

# OWEN J. ROBERTS SCHOOL DISTRICT

October 13, 2008

The Owen J. Roberts School Board met on Monday, October 13, 2008, in the Owen J. Roberts High School. Each School Board Member has been properly notified in writing at least five (5) days in advance as per Section 402 of the School Code of the meeting date, place and purpose of the meeting. Proper notices have been posted on the Administration Building Bulletin Board, the front entrance of the Administration Building, and all educational centers twenty-four hours prior to the meeting date. The meeting has been advertised in one local newspaper. Therefore, the President called the meeting to order at 8:11 p.m. with the following present:

President	John M. Dutton
Vice President	Edward L. Kerner
Secretary/Business Manager	Jaclin B. Krumrine
Board Member	Rosemary Bilinski
Board Member	Debbie L. Bissland
Board Member	William S. LaCoff
Board Member	Barbara L. McMeekin
Board Member	Eric C. Scheib
Board Member	Karen L. Zelle
District Superintendent	Myra G. Forrest, Ed.D.
Assistant Superintendent	Kathryn Soeder, Ed.D.
Director of Pupil Services	David Hemberger, Ed.D.
Director of Human Resources	Antonia R. Cramp, PHR
High School Principal	Richard Marchini, Ed.D.
Middle School Principal	Robert Salladino, Ed.D.
Elementary Principal	Ryan Monaghan
Elementary Principal	Barbara Guy
Elementary Principal	James Melchor, Ed.D.
Elementary Principal	Kathryn Brown
Elementary Principal	Malinda McKillip
Supervisor of Special Projects	Frank R. Scalise, Ed.D.
K-12 Mathematics Coordinator	Janet Wolff
Assistant Middle School Principal	Cheryl Bell, Ed.D.
Chief of Security and Safety	Lawrence Mauger
Assistant Technology Coordinator	Jeffrey Buettler
Coordinator of Student Activities	David Strock
Coordinator of Instructional Technology, K-12	Ann Franz
Solicitor	Jack Dooley, Esq.
	Press
	Visitors

Elizabeth A. Radford, Richard Galley, James Molleca, Joseph Milnes, Heidrun Lehmann, Sean Earley, Ed.D., John R. Barr, Christopher Stango, Edward Freed, Ph.D., Dennis Rozak, Mark Thomas, George Niemy, Catherine Haile, Tony White, Gail Gola, Joanne Beard, Mary E. White, Anita Zuber, Ed.D., Jennifer Rumsey, Daniel O'Brien, Cynthia Knapp, Christopher S. Jones, Sharon Jones, Laurie Gottdank, Marguerite Bishop, Bonita Kolosky, Sarah Ruzenski, John Williams, and William Gerhart were absent.

### *Pledge of Allegiance*

***Board President John Dutton announced that an Executive Session of the Board of School Directors was held on September 29, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Administration Building to discuss personnel matters.***

Mrs. Krumrine, Board Secretary, read an invitation from East Coventry Elementary School to attend the Park Springs Community Center Day.

“Dear School Board,

We the children of Park Springs, would like to invite you to see us, our families, and our community. Please come and volunteer at our Halloween celebration on Thursday, October 30<sup>th</sup> or help out any Thursday from 6 – 7 p.m. at Homework Club. Remember, Your Decisions Directly Affect Us!”

### ***Information, proposals, and statements from individuals or delegations pertaining to items on the agenda***

1. Karin Suzadail, REA President, spoke regarding approval of a qualified elector to the School Board. She read a statement requesting the Board members to maintain a student focus in their choice for the vacant Board seat.
2. Zena Gavin, East Coventry Township, requested clarification on the approval of appointments for certificated positions and appointments for non-certificated positions.

Dr. Forrest responded.

3. Michael Bonaduce, Teamster Local #384 representative, spoke on approval of a qualified elector to the School Board and requested the Board to elect a new member in support of Dr. Forrest’s goals for the District.
4. Mr. Dennis Biggs, Warwick Township, requested clarification on approval of leaves, approval of appointments for certificated positions, approval of part-time and casual appointments, approval of amendments to temporary professional and/or professional individual employment contracts, approval of change in assignment and approval of a qualified elector to the School Board.

