

**Keystone School District
Knox, Pennsylvania
Work Session
July 21, 2008**

OPENING/ATTENDANCE

Mr. John R. Slagle, President of the Keystone School District Board of Directors, called the Work Session to order on Monday, July 21, 2008 at 7 P.M. The Meeting was held at the Keystone Elementary School Library, at 451 Huston Avenue, Knox, Pennsylvania. The following were in attendance: Mr. Gregory A. Barrett, Mr. James A. Beary, Ms. Terri K. Kahle, Mr. Thomas L. McCoy, Mr. William L. Shaner, Mr. John R. Slagle, Mrs. Marilyn L. Stempeck and Mr. Kenneth L. Swartfager. Mr. Alan F. Seigworth was absent. Also present were: Mrs. Jolynn Barger, Mr. Tom Bowser, Mrs. Sue Chomas, Mr. Steve Condon, Dr. Jean Gool, Mrs. Shannon Johns, Mr. Wayne Johns, Mr. Jerrod Kapp, Mr. Vernon Lauffer, Mr. Bruce McHenry, Mrs. Sharon Nesta, Mr. Jerry Rembold, Mrs. Vicky Walters and Mr. Chuck Weaver

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❑ Mr. Slagle made an introduction of guests.
- ❑ Mr. Slagle said an Executive Session would be held tonight after the Work Session to discuss Teacher and High School Secretary New Hires and a Medical Sabbatical Request.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mrs. Sharon Nesta addressed the Board regarding the filling of a Supplemental Marching Band position.

REPORTS

- ❑ **Superintendent--Dr. Gool reviewed:**
 - Safety & Security issues as instructed from the State Auditor's position.
 - A recent letter from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to report that there were no Findings in our Federal Programs for Fiscal year Ending June 30, 2007.
 - Received a Playground Grant for \$20,000. Thanks to Fred McIlhattan and Lisa Caylor for their contributions to secure this money.
 - Reported that Pathways Grant is requested for approval.
- ❑ **SMILES--Ms. Kahle reviewed:**
 - 74 Positions have been offered for the new year.
 - All Stipend Positions are filled.
 - 12 Educational Positions are still available.
 - A Farm Safety Program was offered on June 28.

REPORTS (Continued)

❑ **High School--Mrs. Walters reviewed:**

- Mrs. Walters distributed a handout on PSSA results detailing:
 1. AYP Achievement
 2. Attendance and Graduate Rate
 3. Participation Rate
 4. Math and Reading Proficient Percentage
- She also distributed a Handout on the History Teaching Plan for 2008-09.
- Student Handbook changes for 2008-09. She requested these changes be considered on Tonight's Agenda.

❑ **Special Education--Mrs. Chomas reviewed:**

- Commendation for Special Education Instruction
- Corrective Action for PSSA Participation
- Special Education Plan is due this Spring and is part of the Strategic Plan.

DIALOGUE ITEMS

- ❑ Resignation of Randi Libby as Instrumental Band Director effective immediately. *Mr. Slagle said this Item is on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.*
- ❑ Declare the Marching Band Instructor Supplemental Contract vacant. *Mr. Slagle said this Item is on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda*
- ❑ Posting of a Marching Band Instructor Supplemental Contract. *Mr. Slagle said this Item is on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.*
- ❑ Jr. High Girls' Basketball Coach and Volunteer Golf Coach--James McConnell. *Mr. Slagle said this Item is on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.*
- ❑ Additions to the Substitute List--Ruth Aites, Lamartine, Custodian. *Mr. Slagle said this Item is on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.*
- ❑ Declare the Social Studies Department Chairperson vacant. *Mr. Slagle said this Item is on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.*
- ❑ Social Studies Department Chairperson--Phil Witkowski. *Mr. Slagle said this Item is on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.*

Mr. Lauffer and Mr. Barrett reviewed the possibility of retrofitting our existing ovens instead of purchasing new ones. After the Maintenance staff has researched, it is recommended not to attempt to retrofit the existing ovens. *Mr. Slagle said this Item is on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.*

DIALOGUE ITEMS (Continued)

- ❑ Mr. Barrett and Mr. Lauffer presented a possibility of Natural Gas Well Drilling on School Property. After Board discussion, Mr. Slagle requested a proposal be prepared and presented in a future Meeting.
- ❑ Mr. Lauffer presented a product that offers a 15% to 38% reduction in Natural Gas consumption by breaking down of Natural Gas clumping to make the Natural Gas Burn more efficiently. After Board discussion, ***Mr. Slagle requested this Item be placed on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.***
- ❑ Mr. Lauffer presented Year 5 Act 57 Reports for Board review. Mr. Swartfager questioned the analysis of Year 5 and how the calculation works at this point. Mr. Lauffer responded that many adjustments to energy usage, both favorable and unfavorable, have changed the results from the onset.
- ❑ Mr. Lauffer presented two Phases for the High School Main Sewer Lines to be replaced. Phase 1 would be the replacement of 80 feet of terra cotta pipe below the Loading Dock at the High School. It is proposed that Chuck Weaver be hired to install the pipe for \$2,000.
- ❑ Mr. Lauffer said that there is some confusion as to the amount of Homestead/Farmstead Exclusion amounts as abated on July 2008 tax bills. He reviewed the technique used on calculating the Exclusion--which is consistent with the wording in Act 1.
- ❑ Mr. Lauffer reviewed a change this year with the assessment of permanent campers at Wolf's Campground. There have been some complaints from the taxpayers of these campers. He said that the County is enforcing this assessment law that requires the campers be assessed if they don't possess a current vehicle registration.
- ❑ Mr. Lauffer distributed a handout detailing the subsidies as approved by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for 2008-09. This amounted to a \$94,150 net increase in Basic Education, Special Education, ABG and Charter School. After Board discussion, it was agreed to re-visit the Surplus and pass it to a Specific Line Item in September, 2009.
- ❑ Mr. Lauffer reviewed the TTSR Classroom Rental Contract with Scott Myers for 2008-09. ***Mr. Slagle requested this Item be placed on tonight's Business Meeting Agenda.***
- ❑ Mr. Slagle requested the Board consider a Resolution to give Keystone School District residents preference for all positions being hired. After significant Board discussion, it was agreed to give residents of Keystone School District an improved opportunity for securing permanent positions.

An Executive Session was held from 8:40 P.M. until 9:30 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vernon F. Lauffer
Board Secretary