



Customizing Learning,  
Nurturing Potential...  
Delivering Excellence

**UPPER ST. CLAIR BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS  
BOARD REORGANIZATION MEETING**

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2017 - 7:00 P.M.  
CENTRAL OFFICE BOARD ROOM**

Notice having been advertised and posted and members duly notified, the reorganization meeting of the Board of School Directors was held on December 4, 2017 in the Central Office Board Room.

School Board Members in attendance:

Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas, Temporary President  
Mrs. Amy L. Billerbeck  
Mr. Phillip J. Elias  
Dr. Daphna Gans  
Mr. Patrick A. Hewitt  
Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr.  
Mrs. Angela B. Petersen  
Mr. Dante Plutko, Jr.

School personnel in attendance:

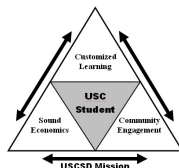
Dr. Patrick O'Toole, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Sharon Suritsky, Deputy/Assistant Superintendent  
Dr. John Rozzo, Assistant Superintendent  
Mr. Scott P. Burchill, Director of Business & Finance  
Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Curriculum & Professional Development  
Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology  
Mrs. Amy Pfender, Director of Student Support Services  
Mr. Brad Wilson, Supervisor of Customized & On-Line Learning  
Mrs. Mary Ann Stabile, Stenographer  
Mr. Robert Prorok, Solicitor

**CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE (Prorok)**

Mr. Prorok and Dr. O'Toole called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m.

**READING OF THE MISSION**

Mr. Hewitt read the following School District Mission Statement:



*Developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens for a global society is the mission of the Upper St. Clair School District, served by a responsive and innovative staff who in partnership with the community provides learning experiences that nurture the uniqueness of each child and promotes happiness and success.*

## **SHARED BELIEF STATEMENT #16 FROM STRATEGIC PLAN**

Mr. Elias read the following Shared Belief Statement #16 from the Strategic Plan:

*We believe that:*

*because students learn at different rates and in different ways, it is essential to recognize each student's needs and interests when creating opportunities for continuous progress.*

## **RESIDENTS' COMMENTS (REGARDING AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

There were no residents' comments at this time.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Prorok)**

MOTION: By Petersen: I move that the Board approve the agenda as presented. Seconded by Mafrice, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

## **NOMINATION/ELECTION OF TEMPORARY PRESIDENT (Prorok)**

MOTION: By Petersen: I nominate Barbara Bolas to act as Temporary President of this meeting. Seconded by Billerbeck, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

## **REPORT FROM STUDENT BOARD REPRESENTATIVES (Joshua Meyer and Rebecca Speer)**

Joshua Meyer and Rebecca Speer, student board representatives, reported on various activities at the high school. They announced that the spring musical this year would be *Evita* with music by Andrew Lloyd Webber and lyrics by Tim Rice.

## **READING OF CERTIFICATES OF ELECTION/OATH OF OFFICE (The Honorable Arnold Klein)**

The Honorable Arnold Klein, Allegheny County Court of Common Pleas Judge, administered oaths of office to the following elected school board members for four-year terms:

Dr. Daphna Gans, Mr. Louis Mafrice, Jr., and Mr. Dante Plutko.

Dr. Gans, Mr. Mafrice, and Mr. Plutko thanked the community for electing them to the school board and stated that they looked forward to the honor and privilege of serving as school board members.

## **RECOGNITION OF ANGELA B. PETERSEN, 2017 BOARD PRESIDENT (O'Toole)**

Dr. O'Toole recognized Mrs. Angela Petersen for serving as the Board President in 2017. He commented regarding Mrs. Petersen's desire to contribute to the school district and how the board members, school district and community benefit from her expertise. Dr. O'Toole presented Mrs. Petersen with a commemorative gavel in honor of her year of serving as the Board President.

**2017 YEAR IN REVIEW (O'Toole) - ATTACHED**

Dr. Suritsky summarized a number of the accomplishments of the school district during 2017 under the leadership of Mrs. Petersen as Board President.

Mrs. Bolas thanked Mrs. Petersen for leading and navigating the Board during 2017 to achieve these accomplishments.

A complete listing of the 2017 accomplishments is ATTACHED.