Dr. Forrest and Mr. Dutton responded.

**Recommended Routine Matters**

Mrs. Zellely moved and Mr. Kerner seconded to table the appointment of the Board Committee members by School Board President effective October 13, 2008:

- a.     **Finance Committee**  
          Karen Zellely, Chairperson
  
- b.     **Special Education Committee**  
          Debbie Bissland, Chairperson

ROLL CALL: Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, aye; LaCoff, nay; McMeekin, nay; Scheib, aye; Zellely, aye. Motion carried.

**Discussion Items**

There was discussion among Board members about the process for appointing a new Board member to fill the vacancy left when Mr. Jack Kane resigned from the Board.

**New Business**

Mr. LaCoff moved and Mrs. McMeekin seconded for approval of the following amended leaves as presented:

Approval to amend the child rearing leave request of Rebecca Shapren as originally approved by the Board of School Directors at their meeting of September 22, 2008. This leave shall commence on January 6, 2009 through February 27, 2009 and is approved in compliance with the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Roberts Education Association.

Approval to amend the child rearing leave request of Rebecca Celluci as originally approved by the Board of School Directors at their meeting of September 22, 2008. This leave shall commence on December 4, 2008 through the remainder of the 2008-09 school year and is approved in compliance with the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Roberts Education Association.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, nay; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zellely, aye. Motion carried.

Mrs. McMeekin moved and Mr. Scheib seconded for approval of the following leaves as presented:

Approval of the unpaid leave request of Julie Foley commencing September 12, 2008 through October 10, 2008.

Approval of the child rearing leave request of Laura Vanemon commencing on March 31, 2009 through the remainder of the 2008-09 school year. This leave is approved in compliance with the provisions of the collective bargaining agreement between the District and the Roberts Education Association.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, nay; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried.

Mrs. McMeekin moved and Mr. LaCoff seconded for acceptance of the following resignations as presented:

Acceptance of the resignation of Eric McComsey as the High School Assistant Football Coach effective September 26, 2008.

Acceptance of the resignation of Michael Gottier as the Marching Band/Drill Instructor Assistant effective September 30, 2008.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, aye; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. McMeekin moved and Mr. LaCoff seconded for approval of the following amended appointment as presented:

Approval to amend the extracurricular and supplemental academic activities appointment of Nick Zurga who was appointed at the September 22, 2008 School Board Meeting as a Science Fair Coordinator for North Coventry Elementary for the 2008-09 school year as presented. Compensation for this activity shall be \$490.00 according to the terms of the negotiated agreement between the Board and the Roberts Education Association.

Approval to amend the appointment of Kathryn Shaheen from a full time (1.0) long-term substitute teacher as appointed at the September 22, 2008 School Board Meeting to a full time (1.0) temporary professional employee effective October 17, 2008. Salary classification is Step A, Column 2 or \$48,651.00 annual salary rate prorated for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, nay; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried.

Mrs. McMeekin moved and Mr. Scheib seconded for approval of the following appointments for certificated positions as presented:

Approval of the appointment of Anne Douglas as a full time (1.0) professional employee effective upon her release from her current school district. Salary classification is Step 10, Column 2 or \$65,139.00 annual salary rate prorated over the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of the appointment of Mary Leimeister as a two tenths (.2) temporary professional employee effective October 22, 2008. Salary classification is Step A, Column 1 or \$8,916.40 annual salary rate prorated for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of the appointment of Mary Leimeister as a six tenths (.6) long-term substitute teacher effective October 22, 2008. Salary classification is Step A, Column 1 or \$26,749.20 annual salary rate prorated for the remainder of the 2008-09 school year.

Approval of the appointment of Katherine Cosky as a full time (1.0) long-term substitute teacher effective October 2, 2008 through March 6, 2009. Salary classification is Step A, Column 1 or \$44,582.00 annual salary rate prorated for the period of employment.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, nay; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried.

