Official Proceedings of the Reading School District Board of Directors

Regular Meeting November 23, 2010

Minutes of the Reading School District Board of Directors Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, November 23, 2010, in the Board Room of the Administration Building, 800 Washington Street, Reading, PA.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Ms. Stroman, vice president.

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present:

Mr. Breton	Mrs. McCree
Mr. Santoro	Mr. Stamm
Mr. Storch	Ms. Stroman
Mrs. Torres-Figueroa	Mr. Washington
Ms. Wertz	Mr. Santoro

Administrators Present:

Mr. Frank Vecchio, Assistant Superintendent of Schools Dr. Anthony Georeno, Director of Human Resources Mrs. Linda A. Greth, Director of Community Relations/Secretary of the Board Dr. Rose Merrell-James, Director of Student Services Mr. John Steffy, Director of Business Affairs Mr. Barry Suski, Director of Construction Mr. Eric Turman, Director of Elementary Education Mrs. Julie Vicente, Director of Secondary Education

Public Speakers:

Devonna Smith 1818 Steuben Road SADD

Minutes, Approval of

The Minutes from the August 25, 2010 and September 22, 2010 Regular Meetings were

The Human Resources Committee presented resolutions EP-611 - 668 for consideration. Resolutions EP-611 - 665 and 668 were voted on together. The motion was made by Mr. Washington, and this was seconded by Mr. Storch.

Administrative Appointments

EP-611 That the Board of Directors rescinds Resolution EP-548 of the October 27, 2010 Human Resources agenda which read:

That Calista M. Boyer be appointed as a (RSAA) Instructional Supervisor (206 day) at 13th & Green Elementary School, effective date to be determined, at a salary of \$64,646.00 prorated, for the 2010-2011 school year.

EP-612 That Todd R. Conn, Jr. be appointed as a (RSSSA) Director of Facilities (260 day), District Wide, effective January 21, 2011 or earlier contingent upon release from current employer, at a salary of \$79,500.00 prorated, for the 2010-2011 school year.

W. Knowles resignation

EP-613 That Stephen C. Franco be appointed as a (RSSSA) Assistant Director of Facilities (260 day), District Wide, effective January 21, 2011 or earlier contingent upon release from current employer, at a salary of \$69,500.00 prorated, for the 2010-2011 school year.

W. Knowles transfer

EP-614 That Kari M. Plasha be approved for a promotion from (REA) Instructional Coach at 10th & Penn Elementary School to (RSAA) Instructional Supervisor (206 day) at 13th & Green Elementary School, effective January 3, 2011, at a salary of \$64,646.00 prorated for the 2010-2011 school year.

L. VanPutten retirement

EP-615 That Moises Rivera be approved for a promotion from (REA) Elementary Teacher -

EP-618 That Pamela L. Craig be appointed as a temporary professional employee, Social Studies Teacher – Plato Lab at Reading High School, effective November 22, 2010, at a salary of \$45,550.00 prorated, TM2 of the 2010-2011 salary scale. **Ratification**

D. Garges promotion

EP-619 That Ann Marie Cupo be approved for a change of status from long-term substitute, Elementary Teacher – Grade 1 at 13th & Green Elementary School to temporary professional employee, Elementary Teacher – Grade 1 at 13th & Green Elementary School, effective November 24, 2010, at a salary of \$39,000.00 prorated, TB1 of the 2010-2011 salary scale. **A. Dundon resignation**

EP-620 That Michelle M.K. Frey be approved for a change of status from long-term substitute, Elementary Teacher – Grade 6 at the Gateway School for Performing Arts to a temporary

EP-627 That Anne R. Shadduck be appointed as a part-time EAP Tutor, after school, maximum 24 hours per week, at Glenside Elementary School, effective November 24, 2010, at an hourly rate of \$21.00.

EP-628 That Katie E. Witsoe be appointed as a long-term substitute, Elementary Teacher – Grade 6 at the Gateway School for Performing Arts, effective November 24, 2010 through the end of the day May 11, 2011, at a salary of \$41,000.00 prorated, TB3 of the 2010-2011 salary scale. J. Voelker leave

EP-629 That the Board of Directors amends resolution EP-404 of the July 21, 2010 Human Resources agenda which read:

That Erin A. Garber be appointed as a long-term substitute, ELA Resource Teacher at Glenside Elementary School and 10th & Penn Elementary School, **effective August 24, 2010 through the end of the day June 13, 2011**, at a salary of \$39,000.00 prorated, TB1 of the 2010-2011 salary scale.

EP-630 That the Board of Directors amends resolution EP-464 of the August 25, 2010 Human Resources agenda which read:

That Christina M. Weingrad be appointed as a long-term substitute, English Teacher at Reading Intermediate High School, **effective August 26, 2010 through the end of the day March 18, 2011**, at a salary of \$40,000.00 prorated, TB2 of the 2010-2011 salary scale.