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2018 (Temporary President)**

**ELECTION OF PRESIDENT**

MOTION: By Mafrice: I nominate Amy Billerbeck as President of the Board of School Directors. Seconded by Petersen, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

**ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT**

MOTION: By Hewitt: I nominate Barbara Bolas as Vice President of the Board of School Directors. Seconded by Billerbeck, and carried on unanimous voice vote.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**REVIEW OF AGENDA ITEMS FOR DECEMBER 11 BOARD MEETING**

Dr. Suritsky reviewed the agenda items that would be discussed at the Board meeting on December 11.

**MATTERS OF INFORMATION - SUPERINTENDENT & ADMINISTRATION**

**NEW BOARD MEMBER ORIENTATIONS @ CENTRAL OFFICE**

Dr. Suritsky announced that two new board member orientations would be held at Central Office on the following dates and invited all board members to attend if their schedules allowed:

- December 7 (1-4 pm)
- December 14 (9 am-noon)

**HIGH SCHOOL EVENTS ON DECEMBER 19**

Dr. Suritsky announced that a number of events would be held at the high school on December 19 and invited the board members to attend:

- 5:00 pm – Life Skills Holiday Dinner
- 6:00 pm – Dedication of Café 321
- 7:00 pm – High School Choral Concert

**ALUMNI RECEPTION AT ST. CLAIR COUNTRY CLUB – JANUARY 18 (6:30-8:30 PM)**

Dr. Suritsky invited board members to an alumni reception at St. Clair Country Club on January 18 from 6:30-8:30 pm. The reception would include early adopters for the alumni database.

**RECEPTION FOLLOWING MEETING**

Mrs. Billerbeck invited everyone to remain for a reception following the meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

It was moved, seconded, and carried on unanimous voice vote that the meeting adjourn at approximately 7:30 pm.

Barbara L. Bolas, Temporary President  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Scott P. Burchill, Secretary  
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Submitted by: Mary Ann L. Stabile  
School Board Stenographer

**2017 YEAR IN REVIEW UNDER LEADERSHIP OF  
ANGELA B. PETERSEN, SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT**

***Academics***

- Approved Canvas Learning Management System Contract
- Approved contract with Education Inc. for student support services at Southwood Hospital
- High School hosted its inaugural Women in STEAM event attended by 30 students and seven female professionals.

***Administrative Leadership***

- Kevin Deitrick hired as Athletic Director
- Christine Mussomeli relocated to Boyce Middle School as Assistant Principal
- Daniel Zelenski hired as High School Assistant Principal
- Lauren Madia appointed Student Support Services Curriculum Leader

***Advancement***

- Transformation of the High School Commons to Café 321 through private donation
- Private and corporate donations received to expand SHOP@USC
- Celebrate Our Schools Partnership Donations for the Innovation Hub and SHOP@Boyce
- Steelcase Pilot Program donations for the Innovation Hub@Fort Couch and SHOP@Boyce
- Contribution from local donor family underwrote 80 teacher registrations for PLC Institute hosted at USC
- Almbase contract approved for alumni relations software

***Awards & Recognitions***

***District***

- Boyce Middle School one of 179 schools recognized as Title I Distinguished School by PDE
- Professional Learning Communities at Work Institute hosted by USC
- School District named among nation's Best Communities for Music Education by the NAMM Foundation
- High School ranked among top high schools in nation by the U.S. News & World Report
- High School's "Montage" earned first place award in Scholastic Yearbook and Magazine Awards for the eighth consecutive year

- SHOP@USC Program selected as NSBA 2017 Magna Award Grand Prize Winner
- Stacie de la Parra recognized for organizing PTC New Family Welcome for 13 years
- Boyce and Fort Couch recognized as Donald Eichhorn Schools to Watch for the fourth time by PA Association for Middle Level Education
- High School named one of 25 schools nationwide selected as national model of Innovative Successful Practices by the Successful Practices Network and AASA

