THE BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION  
OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA  

MINUTES  

Meeting of: December 4, 2000  

Call of the Meeting: Board Organization  

Members Present: Mr. Brentley, Mrs. Fink, Mrs. Harris, Mr. Isler, Mrs. Neiser, Mrs. Schmidt, Mr. Taylor, Mrs. Wood, Mr. Matthews. Present 9.  

Members Absent: Absent 0.  

The following matters were received and acted upon.  

Actions taken are recorded following the reports.
Election of Officers and Conduct General Business

TEMPORARY ORGANIZATION

1. Election of Temporary President
2. Election of Temporary Secretary

PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

1. Election of President
2. Election of Vice Presidents

ELECTION OF SECRETARIES AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES AND SETTING OF BONDS

ELECTION OF SCHOOL TREASURER AND DEPUTY SCHOOL TREASURER AND SETTING OF BONDS

NEW BUSINESS

We are an equal rights and opportunity school district.
ELECTION OF SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES AND SETTING OF BONDS

RESOLVED, That John W. Thompson be elected as Secretary of the Board of Public Education in addition to his other duties as Superintendent of Schools, without additional salary, and that bond for the office be set at $250,000, the bond to be furnished at the cost of the Board.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That Robert J. Stefanko, Richard R. Fellers, Peter J. Camarda and Stephanie L. Royal be elected Assistant Secretaries of the Board of Public Education in addition to their other duties as Solicitor, Executive Director of Business Affairs, Director of the Office of Budget Development and Management, and Assistant Solicitor, and that bonds for the offices be set at $250,000 each, the bonds to be furnished at the cost of the Board.
RESOLVED, That Richard M. Fees, Treasurer of the City of Pittsburgh, be elected School Treasurer and that bond for the office be set at $250,000, the bond to be furnished at the cost of the Board.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That Linda Kusner be appointed Deputy Treasurer upon recommendation of the Treasurer, the said Deputy to serve as designated by the School Treasurer and in accordance with the Public School Code, bond for the office of Deputy Treasurer to be set at $250,000, the bond to be furnished at the cost of the Board.
TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

PITTSBURGH BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION
BOARD ORGANIZATION MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2000
5:00 P.M.
ADMINISTRATION BUILDING - BOARD ROOM

BEFORE:
ALEX MATTHEWS, BOARD PRESIDENT
RANDALL TAYLOR, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT
EVELYN NEISER, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT
MARK BRENTLEY
JEAN FINK
DARLENE HARRIS
WILLIAM ISLER
MAGGIE SCHMIDT
JEAN WOOD

ALSO PRESENT:
DR. JOHN W. THOMPSON  DR. PAULA BUTTERFIELD
DR. BRIAN WHITE  DR. CURTIS WALKER
DR. DELPHINA BRISCOE  MRS. LEE B. NICKLOS
MS. STEPHANIE ROYAL  MR. PETER J. CAMARDA
MR. RICHARD R. FELLERS  DR. PATRICIA CABREY
MRS. CLAUDIA HARPER-EAGLIN  MRS. JOYCE MORELAND
MR. PHILIP B. PARR  MRS. ERNESTINE REED
MS. CASSANDRA RICHARDSON-KEMP  MR. RICHARD MASCARI

REPORTED BY:  EUGENE C. FORCIER
PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTER

COMPUTER-AIDED TRANSCRIPTION BY
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PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA
412-281-0189

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MR. MATTHEWS: Good evening.
I would like to call this meeting to order.
If we can all please stand to salute the flag.

(Salute to the flag.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.
At this time, I would like to have a roll call, please.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?
MR. BRENTLEY: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?
MS. FINK: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Harris?
MS. HARRIS: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
MR. ISLER: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
MR. MATTHEWS: Present.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Neiser?
MS. NEISER: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Schmidt?
MS. SCHMIDT: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
MR. TAYLOR: Here.
MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Wood?

MS. WOOD: Here.

MS. ROYAL: All nine members of the Board are present, Mr. President.

MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

Moving on to temporary organization, we need to elect both a temporary president, and a temporary secretary.

At this time, I would like to open up the floor for the office of -- for the election of temporary president.

MS. FINK: Mr. President I -- oh, I'm sorry.

MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Isler, had his --

MS. FINK: I'm sorry, I didn't see.

MR. ISLER: Mr. President, I would like to nominate Alex Matthews, as temporary president.

MR. MATTHEWS: I decline.

