

*NORTH ALLEGHENY SCHOOL DISTRICT*

***JUNE 17, 2009 – SPECIAL MEETING/WORK SESSION***

*MINUTES*

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Board in Attendance: Mrs. Grosheider, Mr. Hubert, Mrs. Bishop,  
Mrs. Boujoukos, Mr. Cunningham, Mrs. Ludwig,  
Mr. Schwartzmier, Mr. Shuckrow

Board Absent: Mr. Pagone

Students in Attendance: Summer Break

Also in Attendance: Dr. Green, Mr. Lucas (Solicitor), Mr. Botti, Mrs. Ed,  
Mr. Gaertner, Ms. Gaetano, Mr. Hopkins, Dr. Steinhauer,  
Dr. Stropkaj, Dr. Wheat, Mrs. Ryan (Secretary)

Others in Attendance: None.

The Board of School Directors of the North Allegheny School District convened for a **Special Meeting/Work Session** on **Wednesday, June 17, 2009** in the **Board Room** of the **Central Administrative Offices**.

**SPECIAL MEETING/WORK SESSION**

Mrs. Grosheider called the meeting to order at **7:34 pm**. and all stood and recited the *Pledge of Allegiance*.

**CALENDAR AND AGENDA**

Mrs. Grosheider reviewed the Agenda for this meeting and the Calendar for June, July and August 2009. She announced that at the conclusion of this meeting, the Board will meet in Executive Session to discuss two matters with respect to Administrative employees. The Board did meet at the conclusion of the last meeting in Executive Session to discuss two personnel matters with respect to Administrative employees and one issue concerning a bargaining unit. This meeting is a Special Meeting/Work Session and the Board has one item to approve. At next week's meeting the Board will be approving the 2009-10 General Fund Budget, among other items. In July, there will only be one meeting, which will be a combined Work Session and Regular Meeting on July 15, 2009. In August, there will be two meetings. The Work Session on August 19, 2009 will also be a Special Meeting/Work Session, primarily to approve items for the start of school, and the Regular Meeting will be on August 26, 2009, right before the start of school on August 27, 2009.

**COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

No Speakers.

**SPEAKERS ON VOTING ITEM**

No Speakers

**PRESENTATION ON COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT**

Dr. Green introduced the voting item and introduced **Ms. Joy Gaetano**, Director of Human Resources, who gave a brief overview of the Agreement with the North Allegheny Federation of Teachers. The Agreement is a three-year extension to the Collective Bargaining Agreement with NAFT and carries the Agreement from July 1, 2010 through June 20, 2013. Significant features of the Agreement include salary increases of approximately 2.3% over the term of the extension and an increase in the amount that members will pay for the utilization of health benefits. All other provisions of the Agreement will remain in force throughout the term of the extension.

**Ms. Barbara Hutchinson** served as the Chief Negotiator on behalf of the Federation and **Mr. Robert Devlin**, former Director of Human Resources, served as Chief Negotiator for the District. The extension signifies the partnership between the District and the Federation in that it represents their joint commitment to provide quality education for our students and our learning community that supports a comprehensive approach to education.

**VOTING ITEM**

**HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT**

**Ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreement**

A motion was made by **Mr. Cunningham**, seconded by **Mrs. Boujoukos**, that the Board accepts and approves the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the North Allegheny School District and the North Allegheny Federation of Teachers Local 2097, American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO, pursuant to the amendments to the contract and the terms and conditions as presented. The effective dates of the agreement are July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013.

**Roll Call Vote. Results: 8-Yes; 0-No. Motion Carried.**

**Words of Thanks**

**Mrs. Grosheider** thanked Mr. Devlin, the recently retired Director of Human Resources, who has worked tirelessly on many of the negotiating contracts. She said he is a consummate professional and has served the District admirably. She also thanked Mrs. Hutchinson, who is the recently retired President of the Teachers' Union, who also has served us admirably over her career. She stated that the District owes them a huge debt of gratitude for enabling an ongoing atmosphere of labor stability to continue through the realization of this Agreement. This Agreement allows our focus to remain on serving our students, which is what we are all about at North Allegheny.

Mrs. Hutchinson introduced the members of the Executive Board of the Federation, some of whom were in attendance and who also participated in the negotiation process:

- Judy Dulemba – President
- Michael McConegly – Executive Vice President
- Mark Anticole – Secondary Vice President
- Marcia Casey – Elementary Vice President
- Jennifer Smoller – Treasurer
- Christian Shane – Recording Secretary
- Karen Steffanina – Corresponding Secretary

Mrs. Grosheider also recognized Mr. David McDonald, who was in the audience and was a former member of Federation leadership. She thanked them all for attending this evening, but most of all, she thanked them for what they do everyday in the classroom with our kids.

