

**Keystone School District
Knox, Pennsylvania
Work Session
March 17, 2008**

OPENING/ATTENDANCE

Mr. John R. Slagle, President of the Keystone School District Board of Directors, called the Regular Business Meeting to order on Monday, March 17, 2008 at 7 P.M. The Meeting was held in the Keystone Elementary School Library located at 451 Huston Avenue, Knox, Pennsylvania. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. The following were in attendance: Mr. Gregory A. Barrett, Mr. James A. Beary, Ms. Tiki K. Kahle, Mr. Alan F. Seigworth, Mr. William L. Shaner, Mr. John R. Slagle and Mrs. Marilyn L. Stempeck. Mr. Thomas L. McCoy and Mr. Kenneth L. Swartfager were absent. Also present were: Mr. Craig Brothers, Mrs. Suzanne Chomas, Dr. Jean Atkin Gool, Ms. Amber Heeter, Mr. William Jordan, Mr. Vernon Lauffer, Ms. Heather Leskanic, Mr. Jonathan Maddy, Ms. Kelsey McCall, Mrs. Alice Sampson, Mrs. Frances Sheatz, Mr. Brett Vaughn, Mrs. Vicky Walters and Mr. Martin Whitmore.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Mr. Slagle made an introduction of guests.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

REPORTS

- **Superintendent--Dr. Gool reviewed:**
 - Reviewed the absence of the DARE Program in the Elementary School.
 - Community Advisory Council met last week and heard from SMILES.
 - Keystone Education Foundation is requesting the approval to continue the Brick Fundraiser.
 - Is requesting approval for a Safe Schools Grant for \$7,500.
 - Dr. Gool will be setting on an Accreditation Program.
 - Cheerleaders have lost \$1,345 plus \$750 due to the cancellation of a trip to Cleveland last week.
 - Graduation Requirements Handout from Department of Education.
 - Letter to IU regarding Program changes for 2008-09.
 - Dr. Gool is requesting a Policy Committee Meeting in April.

REPORTS (Continued)

□ **SMILES--Mrs. Kahle reported:**

- The Summer Weekend Celebration is rescheduled for June 27 and 28. Will include an Auto Show, Pig Roast, Hobbyist Event and 4-Wheeler Training.

□ **ATHLETIC COUNCIL--Mr. Beary reviewed:**

- Budget.
- Wrestling Agreement with A-C Valley.
- Draft Agreement for Cross Country with A-C Valley.
- New uniforms for Football are expected this year from the Athletic Budget.

□ **ELEMENTARY--Ms. Kahle reviewed:**

- Ms. Kahle commended the Faculty and Administration of the Elementary on their outstanding work for the 35th Anniversary Celebration. She individually recognized Mrs. Adams, Mr. Baker and Ms. George for their significant efforts above and beyond.

□ **HIGH SCHOOL--Mrs. Walters reviewed:**

- A Drug Dog will soon be available to Knox Boro and Keystone School District.
- A Course Syllabus Change for 3 Math Subjects--Senior High Math I, II and III to General Algebra I, General Geometry, and General Algebra II to accommodate curriculum content and as a better descriptor for pre-requisites, college admissions and NCAA qualifications.
- Graduation Requirements.
- Addition of elective in Social Studies, Humanities--.5 credits, will be taught by Mr. Vaughn and Mr. Warner.
- Multimedia Design, Grade 9, will replace Information Technology in Grade 10--.25 credits.
- All student requests have been entered, and the schedule is being built at this time.
- Career Center Scheduling for 2009-10.
- National Honor Society inducted 17 students on February 27.
- 90 Students and 9 Chaperones are currently on the Chicago Music Trip.
- The upcoming Toronto Trip has depressed attendance and a request may be forthcoming to change the venue.
- Invitations for Flip-The Switch Event for CFF were distributed.
- The Musical, "Guys and Dolls," will be presented on April 24, 25 and 26.
- PSSA Testing and 4 Sight Testing will occur April 1 through 4. All students except Seniors will be testing. Seniors will be working on a research paper.

□ **HIGH SCHOOL--Mr. Maddy reviewed:**

- Preliminary Data on 4 Sight Testing.

REPORTS (Continued)

❑ **LEGISLATIVE TRIP--Mr. Vaughn and Amber Heeter reviewed:**

- Mr. Vaughn reviewed the visit to Harrisburg on the Budget Hearings on the Governor's Budget Proposal. Amber said that she was included in the Caucus portion of the Hearings, and it was a very positive experience for her, as well as getting her views across to The House and The Senate on the needs of rural schools.