MR. ISLER: Fine.

MS. FINK: I would like to nominate Maggie Schmidt as temporary president.

MR. TAYLOR: Second.

MR. MATTHEWS: Okay. It was made and seconded.

Any other nominations?
Motion to close?

MS. WOOD: Move to close.

MR. MATTHEWS: Motion was made and -- to close the nomination for the election of temporary president, which has slated Maggie Schmidt.

And now we will deal with the roll call.

Oh, okay.

On the motion to elect Maggie Schmidt as a temporary president, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)

MR. MATTHEWS: All those opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Okay.

Any abstentions?

(No response.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Motion carries.

Now, moving to the election of the temporary secretary.

MS. FINK: I would like to nominate Randall, for temporary secretary.

MR. ISLER: Second.

MS. NEISER: Move that nominations be closed.

MR. TAYLOR: Second.
MR. MATTHEWS: Nomination for the secretary, temporary secretary, has been made, and seconded, and closed.

At this time, I would like to take a poll vote.

All those in favor of electing Randall as the temporary secretary, signify by saying aye.

(Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)

MR. MATTHEWS: All those opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Any abstentions?

Motion carries. Okay.

And at this time I would like to ask the president, to please come forward.

MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. I would like, the floor is now open for nominations for president.

Mr. Taylor.

MR. TAYLOR: I nominate Alex Matthews.

MS. NEISER: Second.

MS. SCHMIDT: Mr. Isler.

MR. ISLER: Close nominations.

MS. HARRIS: No, I had my hand up.

MS. SCHMIDT: Oh, I'm sorry, I didn't -- Mrs. Harris.

MS. HARRIS: I would like to nominate
Jean Wood.

MS. SCHMIDT: Okay.

And, Mr. Isler, your motion to close nomination, I am sorry, I did not -- I did see the finger up, I apologize.

MR. ISLER: Sorry, Mrs. Schmidt.

MS. SCHMIDT: So you move to close the nominations?

MS. NEISER: I do.

MR. TAYLOR: Second.

MS. SCHMIDT: At this time, we will do a roll call.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTELEY: Mr. Matthews.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

MS. FINK: Mrs. Wood.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Harris?

MS. HARRIS: Mrs. Wood.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Mr. Matthews.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Matthews.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Neiser?

MS. NEISER: Mr. Matthews.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Schmidt?
MS. SCHMIDT: Mrs. Wood.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Matthews.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Wood?

MS. WOOD: Mrs. Wood.

MS. ROYAL: Five votes for Mr. Matthews, four for Mrs. Wood. That means that Mr. Matthews has been nominated for president.

MS. SCHMIDT: Elected.

MS. ROYAL: Elected for president, sorry.

MS. SCHMIDT: Congratulations, Mr. Matthews.

(Applause.)

MS. SCHMIDT: I would like to open the floor for nominations for first vice president.

Mrs. Harris.

MS. HARRIS: Mrs. Wood.

MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. Mr. Brentley.

MR. BRENTLEY: Mr. Taylor.

MS. SCHMIDT: All right.

MR. MATTHEWS: Move nominations be closed.

MS. SCHMIDT: Thank you, Mr. Matthews.

At this time I would like to call for a roll call.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?
MR. BRENTLEY: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

MS. PINK: Mrs. Wood.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Harris?

MS. HARRIS: Mrs. Wood.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Neiser?

MS. NEISER: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Schmidt?

MS. SCHMIDT: Mrs. Wood.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Wood?

MS. WOOD: Mrs. Wood.

MS. ROYAL: Five votes for Mr. Taylor, four for Mrs. Wood. Mr. Taylor has been elected as first vice president.

MS. SCHMIDT: Congratulations, Mr. Taylor.

MR. TAYLOR: Thank you, very much. Thank you.

MS. SCHMIDT: I would like to open the floor for the office of second vice president.
I would like to open the floor for nominations.

Mrs. Harris, then Mr. Taylor.

MS. HARRIS: Mrs. Wood.

MS. WOOD: I decline.

MS. SCHMIDT: Pardon Me?

MS. WOOD: I decline.

MS. SCHMIDT: Okay. Mr. Taylor.

MR. TAYLOR: Mrs. Neiser.

MS. SCHMIDT: Mrs. Fink.

MS. FINK: Mrs. Harris.

MR. MATTHEWS: Okay.

MR. MATTHEWS: I move they close.

MS. SCHMIDT: Moved that nominations close.