### ***Students***

- Isabelle Walsh earned all-state honors for volleyball by Volleyball Coaches Association
- Carly DeCock accepted into National Association for Music Education's Treble Honors Choir
- Kevin Chen selected as American Medical Informatics Association High School Scholar for his research paper, "A Comparison of Methods for Identifying Direct Casual Influences"
- Robbie Halpner's composition, Tarantella, chosen as winning selection in high school level of PMEA's Composition Program
- Eleven (11) students selected as National Merit 2017 Finalists
- High School Dance Team earned first place honors in large-school varsity jazz division at the JAMfest Dance Super Nationals
- Harvey Kane earned first place in long jump at PA Track & Field Coaches Association Indoor State Championships
- Curt Leonard named President's Volunteer Service Award winner for his exemplary service to the community
- Carly DeCock selected to perform in All-Eastern Honors Treble Choir
- High School Speech and Debate Team won overall state championship in PHSSL State Speech and Debate Tournament with individual achievements of Rod Smith winning Commentary and the team of Caleb Troughtzmantz, Neale Misquitta, and Ethan Bowman winning Parliamentary Debate
- Alex Sun earned top score at Pennsylvania Mathematics League contest
- Kevin Chen selected as a 2017 Recognized Carson Scholar
- Jaron Maine earned Silver Medal in national Scholastic Art & Writing Awards for his print titled, "Jellyfish"
- Members of Future Business Leaders of America placed first in PA:  
Entrepreneurship: Amna Amin, Ariana Chiu, Raahema Durrani; Hospitality Management: Arushi Kewalramani, Macey Kaplan, Vicki Wang; Management Decisions Making: Sahil Doshi, Akshar Golakiya, Yash Lahoti
- Dana Loomis and Callie Jardine earned six individual medals, Compulsory A Team Event Bronze Medal, team spirit award and national team championship at High School National Figure Skating Competition
- Claire K. Zalla named National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship recipient
- Paul Abrams named National Merit Bayer Scholarship recipient

- Aditi Chattopadhyay’s paper titled, “Demonstration Study: A Protocol to Combine Online Tools and Databases for Identifying Potentially Repurposable Drugs,” published on MDPI.com
- Tyler Besselman awarded a National Security Language Initiative for Youth scholarship to study at Wenzao Ursuline University of Languages in Taiwan
- Osa Wheeler and Maddie McConaghy advanced to nationals after earning bronze medal at the MidWest Scholastic Rowing Championship
- Raahema Durrani earned spot in National Final Round of Lincoln Douglas Debate and Erik Warmbein a semifinalist in Dramatic Performance in National Catholic Forensic League Grand Nationals
- Harvey Kane won PIAA Class 3A Long Jump Championship
- High School Girls Lacrosse Team members Emily Megonnell, Olivia Gerlach, Lindsay Newton, and Hannah Thompson selected as All-Americans to US Lacrosse Western PA National Team and Aria Dietrich selected as a Brine All-American for the Pennsylvania team
- Team of Boyce students named to National Math Olympiad Honor Roll for scoring in the top 10 percent among 3,154 teams from 44 countries in International Mathematical Olympiads and Phillip Markovitz’s earned perfect score and won gold pin for scoring in top two percent of all registrants
- Three High School juniors earned college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards through National Merit Scholarship Corporation: Dewey Garcia – University of Central Florida, Malcolm T. Miller – University of Maryland, and Murphy S. Miller – Clemson University.
- High School Speech & Debate team earned Debate School of Excellence Award from National Speech & Debate Association and team of Macey Kaplan and Arushi Kewalramani finished 10<sup>th</sup> in Public Forum Debate and one of four teams in nation undefeated, 12-0
- Harrison Burgess selected to 17-member U.S. National Development Sled Hockey Team
- Eleven (11) students chosen as National Merit Semifinalists and fifteen (15) chosen as National Merit Commended Students
- Kevin Chen, Steven Cheung, Michael Hrehocik, Abigail Wagner, and Dina Leyzarovich earned perfect scores on 2017 ACT
- Wyatt Keating recognized as AP Scholar with Distinction by College Board for earning average score of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams
- Jack Smith and Jonah Glunt accepted to NAFME All National Chorus
- Kevin Chen selected to participate in American Medical Informatics Association High School Scholar Program for research paper, "A Deep Learning Approach to Cancer Gene Expression"
- Inaugural student-led mini-THON raised more than \$17,000 to assist children battling cancer
- A team of eighth graders from Fort Couch Middle School finished fourth overall and first in long-term performance at the Odyssey of the Mind World Finals

- 138 Upper St. Clair High School students earned the designation of AP Scholar – including six National AP Scholars
- 2017 graduate Jay Pollock was named as a 2016-17 Positive Athlete Award Winner and was featured in a video produced by CNN