❑ **STUDENT GOVERNMENT--Kelsey McCall reviewed:**

- Distribution of a \$1,500 Service Scholarship to Michelle Curran.
- Capability testing with I-Flirts.
- Shamrock Sale was held for Muscular Dystrophy.
- Leadership Conference was held at C-L.
- Ad renewals.

❑ **BUSINESS MANAGER--Mr. Lauffer reviewed:**

- He explained the impetus behind the County Ratio Change. The change will not increase or change taxes. It will increase the assessed value on each tax bill while decreasing the corresponding millage rate so the calculated taxes due remain unchanged. As the ratio change will move from 75% to 100%, there will be no more ratio change increases available so the next step would be a complete reassessment within Clarion County.
- Mr. Lauffer distributed a handout on the price of natural gas commodity for February, 2009. He said that our natural gas needs are purchased through June of 2008. After Board discussion, it was agreed to wait to procure needs beyond June, 2008 until a later date.

DIALOGUE ITEMS

- ❑ Dr. Gool said that she is working on the Clearance Situation as pertaining to Volunteers/Chaperones. Ms. Kahle reviewed some homework she did on the Clearance Issue necessary for Volunteers/Chaperones dealing with Denise Wolfgang at the Pennsylvania Department of Education. After Board discussion on the information presented by Denise Wolfgang, the Board agreed to continue the past practice of not requiring any of the three Clearances for Chaperones/Volunteers. It was also agreed that the Policy Committee would meet, review and discuss this Clearance Issue for 2008-09 to document into Policy or Procedure.
- ❑ As many unanswered questions arose on the Career Center Budget for 2008-09, Mrs. Stempeck is to contact Mr. Powell and the Administrators to research the variance between projected enrollment expectations. Mr. Slagle said this Item is on the Agenda for the Business Meeting and may be tabled until next month.

DIALOGUE ITEMS (Continued)

- ❑ Mr. Barrett and Mr. Lauffer reviewed the IU Budget for 2008-09 with the increase in local contributions from Keystone School District to be \$457. Mr. Slagle said this Item is on the Regular Business Meeting Agenda later this evening for Board consideration.
- ❑ Resignation was received from Bruce Turk as Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach. Mr. Slagle said this Item is on the Regular Business Meeting Agenda later this evening for Board consideration.
- ❑ Posting for a Girls' Varsity Basketball Coach. Mr. Slagle said this Item is on the Regular Business Meeting Agenda later this evening for Board consideration.
- ❑ Request from Jennifer Johnson for a Maternity Leave from March 24, 2008 through the end of the end of the School Year. Mr. Slagle said this Item is on the Regular Business Meeting Agenda later this evening for Board consideration.
- ❑ Additions to the Substitute List:
 - Alex Hartzell, Health/Physical Education, Knox
 - Brian Lipps, Social Studies, Rimersburg
 - Jodi Clark, Bus Driver, Knox
 - Paul Brown, Bus Driver, Clarion
 - Mark Stinson, Elementary, ClarionMr. Slagle said this Item is on the Regular Business Meeting Agenda later this evening for Board consideration.
- ❑ Dr. Gool presented a Proposal for eliminating \$125,000 of expenditures from the General Fund Budget. Mr. Lauffer explained the Costing Out Formula and the Governor's distribution of the Adequacy Shortfall. Ms. Kahle reviewed the on-going deliberations with the County Schools regarding the Governor's Proposal on the Basic Education Subsidy. Mr. Lauffer distributed a handout on the affects of various tax increases to the individual taxpayer.
- ❑ Mr. Lauffer distributed a handout on a 5-Year Long-Term Plan. Also, a survey for the public and parents to complete was discussed. Board opinion was to re-work the survey prior to distribution.
- ❑ Dr. Gool reviewed the new mandate regarding the Graduation Competency Assessments. She requested the Board to consider opposing this mandate and approve a resolution in the Business Meeting as presented. Mr. Slagle said this Item is on the Regular Business Meeting Agenda later this evening for Board consideration.

DIALOGUE ITEMS (Continued)

- Substitute Instructional Aides. Mr. Slagle requested this Item be added to the Regular Business Meeting Agenda later this evening for Board consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the Meeting adjourned at 9:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vernon F. Lauffer
Board Secretary