Administrative Resignations/Terminations/Retirements

EP-631 That the resignation of Kimberly Birts , Instructional Supervisor at Riverside Elementary School, be accepted effective at the end of the day

EP-637 That the resignation of Nicole E. Robles, part-time EAP Tutor at Glenside Elementary School, be accepted effective at the end of the day November 11, 2010.

Instructional Leaves of Absence Requests

EP-638 That the request for a child rearing leave of absence be granted for Stacy L. Fritz, Elementary Teacher – Grade 2 at Glenside Elementary School, effective April 16, 2011 through the end of the day May 27, 2011.

EP-639 That the request for a disability leave of absence be granted for Bryan R. Otruba, Special Education/MDS Teacher at Reading Intermediate High School, effective November 12, 2010 through the end of the day June 13, 2011.

EP-640 That the request for a child rearing leave of absence be granted for Carolina Ramos, Spanish Teacher at Reading High School, effective March 26, 2011 through the end of the day June 1, 2011.

EP-641 That the request for a child rearing leave of absence be granted for Jennifer Richards, Elementary Teacher – Grade 4 at 12

EP-668 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors authorizes the Administration to develop a payment plan for the collection of delinquent retiree health care premiums.

VOTE ON HR EDUCATIONAL PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS AS LISTED: 9 YEAS; 0 NAYS

YEAS: Mr. Breton Mr. Stamm Ms. Stroman Mr. Washington Mr. Santoro Mrs. McCree Mr. Storch Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Ms. Wertz

THE HR RESOLUTIONS AS LISTED WERE APPROVED.

Mr. Breton made a motion to consider resolution EP-666, and this was seconded by Mr. Storch.

<u>Other</u>

EP-666 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors approves the RSSSA salaries for the 2010-2011 school year, as attached.

VOTE ON EP-666: 6 YEAS; 2 NAYS; 1 ABSTENTION

YEAS:	Mr. Stamm Ms. Stroman Mr. Washington	Mr. Storch Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Mr. Breton
NAYS:	Mrs. McCree	Ms. Wertz

ABSTAIN: Mr. Santoro

RESOLUTION EP-666 WAS APPROVED.

Mr. Storch made a motion to consider resolution EP-667, and this was seconded by Mr. Breton.

<u>Other</u>

EP-667 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors approves the RSAA / Superintendent's Cabinet salaries for the 2010-2011 school year, as attached.

A-EP-667

VOTE ON EP-667: 6 YEAS; 3 NAYS

That Angelique Rodriguez-Maldonado be appointed as a full-time ELA Assistant at Riverside Elementary School, effective date to be determined, at an hourly rate of \$9.80.

Resignations/Terminations/Retirements

SSP-422 That the resignation of Kimberly A. Buehrer, part-time cashier at Reading High School be accepted effective at the end of the day November 5, 2010.

SSP-423 That the termination of Shonrel A. Clark, part-time Security Guard at Reading Muhlenberg Career and Technology Center be accepted effective at the end of the day November 1, 2010 for job abandonment.

SSP-424 That the resignation of Zinnia Delacruz, part-time Lunch Aide at Riverside Elementary School be accepted effective at the end of the day October 27, 2010.

SSP-425 That the resignation of Alexander Morales, full-time ELA Assistant at the Gateway School for International Business and World Language be accepted effective at the end of the day November 30, 2010.

SSP-426 That the termination of Hortense Scott, part-time Lunch Aide at Lauer's Park Elementary School be accepted effective at the end of the day September 1, 2010 for job abandonment.

SSP-427 That the resignation of Kenneth J. Weikel, Jr., full-time Insulation/General Trades Mechanic, District Wide be accepted effective at the end of the day November 29, 2010.

SSP-428 That the resignation of Jennifer Wolf, full-time MDS Assistant, One-on-One, at Northwest Middle School be accepted effective at the end of the day November 18, 2010.

Leaves of Absence

SSP-429 That a disability leave of absence be granted for Regina Copeland, Special Education Assistant at Thomas Ford Elementary School, effective November 22, 2010 through the end of the day December 3, 2010.

SSP-430 That a disability leave of absence be granted for Wilmon Giddens, Truck Driver, District Wide, effective December 6, 2010 through the end of the day March 16, 2011.

SSP-431 That a child rearing leave of absence be granted to Blanca E. Inhof, ELA Clerk 4 at the Reading Opportunity Center for Children, effective February 1, 2011 through the end of the day March 15, 2011.

SSP-432 That a disability leave of absence be granted for Marina Ossorio, Special Education Assistant at 10th & Penn Elementary School, effective September 13, 2010 through the end of the day September 13, 2011.