### **RECESS**

Mrs. Grosheider called for a recess at *7:44 p.m.* so that the contract could be signed.

### **RECONVENED**

The Board reconvened at *7:55 p.m.*

### **Remarks from Mr. Devlin**

Mr. Devlin requested a moment to speak. He recognized Mrs. Hutchinson and her Executive Board for the fine cooperation that they afforded him in problem-solving throughout this contract and over the years. He thanked Dr. Green for her guidance and support and thanked the Board for their flexibility, professionalism and realistic perspective as they approached these matters. He especially thanked Mrs. Grosheider for her leadership through these negotiations and past negotiation sessions. He hopes that they are leaving a legacy of profound cooperation in working through problems together with a high-level regard and respect for one another, with the goal of doing the best job possible for our kids.

### **REVIEW OF BOARD FOLDER**

The Board reviewed all items as contained in the Board Folder of June 24, 2009. There was some discussion and clarification on items that were included.

Mr. Shuckrow commented that the Social Studies Curriculum Review binder that the Board received last week was very helpful and he was pleased with the contents.

Mr. Schwartzmier commented that the general bid awards for supplies in the Property and Supplies Report was greatly reduced and Mr. Botti explained that was because discounts have been negotiated with vendors and they have not had to go out to bid on many items.

During review of the Superintendent's Report, Mr. Shuckrow suggested the possibility of changing the time of Board meetings for next year from 7:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Mrs. Grosheider said that she will investigate this possibility.

Mrs. Boujoukos asked if the Administration could begin noting the buildings where the teachers/staff members are located who request attendance at seminars in the Professional Seminar Requests. Dr. Green agreed to do this.

Dr. Green gave her Good News Report as follows:

- ★ **Ms. Marg Foster, a librarian at Ingomar Middle School**, was recently appointed the Pennsylvania representative to the Affiliate Assembly for the American Association of School Librarians (AASL). This appointment is a two-year term. The purposes of the Affiliate Assembly are to provide a channel of communication for reporting concerns of the affiliated organizations and their memberships to the AASL Board of Directors; to facilitate discussion of activities and concerns of AASL; and to report the actions of AASL to the affiliates. To carry out this responsibility, Ms. Foster will be a representative at three national conferences each year for the next two years.
- ★ **The North Allegheny Senior High School** has earned recognition at the State level as a **John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts School of Excellence in Arts Education by the Pennsylvania Alliance for Arts Education**. NASH is one of only two schools so designated within Pennsylvania and will now be considered for recognition at the national level in September of 2009. The review panel for the award indicated that NASH has met or exceeded every criterion for this prestigious award and proved again on many levels that excellence in education goes hand-in-hand with excellence in arts education.
- ★ **The North Allegheny Senior High School** has also earned a place on *Newsweek Magazine's* annual list of AMERICA'S TOP PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOLS, released the week of June 10. To assemble this list, public schools are first ranked according to a ratio that divides the number of Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate tests taken by all students at a school in 2008 by the number of total seniors who graduated from that school in 2008. Those schools that make the list have a resulting index of at least 1.00. Other factors are also taken into consideration. Schools on the *Newsweek Magazine* list are in the top 6% of all public schools in America.

In addition, Mrs. Bishop congratulated our Band for their participation in the Penguin's Celebration Parade on Monday, June 15, and thanked all those who worked together to make it possible for them to be a part of that significant event.

Mr. Shuckrow asked if there has been some consideration of student participation in activities for the G-20 Summit this September in Pittsburgh.

Dr. Green assured the Board that she has been thinking about how our student leaders could participate as well as create an opportunity for the students of the performing arts to perform while keeping security issues in mind.

Mr. Shuckrow also commented on Dr. Steinhauer's new position as Superintendent at Mt. Lebanon School District which begins in July and said it was a great achievement and the Board was proud of his accomplishment.

**SPEAKERS**

No Speakers.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mrs. Grosheider adjourned the meeting at **8:30 p.m.** The Board met in Executive Session to discuss two matters with respect to Administrative employees.

Respectfully submitted,

Rose Mary Ryan, Secretary  
North Allegheny School Board