### ***Staff***

- Dr. Timothy Wagner named an Early Career Awardee from University of Pittsburgh School of Education
- Fred Peskorski selected as an Honorable Mention for the 2017 Carnegie Science Awards in High School Educator award category
- Matt Henderson selected as National School Boards Association's 20 to Watch educator
- Pam Dillie chosen to participate on committee to conduct New Item Review for Science Grades 4 & 8 and Data Review for Science in support of PSSA Exams
- Dr. Sharon Suritsky selected as one of two finalists in the Women in School Leadership Award in Central Office/Principal category, sponsored by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and AASA
- Dr. Patrick O'Toole recognized for serving as 2016-17 PASA President
- Dr. Timothy Wagner honored with Outstanding Young Alumni Award by Washington & Jefferson College
- Fort Couch Middle School Librarian Mary Grace Kelly completed the Sustaining Leaders Academy for Pennsylvania School Librarians
- Steve Miller, high school mathematics teacher and curriculum leader, was named one of four Pennsylvania finalists for the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.
- Retired World Languages Curriculum Leader Deanna Baird was honored with the W. LaMarr Kopp Lifetime Achievement Award by the Pennsylvania Council for International Education

### ***Budget/Operations***

- Approved and revised Square POS System for SHOP@USC
- Approved and renewed Eventbrite Ticketing Event System for spring musical and other district events
- Approved Memorandum of Understanding with CYF related to foster care transportation
- Approved Settlement Agreement on Appeal of 2013-14 School Based ACCESS Program
- Lease purchased seven (7) school buses
- Resolution approved regarding reimbursement from proceeds of tax-exempt bonds for previous expenditures
- Carpet replaced at all elementary schools
- Approved contract with PAETEP for teacher evaluation management system
- Approved tax assessment/tax collection rates for services by Tucker Arensberg
- Approved increase in lunch prices



- Approved Master Agreement with Time Clock Plus on Demand
- Approved amendment to Leave Management Services Agreement with UPMC
- Approved contract with PowerSchool for Recruitment Management Software
- Approved contract for mail machine at Central Office
- Approved Articles of Agreement with Township for tax collection by Jordan Tax Services from January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022

### ***Capital Projects***

- Options presented for financing proposed capital projects
- Capital Projects Review Ad Hoc Committee renewed with new charge
- Accepted recommendation of Capital Projects Review Ad Hoc Committee Final Report
- Authorized McLean Architects to continue the design development, construction documents and construction phase administration for capital projects
- Visits to Steelcase to discuss furniture for Fort Couch Innovation Hub, High School Library and proposed Community Complex
- Approved Geotechnical Services for capital projects
- Approved P. J. Dick as construction manager for capital projects
- Approved Bond Underwriter, Bond Counsel, and General Obligation Bonds for capital projects

### ***Collective Bargaining Agreement***

- Approved Collective Bargaining Agreement with USC School Education Support Professionals from 2017-18 through 2020-21 (bus drivers)

### ***Communications***

- Annual Report developed in-house by Tina Vojtko and published in USC TODAY Magazine at no cost to the district
- School Agreement with Varsity News Network for athletic program website

### ***Resolutions***

- Approved resolution to oppose charter school provisions under HB 97 and called for reform of funding for cyber charter schools

### ***Safety and Security***

- Renewed Memorandum of Understanding with Township Police Department

### ***School Board Policies***

- Adopted Policy #4007 – Admission of Students to Kindergarten and First Grade

- Adopted Policy #3006 – Sale or Disposal of Surplus Property, Equipment, Supplies and Textbooks
- Adopted Policy #7018 – Allowability of Costs – Federal Programs
- Adopted Policy #7019 – Cash Management – Federal Programs
- Adopted Policy #7020 – Conflict of Interest
- Adopted Policy #7021 – Travel Reimbursement – Federal Programs
- Adopted Policy #3029 – School Building and Grounds Security Monitoring
- Adopted Policy #3030 – Transportation – Video-Audio Monitoring

### ***Technology***

- Approved Proposals for Structured Cabling and Wireless Access Points at Elementary Schools
- Approved lease for technology equipment (iPads for 5th graders, the elementary iPad pilot program and replacement iPads for teachers and expansion of 1:1 initiative to grade 10)

### ***Workshops***

- Board Goals Workshop – January 16
- Board Breakfast Workshop – February 2 (Smart Desk)
- Board Breakfast Workshop – May 25 (Canvas Class)
- Board Breakfast Workshop – October 26 (SHOP@USC)