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

MINUTES

Meeting of: December 1, 2003

Call of the Meeting: Board Organization

Members Present: Mr. Brentley, Mrs. Colaizzi, Mr. Dowd, Mrs. Fink, Mr. Isler, Mr. Matthews, Mr. McCrea, Mr. Romaniello, Sr. Mr. Taylor

Present 9.

Members Absent: Absent 0.

The following matters were received and acted upon.

Actions taken are recorded following the reports.
AGENDA

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO NEWLY ELECTED DIRECTORS – The Honorable Kevin Sasinoski, Judge of the Common Pleas Court of Allegheny County

District 2 – Dr. Patrick Dowd
District 4 – Mr. William Isler
District 6 – Mr. Daniel M. Romaniello, Sr.
District 8 – Mr. Mark Brentley, Sr.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND CONDUCT GENERAL BUSINESS

Temporary Organization

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

Roll Call

Permanent Organization

1. Election of President
2. Election of Vice Presidents

Roll Call

Election Of Secretary And Assistant Secretaries And Setting Of Bonds

Roll Call

Election Of School Treasurer And Assistant School Treasurer And Setting Of Bonds

Roll Call

Election Of School Controller And Deputy School Controller And Setting Of Bonds

Roll Call

New Business

Roll Call

We are an equal rights and opportunity school district.
ELECTION OF SCHOOL TREASURER
AND SETTING OF BOND

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 Margaret Lanier be elected Assistant School Treasurer and that bond for the office be set at $250,000, the bond to be furnished at the cost of the Board.
ELECTION OF SECRETARY AND ASSISTANT SECRETARIES AND SETTING OF BONDS

RESOLVED, That John W. Thompson, Ph.D. 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 Stephanie L. Royal, Richard R. Fellers, Peter J. Camarda be elected Assistant Secretaries of the Board of Public Education in addition to their other duties as Solicitor, Chief Operations Officer, Executive Director of Budget Development and Management, 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 Thomas Flaherty, having been elected Controller of the City of Pittsburgh as certified by the Allegheny County Bureau of Elections on November 4, 2003 for a four year term from the first Monday in January, 2004 to the first Monday in January, 2008, now be elected Controller of the School District of Pittsburgh for the same term and at an annual salary of $15,651.60 in accordance with the provisions of the Public School Code of 1949 as amended.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That Ronald Schmeiser be appointed Deputy School Controller for the same term as the School Controller set forth above.

RESOLVED FINALLY, That statutory faithful performance bonds of $25,000 for the School Controller and $10,000 for the Deputy School Controller respectively be furnished by recognized bonding companies at the cost of the School District.
MS. FINK: Could we please have the meeting come to order. Mr. McCrea will be joining us by telephone, as he had to work tonight.
I would like to call this meeting to order.
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would everyone please stand for the Pledge
of Allegiance.
(Salute to the flag.)
MS. FINK: NOW I would like our solicitor,
Miss Royal, to please introduce our judge for the
evening.
MS. ROYAL: Good evening, everyone, and
welcome to the organization meeting of the Board of
Tonight, the oath of office will be given
by the Honorable Kevin Sasinoski, Judge of the Common
Pleas Court of Allegheny County.
Judge Sasinoski.
HON. SASINOSKI: Thank you.
Thank you.
Madam President, Superintendent, ladies and
gentlemen, it's an honor to be invited this evening to
administer the oath of office.
On behalf of all of the families of the
City of Pittsburgh, I wish to thank you for the public
service that the new members, and some who are
continuing on in their service on the Board, will
make, in which they will render, as members of the new
term, as members of the Pittsburgh Public School
Board.
I wish you every success in fulfilling the
challenges which lie ahead.
Would the following Board members to be,
please come forward.
Mr. Mark Brentley.
Mr. Patrick Dowd.
Mr. William Isler.
And Mr. Daniel Romaniello.

Gentlemen, if you would, would you please raise your right hands, and repeat after me.

(Oath administered to the newly elected directors.)

HON. SASINSOKI: Thank you.
And congratulations.

(Applause.)

MS. FINK: I'm sure everyone has something they would like to say, and I think the appropriate time to do that would be after we have the elections.

So, for right now, may we have the roll call, please, Miss Royal.

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

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?
MS. COLAIZZI: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?
DR. DOWD: Present.

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

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

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

MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
MR. MCCREA: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?
MR. ROMANIELLO: Here.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Present.

MS. ROYAL: All nine members of the Board of Directors are present.

MS. FINK: Then our first order of business will be a nomination for our temporary president.

MR. ISLER: Mrs. Fink, I would like to nominate Mr. Matthews.

MR. TAYLOR: Second.

MS. FINK: Do we have any other nominations, for temporary president?

If not, then nominations are closed.

And seeing as how there is no contest, Mr. Matthews will become the temporary president.