Mr. LaCoff moved and Mrs. McMeekin seconded for approval of the following appointments for non-certificated positions as presented:

Approval of the appointment of Michele Rusk as a 1.0 Confidential Employee effective October 29, 2008. Salary for this position shall be \$62,719.00 prorated over the remainder of the school year.

Approval of the appointment of Linda Schlegel as a .35 Class 12 General Kitchen Helper effective October 14, 2008. Salary for this position shall be \$13.08 per hour. Conditions of employment and fringe benefits shall be as contained in the negotiated agreement between the Board and Teamsters Local Union 384.

Approval of the appointment of Tricia Beilman as a 38 Class 12 General Kitchen Helper effective October 29, 2008. Salary for this position shall be \$13.08 per hour. Conditions of employment and fringe benefits shall be as contained in the negotiated agreement between the Board and Teamsters Local Union 384.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, nay; Dutton, aye; Kerner, nay; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried.

Mr. LaCoff moved and Mrs. McMeekin seconded for approval of the following elementary extracurricular and supplemental academic appointment for the 2008-09 school year in accord with the collective bargaining agreement between the Board of School Directors and the Roberts Education Association. All appointments are for the period July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009 and will be appointed on a seasonal basis.

<u>North Coventry Elementary</u>		
Science Fair Coordinator	Ashley Thomson	\$490.00

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, aye; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. McMeekin moved and Mr. LaCoff seconded for approval of the following part-time and casual appointments as presented:

Approval of the appointment of Sandy Mulroy as a substitute teacher effective October 9, 2008.

Approval of the appointment of Veronica Cousens as substitute support staff effective October 14, 2008. Rate of pay is contingent upon assignment according to the schedule set by the Board for Part-time and Casual employees. There are no other fringe benefits or compensation.

Approval of the appointment of Jackie Kirby as a game worker for the 2008-09 school year. Compensation rates for part-time and casual employment are as adopted by the Board of School Directors effective July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009. There are no other fringe benefits or compensation for these positions.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, nay; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried.

Mrs. McMeekin moved and Mr. LaCoff seconded for approval of amendments to temporary professional and/or professional individual employment contracts as presented:

Approval to increase the professional employee contract of Leah Braun from five tenths (.5) to full time (1.0) effective October 2, 2008. Compensation, fringe benefits, and conditions of employment are as contained in the collective bargaining agreement between the Board and the Roberts Education Association.

Approval to increase the temporary professional employee contract of Gloria Houseman from eight tenths (.8) to full time (1.0) effective October 2, 2008. Compensation, fringe benefits, and conditions of employment are as contained in the collective bargaining agreement between the Board and the Roberts Education Association.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, nay; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried.

Mrs. McMeekin moved and Mr. LaCoff seconded for approval of change in assignment of the following individual as presented:

Approval to change the assignment of Denise Newman from a .38 Class 6 Special Education Aide to a .80 Class 6 Special Education Aide effective with the beginning of the 2008-09 school year. Conditions of employment and fringe benefits shall be as contained in the negotiated agreement between the Board and the Teamsters Local Union 384.

ROLL CALL: Bilinski, aye; Bissland, aye; Dutton, aye; Kerner, aye; LaCoff, aye; McMeekin, aye; Scheib, aye; Zelle, aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. John Dutton, Board President, requested that Mrs. Krumrine read in alphabetical order the list of applicants to fill the vacancy created by John Kane's resignation.

Chester F. Czuj, Jr., Debbie J. Eddinger, Eugene P. Endress, Susan K. Flavin, Karen K. Florentine, G. Christopher Fogwell, Sr., James Harrop, Douglas K. Hughes, William A. Kleinfelter, Heather A. McCreary, Brenda L. Ritschard, Jill M. Walsh, and Mark E. Zeleznick

Mr. Dutton announced if any of the candidates were in the audience they would be given an opportunity to speak if they so chose.

