahue: "But if we did, that's where they'd go."

Dr. Brewer: "We have lots of special needs students, but on that continuum which is the most restrictive, we haven't needed to send anybody."

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

### **7.01 Student Representatives' Report**

Ms. Collier's report: A Milton Hershey High School senior has been diagnosed with advanced cancer and an unofficial Relay for Life is being held for her. A request was made that Hershey High School form a team to support her and, through student council, a team is being created to raise money and participate in the Relay for Life on

November 7 and 8, 2008.

Mr. Rogers' provided an update on recent activity in the High School. The administration has been working to crack down on some types of dancing happening at school dances. Mr. Murphy sat down with student representatives from the senior class and student council to discuss ways of possibly addressing this issue. At the homecoming dance, the administration tried the method that if students crossed the line, they would be sent home and that was found to be somewhat ineffective because many students were unclear of the guidelines. As a result, at the Halloween dance on October 30, a warning system will be in place where if a student is in the gray area, they will receive a warning. If that does not work, the student will be asked to leave. The idea is to cut down on some of the vulgarity of the dancing and to make it a more wholesome environment to spend the Halloween evening.

Mr. Barrett: "Who defines the gray area?"

Mr. Rogers: "That was something that Mr. Murphy, Mr. Ebert, and Ms. Wade wanted to discuss with some of the student representatives."

Mr. Stover: "That solution was arrived at from input from the students."

Mr. Rogers: "Yes. We are going to see if this new solution might be a little more effective. It's an ongoing process of refining the way in which we handle this matter."

Mr. Barrett: "How many dances do you have a year?"

Mr. Rogers: "So far, we've had 3 and there will be a fourth one this coming Halloween. We have a junior/senior prom and the senior prom to come. Typically, there's a Halloween dance, the dance marathon, and I believe the National Honor Society wants to have a masquerade ball, so that's in the works. There is the potential for other dances if a specific club wants to try to hold one."

Dr. Donahue: "Do you have an impression of how many students are dancing inappropriately? A very small number?"

Mr. Rogers: "At the homecoming dance, it was estimated that about 800 students came and between 20-30 kids were asked to leave for vulgar dancing, but the majority of the students are good."

Dr. Cronin: "I think it's great that you guys were able to communicate your side of the dancing story. How are you communicating that to the broader student body – beyond student council and the class officers?"

Mr. Rogers: "With the homecoming dance, one of the problems we had was that not all the students really understood what exactly the full scoop was. Every homeroom is represented by student council representative, so from student council, students talk

to the administration and they in turn impart the message to the student council representatives who in turn speak to their homerooms. Also Mr. Murphy addressed the school on the morning announcements. In many of my classes preceding homecoming, that was the hot topic and we tried to address that as clear as we could.

Dr. Cronin: "Are you finding that through these communication channels that the students are going to give it a chance and not do all the boycotting that you hear everyone proclaiming?"

Mr. Rogers: "Some people are trying to boycott some of the dances. I guess that rebel attitude of a high school kid is sometimes hard to quell, but for the most part kids understand what's going on and a lot of people agree that there are a number of students who are over the line and agree that things need to be cleaned up. We've had a pretty good response."

Mr. Barrett: "Are you on student council, both of you?"

Mr. Rogers: "Yes we are."

Mr. Barrett: "So you had to do the explaining or answer the questions, right?"

Mr. Rogers: "Yes."

Mr. Barrett: "How are you guys elected to student council. Is it by homeroom?"

Mr. Rogers: "We've actually recently reformed some of the ways the student council works. There are 10 student representatives from each grade, because there are 10 homerooms for each grade. Rather than going by one student from each homeroom, what we do is, in April and May, if you want to be on student council, you can fill out the paperwork and get 40 kids to sign off that they would be willing to have you on student council. That gets your name on the ballot, and each grade would vote for who their representatives would be. The top 10 receivers of votes would then be on student council. Student council has their own homeroom in which all the representatives are every morning, so as to help communicate from the advisor who is Mrs. Ogle and also from the officers to the representatives so that we can be a little bit more organized."

Mr. Barrett: "That's neat. So you guys elect your own president?"

Mr. Rogers: "Yes."

Mr. Rogers: "Any further questions?"

Mr. Rogers: "A group of high school students are going with a team of cardiologists from the Hershey Medical Center to participate in a program called Hearts For Ecuador. The students function as translators to help the medical staff from Hershey

converse with the medical staff in Ecuador, because there is not a lot of bilingual training on either side. The students are collecting money to help pay for the cost of blood, because the patients in Ecuador have to buy their own units of blood for their own surgeries and they are all extremely poor. Typically, a unit of blood costs more than many of the people make in a year, so the students have taken upon themselves to help raise money from the school to help out the families with the cost of blood. I will be here after the meeting if anyone would like to donate. Any generosity would be very much appreciated.”

## **7.02 School and Community Information Report**

Mr. Treddinick: “We have a very active and excellent student body. I just want to note that we have taken time to honor two students as our October Students of the Month and they are Riesa Petruzzi and Andrew Foley.”

“Mr. Foley is currently the class president for the senior class. He is also a baseball and soccer player, a member of the National Honor Society and is co-editor of the editorial section of the school newspaper, *The Broadcaster*. He has won numerous awards for his writing and is a member of Quill and Scroll National Honor Society. He has served as a high school sports sideline reporter for WGAL and he participates in wind symphony and symphony orchestra.”

“Ms. Petruzzi is a member of the National Honor Society and is involved in many musical activities. She is currently the choir president and participates in Cantabile, wind symphony, symphony orchestra, After 8 jazz choir, and marching band. She has been an American Choral Directors National Honor Choir participant, a Pennsylvania Music Educators Association All State Choir participant and a Roxbury Choir Invitational Grand Champion. “

“I also want to note a nice recognition that came out in this week’s *Information Week*. You may remember that Dr. Goldsworthy gave a presentation about data driven decision making. The article that is in this week’s *Information Week* talks about how data can be used in the public school system. In fact, it is entitled “Can Data Mining Save America’s Schools?” and Derry Township School District and Dr. Goldsworthy are cited as examples of how data mining is currently being used.

## **7.04 Board Members’ Report**

Nothing to report.

#### **7.05 Superintendent's Report**

Nothing to report.

#### **7.06 Board President's Report**

Nothing to report.

#### **RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS (Non-agenda Items)**

##### **8.01 Recognition of Citizens (Non-agenda Items)**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

##### **9.01 Adjournment**

Mr. Stover announced the next Board meeting would be on Monday, November 10, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

Mrs. Chabal moved to adjourn, with a second by Mr. Malkoff and, approved by unanimous voice vote by all members. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Stephen E. Rineer  
Secretary to the Board  
Approved at the November 10, 2008 meeting

---

Charles Stover  
President of the Board

LDM