All in favor?

(Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)

MS. FINK: Now, we have nominations for the temporary secretary.

MR. TAYLOR: I would like to nominate Mrs. Colaizzi.

MS. COLAIZZI: Thank you.

MR. ISLER: Second.

MS. FINK: All in favor?

(Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)

MS. FINK: Okay.

Mr. Matthews, will you please take my seat.

MR. MATTHEWS: I'm back.

All right. The first order of business is
for the election of officers.  
We would like to have requests for 
nominations for president at this time.  
Mr. Taylor.  
MR. TAYLOR: I nominate Mr. William Isler.

MR. ROMANIELLO: Second. 
MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Isler has been moved and 
properly seconded.  
Any other nominations? 
Is there a motion to close nominations? 
MR. ROMANIELLO: So move. 
MR. TAYLOR: Second. 
MR. MATTHEWS: The motion has been made and 
properly seconded to close nominations. 
All those in favor signify by saying aye.  
(Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.  
MR. MATTHEWS: All those opposed? 
(No response.)  
MR. MATTHEWS: Any abstentions? 
(No response.)  
MR. MATTHEWS: The motion carries. 
The nomination is for Mr. William Isler to 
be president. 
Roll call. 
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley? 
MR. BRENTLEY: Abstain. 
MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi? 
MS. COLAIZZI: Mr. Isler. 
MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd? 
DR. DOWD: Mr. Isler.
MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

MS. FINK: Mr. Isler.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Mr. Isler.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Isler.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?

MR. MCCREA: Mr. Isler.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?

MR. ROMANIELLO: Mr. Isler.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Isler.

MS. ROYAL: Eight votes in favor of Mr. Isler. Mr. Isler is the new Board president.

(Applause.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Congratulations, Mr. Isler.

MR. ISLER: Thank you.

MR. MATTHEWS: Now we move for requests for nominations for first vice president.

Nominations are now open.

MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor.

MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

MR. ISLER: I would like to nominate Mr. Taylor.

MR. ROMANIELLO: Second.

MR. MATTHEWS: It has been moved and properly seconded for Mr. Taylor.

Any other nominations for first vice
Seeing none, can we have a motion to close nominations.

MS. FINK: Move nominations be closed.
MR. ISLER: Second.
MS. MATTHEWS: The motion has been made and properly seconded.

All those in favor, signify by saying aye.
(Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.)

MR. MATTHEWS: All those opposed?
(NO response.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Any abstentions?
(NO response.)

MR. MATTHEWS: The motion carries.

The nomination is for first vice president of Mr. Randall Taylor.

Roll call.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?
MR. BRENTLEY: Abstain.
MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?
MS. COLAIZZI: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?

DR. DOWD: Mr. Taylor.
MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?
MS. FINK: Mr. Taylor.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
MR. ISLER: Mr. Taylor.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
MR. MATTHEWS: Mr. Taylor.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
MR. MCCREA: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?

MR. ROMANIELLO: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Taylor.

MS. ROYAL: Eight votes in favor of Mr. Taylor, who is the new first vice president of the Board.

(Applause.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Congratulations, Mr. Taylor.

Moving on, we have a request for nominations for the second vice president.

DR. DOWD: I nominate Mrs. Fink.

MR. MATTHEWS: Mrs. Fink.

MR. ISLER: Second.

MR. MATTHEWS: It has been moved and properly seconded.

Any other nominations, for request for second vice president?

Seeing none, is there a notion to close nominations?

MR. ISLER: So move.

MS. COLAIZZI: Second.

MR. MATTHEWS: Motion has been made and properly seconded.

All those in flavor signify by saying aye.

(Thereupon, there was a chorus of ayes.

MR. MATTHEWS: All those opposed?

(No response.)

MR. MATTHEWS: Any abstentions?

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(No response.)

MR. MATTHEWS: The motion carries.

The nomination is for Mrs. Jean Fink, for second vice president.

Roll call.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Abstain.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?

MS. COLAIZZI: Mrs. Fink.

MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?

DR. DOWD: Mrs. Fink.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

MS. FINK: Mrs. Fink.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?

MR. ISLER: Mrs. Fink.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

MR. MATTHEWS: Abstain.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?

MR. MCCREA: Mrs. Fink.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?

MR. ROMANIELLO: Abstain.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Mrs. Fink.

MS. ROYAL: Six votes in favor of Mrs. Fink, for second vice president. Mrs. Fink is the next second vice president of the Board.

(Applause.)

MR. MATTHEWS: And at this time, I would like to ask the officers, Mr. William Isler, the new president of the Pittsburgh public Board of...
MR. ISLER: Thank you, Mr. Matthews.

MR. MATTHEWS: No, you need to come up here.