The following individual gave short bios in application for the vacant Board seat:

Heather A. McCreary, South Coventry Township  
William A. Kleinfelter, South Coventry Township  
Debbie J. Eddinger, East Nantmeal Township  
Jill M. Walsh, East Vincent Township  
Eugene P. Endress, East Coventry Township  
Mark E. Zeleznick, Warwick Township

Mrs. Zelle read a statement in support of Dr. Karen K. Florentine.

Mr. Dutton announced he would entertain motions. Mr. LaCoff moved and Mrs. McMeekin seconded for William Kleinfelter. The second motion was made by Mrs. Zelle and Mr. Scheib seconded for Karen Florentine. The next motion was made by Mrs. McMeekin and Mr. LaCoff seconded for Debbie Eddinger. Another motion was made by Mr. Kerner moved and Mr. Scheib seconded for Eugene Endress. The next motion was made by Mrs. McMeekin and Mrs. Bilinski seconded for Heather McCreary. The next motion was made by Mrs. McMeekin and Mr. LaCoff seconded for Jill Walsh. The next motion was made by Eric Scheib Mrs. Zelle seconded that the nominations be closed.

Mrs. Bilinski voted for William Kleinfelter.  
Mrs. Bissland voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. Dutton voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. Kerner voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. LaCoff voted for William Kleinfelter.  
Mrs. McMeekin voted for Debbie Eddinger.  
Mr. Scheib voted for Karen Florentine.  
Mrs. Zelle voted for Karen Florentine.

Mrs. Debbie Eddinger was eliminated, not having received two votes.

Mrs. Bilinski voted for William Kleinfelter.  
Mrs. Bissland voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. Dutton voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. Kerner voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. LaCoff voted for William Kleinfelter.  
Mrs. McMeekin voted for William Kleinfelter.  
Mr. Scheib voted for Karen Florentine.  
Mrs. Zelle voted for Eugene Endress.

Dr. Karen Florentine was eliminated, not having received two votes.

Mrs. Bilinski voted for William Kleinfelter.  
Mrs. Bissland voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. Dutton voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. Kerner voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mr. LaCoff voted for William Kleinfelter.  
Mrs. McMeekin voted for William Kleinfelter.  
Mr. Scheib voted for Eugene Endress.  
Mrs. Zellely voted for Eugene Endress.

Having received five votes, Mr. Eugene Endress was elected to the Board to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Mr. John Kane, III, on September 19, 2008. This appointment will be effective through December 7, 2009.

**Information, proposals, statements and/or questions from individuals  
or delegations pertaining to items other than those on the agenda**

1. Mr. Dennis Biggs, Warwick Township, requested to know when an open house would be held for the new West Vincent Elementary School.

Dr. Forrest responded that it would be held during American Education Week beginning the week of November 23<sup>rd</sup> and that the date would be announced.

2. The following District residents all expressed disappointment of the cancelling of the District Halloween Parade and spoke in support of reinstating it: Karen Shimer, East Coventry Township, Dee Bennett, East Vincent Township, and Lisa Diehl, Warwick Township.

Dr. Forrest responded that Mr. Larry Mauger and the elementary principals would get together this week to work out a compromise solution.

**Requests for Information**

None

**Future Meetings**

October 20, 2008	Personnel Committee Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Owen J. Roberts Administration Building Board Room, 901 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465
October 27, 2008	Transportation Committee Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Owen J. Roberts High School Library, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465
	School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

November 3, 2008 Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting at 6:00 p.m. in the Owen J. Roberts Administration Building Board Room, 901 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

November 24, 2008 School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

December 1, 2008 School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

January 26, 2009 School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

February 23, 2009 School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

March 23, 2009 School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

April 27, 2009 School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

May 18, 2009 School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

June 22, 2009 School Board Meeting at 7:30 p.m. at the Owen J. Roberts High School, 981 Ridge Road, Pottstown, PA 19465

Mr. Kerner moved and Mrs. Bilinski seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 10:16 p.m.

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John M. Dutton, President

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Jaclin B. Krumrine, Secretary