

SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

760 Lower Road
Souderton, PA 18964

The annual reorganization meeting of the Souderton Area Board of School Directors was held Thursday, December 6, 2007 at the District Administrative Office in the Tinner Room. The meeting was called to order at 6:38 PM by Secretary Brenda Jones Bray, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

The roll call of holdover members was as follows:

PRESENT:	William J. Brong	Mark D. Leer
	Bernard S. Currie	Victor M. Verbeke

SOLICITOR: Jeffrey Sultanik, Esq.

Also present at the meeting were: Dr. Charles Amuso, Dr. R. Paul Baumgartner, Karen Berk, Brenda J. Bray, Donna Brown, Steve Bukowski, R. Bradley Clemens, Deb Doeblor, Grace Eves, Henry Franz, Frank Gallagher, Karen Giannini, Scott Jelinski, Thomas Kwiatkowski, Eric MacDougall, R. Bud Miller, Gail Ryan, representatives from *The Reporter*, *The Souderton Independent*, Radio Station WNPV, and the public.

NOTICE OF THE ORGANIZATION MEETING

Mrs. Bray read the Notice of the Organization Meeting.

“The Souderton Area School District Board of School Directors will hold their annual reorganization meeting on Thursday, December 6, 2007 beginning at 6:30 PM. The meeting will be held in the Lowell A. Tinner Board Room at the District Administrative Office Building, 760 Lower Road, Souderton, PA.

The purpose of the meeting is to hold an election of officers. No other business will be transacted at this meeting.”

COMMENTS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no public comments.

NOMINATIONS FOR TEMPORARY PRESIDENT

Mr. Verbeke nominated Mr. Brong as Temporary President.

With no other nominations, Mrs. Bray declared the nominations for Temporary President closed.

NOMINATIONS FOR TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (CONTINUED)

There was a motion by Dr. Baumgartner to close the nominations and cast the ballot in favor of Mr. Brong to act in the capacity as Temporary President. The motion was second by Mr. Leer.

Mrs. Bray called for a roll call vote for all of those in favor of Mr. Brong acting in the capacity as Temporary President.

Mr. Brong – Yes
Mr. Currie – Yes

Mr. Leer - Yes
Mr. Verbeke - Yes

On a vote of 4 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board appoint Mr. Brong to act in the capacity as Temporary President for the reorganization meeting.

SEATING OF NEWLY ELECTED AND RE-ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

At this point in the meeting, Dr. Amuso introduced the Honorable Judge Kent Albright, from the Montgomery County Court of Common Pleas, also a former graduate of Souderton Area High School and resident, to execute the oath of office to the re-elected and newly elected Board members.

Judge Albright thanked Dr. Amuso and the Board for the opportunity to administer the oath of office or review of already executed oaths of office to the newly elected Board members. He reminisced about his high school years at Souderton.

Judge Albright called on the newly elected Board members individually to administer the oath of office.

DR. R. PAUL BAUMGARTNER – Elected to a four year term
SCOTT C. JELINSKI – Elected to a four year term
THOMAS A. KWIATKOWSKI – Elected to a four year term
R. BUD MILLER – Elected to a four year term
ERIC R. MACDOUGALL – Elected to a four year term

NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD PRESIDENT FOR THE ENSUING YEAR

Mr. Brong opened the floor for nominations for President.

Dr. Baumgartner placed Mr. Currie's name in nomination for President.

With no other names in nomination, Mr. Brong declared the nominations closed.

Mr. Verbeke made a motion to close the nominations and cast the ballot in favor of Mr. Currie as President for a one year term. The motion was second by Mr. Miller.

NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD PRESIDENT FOR THE ENSUING YEAR (CONTINUED)

With a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board elect Mr. Currie as President for a one-year term, December 2007 to December 2008.

Mr. Currie assumed the President's seat at the dais.

NOMINATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT

Mr. Currie opened the floor for nominations for Vice President.

Mr. Jelinski nominated Mr. Miller for the office of Vice President.

With no other names from the floor, Mr. Kwiatkowski moved to close the nominations for Vice President and cast the vote in favor of Mr. Miller. The motion was second by Mr. Verbeke.

With the voice call vote being uncertain, Mr. Currie called for a roll call vote for the office of Vice President.

Mrs. Bray called the roll.

Dr. Baumgartner – No
Mr. Brong – No
Mr. Jelinski – Yes
Mr. Kwiatkowski – Yes
Mr. Leer - Yes

Mr. MacDougall - Yes
Mr. Miller - Yes
Mr. Verbeke - Yes
Mr. Currie - Yes

With the vote taken, and on a vote of 7 to 2, with Dr. Baumgartner and Mr. Brong voting no, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board elect Mr. Miller as Vice President of the Board for a term of one year, December 2007 to December 2008.