I don't easily give up my seat, but --

MR. ISLER: We have additional elections to take place, for the secretary, the assistant secretary, the election of school treasurer, and the election of school controller.

And, Miss Royal, you are going to have to help me.

Thank you.

For the election of secretary and assistant secretaries and setting of bonds.

(Mr. Isler read from prepared material.)

MR. ISLER: may we have a motion, please.

MS. COLAIZZI: Motion.

MR. MATTHEWS: So move. Second.

MS. ISLER: It has been duly moved and seconded.

May we have a roll call, please.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?

MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?

DR. DOWD: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?

MS. FINK: Yes.

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

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?

MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?

MR. McCREA: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?

MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?

MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: The election of the secretary and assistant secretaries have been made, nine votes in favor of those offices.

MR. ISLER: Congratulations, ladies and gentlemen.

Election of school treasurer and setting the bonds.

(Mr. Isler read from prepared material.)

MR. ISLER: may we have a motion for approval, please.

MS. COLAIIZZI: Motion.

MS. ISLER: And a second?

MS. FINK: Second.

MR. ISLER: It has been moved and seconded.

Could we have roll call, please.

MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?

MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?

MS. COLAIIZZI: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?
DR. DOWD: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?
MS. FINK: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
MR. ISLER: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
MR. MCCREA: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?
MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
MR. TAYLOR: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Nine votes in favor of the
election of the school treasurer and assistant school
treasurer.
MR. ISLER: congratulations to the ladies
and gentlemen.
The final resolution, I believe, is for the
election of the school controller and deputy school
controller and setting of bonds.
(Mr. Isler read from prepared material.)

MR. ISLER: Nay we have a motion for
approval.
MS. COLAIIZZI: Motion.
MR. MATTHEWS: Second.
MR. ISLER: so moved. It has been moved
and seconded.
Can we have a roll call, please.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Brentley?
MR. BRENTLEY: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Colaizzi?
MS. COLAIZZI: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Dr. Dowd?
DR. DOWD: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mrs. Fink?
MS. FINK: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Isler?
MR. ISLER: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Matthews?
MR. MATTHEWS: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. McCrea?
MR. MCCREA: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Romaniello?
MR. ROMANIELLO: Yes.
MS. ROYAL: Mr. Taylor?
MR. TAYLOR: Yes.

MS. ROYAL: Nine notes in favor of the election of the school controller and deputy school controller.
MR. ISLER: At this time, we will entertain any new business.
Is there any new business to be brought before the Board?
I would like to tell my fellow Board members, and I am hoping the Superintendent and staff can conform to this, that we do have a Business Affairs Committee meeting scheduled for tomorrow night, I would like to go ahead and have a discussion
on the current school budget, since we have two new school directors, I think it is appropriate that we begin a discussion with the Board in whole.

Can we do that, Dr. Thompson?

DR. THOMPSON: So done.

MR. ISLER: Thank you, very much.

So we will be meeting tomorrow night at 5:30; is that the scheduled time, sir?

DR. THOMPSON: Yes, sir.

MR. ISLER: Thank you, very much.

I want to thank my fellow Board members, for electing me.

I don't know if any of the other new Board members would like to say anything, but I think that Mrs. Fink said that we would reserve that to the end of the meeting.

Dr. Dowd, Mr. Romaniello, do you have anything you want to say?

MR. ROMANIELLO: I would just like to thank everybody, everybody who helped me get to this office. I would like to thank my wife, and my children, my father, and my -- and everybody else, who helped me.

Thank you.

(Appause.)

DR. DOWD: I, too, would like to thank everyone who is here, and not here, who worked so very diligently in this last campaign, and I would also like to thank the Board members for really coming together this evening, I think it is a good sign, so
thank you as well, and thank you to my wife, Lennie.

MR. ISLER; Dr. Thompson.

DR. THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Isler.

I would like to congratulate all of the new Board members, and to all of our new officers, and we want to make sure that the staff, and the School District is committed to our vision to work with you,

to make this a world class School District, and we are looking forward to working with you on a daily, hourly, minute basis.

Thank you, very much.

MR. ISLER: You may regret you said the minutely basis, Dr. Thompson, but I do want to thank you, and all of the Board members.

I think that it is time that we all put our differences aside, that we pledge to do the most that we can for the children of this District, and that we make sure --

(Appause.)

MR. ISLER: -- that there is no -- no district that is any better than the Pittsburgh City Schools.

And I want to thank you all, thank everybody that is here. There is a reception immediately following.

If there is no other business before the Board, the meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

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(Thereupon, at 8:55 p.m., the Legislative
Meeting was concluded.)

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C-E-R-T-I-F-I-C-A-T-E

I, Eugene C. Forcier, the undersigned, do hereby certify that the foregoing eighteen (18) 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 1, 2003.

Eugene C. Forcier, Court Reporter

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