

**EAST STROUDSBURG AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**Special Board Meeting For: The review and approval of the Terra Greens Architectural Contract; the possible action on the award of fuel and diesel oil bids; and the review and possible action on the home-schooling policy.  
October 4, 2005**

**J. T. Lambert Intermediate School - Auditorium**

**5:00 p.m.**

**Minutes**

- I. President Cole called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- II. Members present were: Christopher Baj, (arrived at 5:30 p.m.) Horace Cole, Patrick Forney, Bet Hays, (arrived at 5:15 p.m.), Robert Huffman, Donald Motts, Michal Peterson, William Searfoss, and William Zacharias.
- III. School personnel present: Vicky Bader, Patricia Baughman, Larry Dymond, Marie S. Guidry, Rachael Heath, Sharon Laverdure, Patricia Mulroy, Greg Naudascher, Patricia Rosado, James Shearouse, Mike Silvoy and Brian Snapp. Also present were Thomas Dirvonas and Becky Craggs, Solicitors.
- IV. Media Guests present: Dan Berrett, Pocono Record
- Community members present: Russ Albert, Douglas Graby, Robert Gress, Karen Malachowsky, Joseph Manda, Joan Nebel, and Jim Phillips.

V. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**ACTION BY THE BOARD:** Motion was made by William Zacharias to approve this agenda for October 4, 2005, (pages 1-2), as submitted, with addendum items as presented, with the Board of Education reserving the right to add to the agenda and take further action on any items raised in executive session where immediate action on such items is considered to be in the best interest of the District. Motion was seconded by Robert Huffman and carried unanimously, 9-0.

- VI. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION** – An executive session was held this evening at 5:10 p.m. during the special meeting for the purpose of discussing personnel and litigation.
- VII. **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** -- Federal Programs, Title I, Title VI, Other Concerns
- A. Mr. Bob Gress was inquiring about Buchart Horn/BASCO contract – Will there be a \$90,000.00 cap? Will the deadline be February of 08? Tom Dirvonas said that the percentage rate for new projects is 5.8% and for prototype projects is 5.6%. Buchart Horn/BASCO has indicated that once we have the contract in order they will convert to a fixed fee. Secondly; the contract does not have an estimated date of completion because there is no guaranteeing approval dates. Bob Gress also stated that Buchart Horn/BASCO was the only one to give this timeframe and now it is out the window. He feels it's a big mistake to switch architects at this time. He said this will put everyone in the district in a crisis since the firm is new and will require more attention. He asked for this decision to be made at the next Board meeting.
- B. Mr. Larry Dymond said he had concerns with the fuel and oil situation. He feels that we are contracting a bus company and wasting district's money. According to him there are 117-72 passenger buses and 8,000 students. If they made two runs, they can transport each student without having to contract out. Dr. Rachael Heath said that she has personally looked into this department to see what was needed to transport each student. They were short 16 drivers and North lacked drivers that two bus loads of students have to wait for a return bus which was not a good situation. Also, we lack buses to insure Shawnee Academy students go directly home. It is the district's responsibility to transport and as student growth continues the district will continue to get more buses. Dr. Heath is following this step by step but the reality is that there are 8,100 students or more. Mrs. Sharon Laverdure said that it would not be a good situation to put 72 students in a bus. The bus drivers have a hard enough job controlling students on buses now.

C. Mrs. Karen Malachowsky stated that by changing home schooling policy a door opens. She asked that the interscholastic part of the policy be reviewed in the future. She knows that the PIAA does not allow home schooling students to play but they should be able to practice. It is up to each individual school if athletes can or cannot practice on the field when failing subjects. She feels no coach is going to put them on the field if they don't practice. The policy should be revisited and be modified. Dr. Heath indicated Mr. Brown and Mr. Arnold have received her request and want to adhere to past practice.

VIII. STUDENT ITEMS

A. Policy #137

*(The following item(s) are to be deleted from the consensus motion at Board Member(s) request.)*

1.

**ACTION BY THE BOARD:** Motion was made by William Searfoss to waive the first reading of Policy #137, Home Education Programs. Motion was seconded by Christopher Baj and carried 5-4. Patrick Forney, Bet Hays, Robert Huffman and Michal Peterson voted No.

(See Pages 3-10)

2.

**ACTION BY THE BOARD:** Motion was made by Christopher Baj to approve the amended policy #137, Home Education Programs. Motion was seconded by William Searfoss and carried 5-4. Patrick Forney, Bet Hays, Robert Huffman and Michal Peterson voted No.

3.

**ACTION BY THE BOARD:** Motion was made by Christopher Baj to waive June 1<sup>st</sup> requirement until next school Board meeting, October 17, 1005. Motion was seconded by William Searfoss and carried 5-4. Patrick Forney, Bet Hays, Robert Huffman and Michal Peterson voted No.

IX. FISCAL ITEMS

A. Contract with Buchart Horn/Basco Associates

*(The following item(s) are to be deleted from the consensus motion at Board Member(s) request.)*

**ACTION BY THE BOARD:** Motion was made by William Zacharias to approve the execution of a contract with Buchart Horn/Basco Associates, 600 Main Street Stroudsburg, PA for architectural services for a new elementary school at the Terra Greens site on 447 in the form as presented. Motion was seconded by William Searfoss and carried 6-3. Patrick Forney, Bet Hays and Robert Huffman voted No.

(See pages 11-37)

B. Bids for #2 Fuel Oil and Diesel Fuel

*(The following item(s) are to be deleted from the consensus motion at Board Member(s) request.)*

**ACTION BY THE BOARD:** Motion was made by Robert Huffman to authorize the Business Manager to award the bids for #2 fuel oil and diesel fuel, pending the outcome of the injunction hearing in Northampton County Court against ISOBunkers, Inc. Bids were received September 12, 2005 by the Colonial Intermediate Unit # 20 Joint Purchasing Board as follows: Motion was seconded by Don Motts and carried unanimously, 9-0.

(See Page 38)

Farm & Home, Telford, PA

# 2 Fuel Oil, Tank Transport, Firm	\$2.10/gallon
Low Sulphur Diesel, Tank Transport, Firm	\$2.145/gallon
80/20 Blend	\$2.145/gallon
70/30 Blend	\$2.145/gallon

X. **ADJOURNMENT 6:20 P.M**

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia L. Rosado  
Board Secretary