NOMINATION OF BOARD MEMBER TO REPRESENT SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ON THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MRS. TRACY COLE

Mr. Currie indicated that Dr. Baumgartner had volunteered to serve as Souderton's representative to the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit .

There was a motion by Mr. Miller to close the nominations and cast the ballot in favor of Dr. Baumgartner as the Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Representative. The motion was second by Mr. Brong and on a voice vote of 9 to 0, it was

NOMINATION OF BOARD MEMBER TO REPRESENT SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ON THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF MRS. TRACY COLE (CONTINUED)

RESOLVED, That the Board appoint Dr. Baumgartner as the district's Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Representative to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. Cole. Dr. Baumgartner's Intermediate Unit term will expire June 30, 2010.

NOMINATION OF BOARD MEMBER TO REPRESENT SOUDERTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT AS PSBA AND MCIU LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

Mr. Currie indicated that Dr. Baumgartner had volunteered to represent the Souderton Area School District as both the Pennsylvania School Boards Association and Montgomery County Intermediate Unit Legislative Liaison.

There was a motion by Mr. Miller to close the nominations and cast the ballot in favor of Dr. Baumgartner as both the PSBA and MCIU Legislative Liaison. The motion was second by Mr. Leer and on a voice vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board appoint Dr. Baumgartner as the district's PSBA and MCIU Legislative Liaison for a period of one year, December 2007 to December 2008.

NOMINATION OF BOARD MEMBER TO SIT AS A MEMBER OF THE SOUDERTON AREA EDUCATION FOUNDATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Currie stated that past tradition was for the President to serve as a Souderton Area Education Foundation Committee member. He was willing to continue the tradition.

There was a motion by Mr. Miller, second by Mr. Verbeke to appoint Mr. Currie, as in past practice, to represent the Board of School Directors on the Souderton Area Education Foundation Committee. The vote was taken, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board appoint Mr. Currie as their representative to the Souderton Area Education Foundation Committee.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CONTINUATION OF EXISTING SIGNATURE PLATES

Mr. Currie read the resolution authorizing the continuation of the use of the existing signature plates reflecting Eric MacDougall as Board President, Brenda Jones Bray as Board Secretary, and Grace Eves as Board Treasurer until such time as new signature plates can be prepared reflecting the new officer appointments. The Director of Business Affairs is authorized to arrange for the preparation of said signature plates so that the intent of this resolution can be effectuated.

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE CONTINUATION OF EXISTING SIGNATURE PLATES
(CONTINUED)

There was a motion by Mr. Verbeke, second by Dr. Baumgartner, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board authorize the continuation of the use of the existing signature plates reflecting Eric MacDougall as Board President, Brenda Jones Bray as Board Secretary, and Grace Eves as Board Treasurer until such time as new signature plates can be prepared reflecting the new officer appointments. The Director of Business Affairs is authorized to arrange for the preparation of said signature plates so that the intent of this resolution can be effectuated.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Currie stated he would defer committee appointments until sometime before the next Board meeting.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Mr. Currie thanked his fellow Board members for their trust and confidence in electing him president. He thanked Eric MacDougall for his leadership as past president. Mr. Currie stated that he will work with his colleagues to support the administration in their efforts to improve educational outcomes for all students. He indicated that the Board needs to develop policy for a budget development process to guide the administration. Mr. Currie indicated that Board members are concerned about the amount of time it takes to do the work of the Board and recommended moving toward a Policy Governance model in the future. The Board will be very busy in the future with three different employee contracts/agreements and asked the Board and administration for guidance and support. He also thanked Judge Albright for coming and participating in the swearing in of new members.

Mr. Miller thanked the Board members for their vote and also thanked Mr. MacDougall for his leadership over the years.

Mr. Verbeke also thanked Judge Albright for coming and thanked Mr. Miller, Dr. Baumgartner, Mr. Currie and Mr. MacDougall in their role as present and past officials of the Board. He briefly shared the backgrounds and experiences of Mr. Kwiatkowski and Mr. Jelinski. He welcomed both men to the Board.

COMMENTS FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT.

Dr. Amuso congratulated the five Board members who were re-elected/newly elected and congratulated the new officers. He indicated that the administration looks forward to working with the entire Board.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr. Hugh Donnelly, from Franconia Township, reminded the Board that they have a monumental task ahead of them to keep taxes down.

Mr. Currie reminded the Board members that Mrs. Giannini would be taking the official picture after the meeting and also announced that there would be an executive session following the meeting to discuss litigation issues.

Dr. Amuso asked newly elected officials to sign the necessary documentation for Judge Albright.

ADJOURN REORGANIZATION MEETING

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Miller, second by Dr. Baumgartner to adjourn the meeting. The vote was taken, and on a vote of 9 to 0, it was

RESOLVED, That the Board adjourn the reorganization meeting at 7:08 PM.

Respectfully,

Brenda Jones Bray
Secretary