Thank you.

And now we will have a roll call for second vice president.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Mrs. Neiser.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

MS. FINK: Mrs. Harris.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Harris?

MS. HARRIS: Mrs. Harris.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Mrs. Neiser.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

MR. MATTHEWS: Mrs. Neiser

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Neiser?

MS. NEISER: Mrs. Neiser.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Schmidt?

MS. SCHMIDT: Mrs. Harris.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Mrs. Neiser.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Wood?

MS. WOOD: Mrs. Harris.

MS. ROYAL: Five votes for Mrs. Neiser, four for Mrs. Harris, Mrs. Neiser is elected as second vice president.

MS. SCHMIDT: Congratulations, Mrs. Neiser, and I think at this time, Mr. Matthews, you can take back over.

Congratulations.

MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

Let me just say, I want to thank -- I want to thank everyone for their support, and allowing me to lead again for another year.

I dedicate myself to making sure that we uphold the highest standards of public policy, particularly as it relates to our children.

I want to congratulate everyone here,
Mrs. Neiser, and Mr. Taylor, and Mrs. Wood, Mrs. Harris, and I know that together, we can still make this Board work, and make the agenda education. I also want to thank Mrs. Schmidt for serving as the temporary president. And there is not too much more really to say, I just think we understand the role that we are faced with, and this year will be a year of continuing to build, build bridges, so that we can accomplish the main goal, and that is our children, educating them with the highest quality that we can give to them.

Moving on to the --

DR. THOMPSON: Mr. President, may I say something, please?

MR. MATTHEWS: Yes, you may, sir.

DR. THOMPSON: Thank you.

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate all of our officers, and to the Board, congratulations, and we pledge 150 percent support, not only to our officers, but to the Board, but more so to the 40,000 children in this District. Congratulations, we look forward to moving this District into a world class operation, as a team. Thank you.

MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.
Mr. Brentley, then Mrs. Wood.

MR. BRENTLEY: Yes, Mr. President, I just want to say congratulation to the newly elected officers, and also just wanted to say a special thank you to you, sir, because oftentimes we don't see the sacrifices you make in terms of your family, your financial loss, serving, and to such a -- at times, a thankless job.

So let me at least say thank you on behalf of the Brentley family, who we are thankful, sir, and we know, which we can't get into details on all of the things that you are losing, that you are sacrificing, to serve again.

So we are so honored, sir. Thank you, very much.

MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

Mrs. Wood.

MS. WOOD: I also want to offer my congratulations, and I think I do have to speak to the issue, that everybody is going to assume that I ran because I was taking sides.

I ran because I felt that my abilities, as a peacemaker, maybe would have helped to bring this Board together, and it is through communications, and through trust, that we would have gone forward,
looking at both sides of every issue.

But since that was not the will of the Board, I bow out very happily, because sacrifices have been made on my part, too, and I pledge myself to the work of the Board in the future.

MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

Moving on to the election of the secretary and the assistant secretaries, and the setting of the bonds.

(Mr. Matthews read from prepared material.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Are there any questions or comments, on that motion?

Seeing none, may we have a roll call, please.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?
MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?
MS. FINK: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Harris?
MS. HARRIS: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
MR. ISLER: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Neiser?
MS. NEISER: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Schmidt?

MS. SCHMIDT: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Wood?

MS. WOOD: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: There is nine votes in favor of the resolution to elect the secretary and assistant secretaries as read.

The resolution passes.

MR. MATTHEWS: Thank you.

Moving on to the election of school treasurer, and deputy school treasurer, and setting of bonds.

(Mr. Matthews read from prepared material.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Any questions or comments? Seeing none, may we have a roll call, please.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

MS. FINK: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Harris?

MS. HARRIS: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Neiser?

MS. NEISER: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Schmidt?

MS. SCHMIDT: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Wood?

MS. WOOD: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Nine votes in favor of the election of the school treasurer and deputy school treasurer, as read by the resolution, the election and election carry.

MR. MATTHEWS: Is there any other new business that needs to come before the body?

Seeing none, the meeting's adjourned.

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(Thereupon, at 5:18 p.m., the Board Organization Meeting was concluded.)

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I, Eugene C. Forcier, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing fifteen (15) pages are a true and correct transcript of my stenotypy notes taken of the Board Organization meeting held in the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education, Administration Building, Board Room, on Monday, December 4, 2000.

Eugene C. Forcier, Court Reporter