SSP-433 That a disability leave of absence be granted for Sandra E. Staron, Clerk 4 at Southern Middle School, effective October 18, 2010 through the end of the day January 2, 2011.

SSP-434 That a disability leave of absence be granted for Kim Wilson, Food Service Worker at Reading High School, effective August 30, 2010 through the end of the day August 30, 2011.

Return From Leaves of Absence

SSP-435 That Maribel Hernandez, full-time ELA Assistant at Northwest Middle School, return to duty from a disability leave of absence effective October 26, 2010.

SSP-436 That Lisa M. Ortiz, full-time ELA Assistant at 10th & Green Elementary School return to duty from a child rearing leave of absence effective December 6, 2010.

<u>Other</u>

SSP-437 BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Directors approves the creation of one parttime General Worker/Server position at Reading Intermediate High School.

SSP-438 BE IT RESOLVED That the Board of Directors approves the elimination of one Special Education / AS Assistant, One-on-One, position at Tyson Schoener Elementary School.

NISL Course 2 conference at Archbald, PA, from December 1-2, 2010. The estimated cost will not exceed \$154.50, funded through the General Fund.

Janet C. Heilman

CUR-147 BE IT RESOLVED, That the following named personnel be granted permission to be absent from duty, with no deduction in salary, to attend PSTA annual convention conference at Hershey, PA, from December 2-3, 2010. The estimated cost not to exceed **\$1,110.08**, funded through the General Fund.

Aimee Lausch Joe Okonski

CUR-148 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors approves a Category 2 field trip to Reutlingen, Germany from September/October, 2011. Thirty Reading High School students under the direction of Mrs. Clewell, Mrs. Riegel-Martinez, will attend. The only cost to the district is \$1,000.00 for transportation to and from the airport.

CUR-148-A

CUR-147-A

CUR-149 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors authorizes the Administration to renew the contract agreement between BCIU Head Start and the Reading School District to provide a "Safe Site" for students at 10th & Penn elementary school, if there would be an emergency at St. Paul's or St. Lukes Head Start Center.

CUR-149-A

VOTE ON CUR-139 – 149: 9 YEAS; 0 NAYS

YEAS: Mr. Storch Mr. Washington Mr. Breton Mr. Santoro Ms. Stroman Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Ms. Wertz Mrs. McCree Mr. Stamm

RESOLUTIONS CUR-139 – 149

CUR-146-A

SUI JUE UKUIIS

VOTE ON CUR-150: 3 YEAS - 6 NAYS

- YEAS: Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Mr. Breton
- NAYS: Ms. Wertz Mr. Santoro Mr. Storch

Mr. Washington

Mrs. McCree Mr. Stamm Ms. Stroman

RESOLUTION CUR-150 WAS <u>NOT APPROVED.</u>

A motion to consider resolution CUR-151 was made by Ms. Wertz, and this was seconded by Mr. Breton.

CUR-151 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors authorizes the Administration to approve the following Spanish-certified teachers to provide a maximum of three Spanish for School Personnel courses to both professional and support staff, not to exceed \$5,400.00 for staffing and \$7,650 for course materials, funding through Title III: Instruction for Limited English Proficient Students grant professional development funds.

Nayda Alvarez - \$1,800.00 Beatriz-Martinez Crespo - \$1,800.00 Donna Orchowski - \$1,800.00

VOTE ON CUR-151: 8 YEAS; 1 NAY

YEAS: Mr. Washington Mr. Breton Mr. Santero Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Ms. Wertz Mrs. McCree Mr. Storch Ms. Stroman

NAYS: Mr. Stamm

RESOLUTION CUR-151 WAS APPROVED.

A motion to consider resolution CUR-152 was made by Mr. Santero, and this was seconded by Mr. Breton.

CUR-152 BE IT RESOLVED, That the following named personnel be granted permission to be absent from duty, with no deduction in salary, to attend the PMEA District 10 Choir Festival (rehearsals and concerts) in Easton, PA, from January 13-15, 2011. The estimated cost is not to exceed \$405.00, funded through the General Fund.

Joseph S. Smith

CUR-152-A

VOTE ON RESOLUTION CUR-152: 9 YEAS; 0 NAYS

FIN- 333

- FIN-345 This resolution was voted on separately.
- FIN-346 This resolution was voted on separately.

FIN-347

school account balances from the General Fund to the Special Revenue fund as recommended by the District's Local Auditors.

FIN-356 This resolution was voted on separately.

FIN-357 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors approves the attached Reading School District Crim Account between the Reading School District and Fulton Financial Advisors as reviewed and approved by the District Solicitor.

FIN-357-A

FIN-358 This resolution was voted on separately.

FIN-359 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors authorizes the cancellation of the district credit card in the name of Thomas R Chapman.

VOTE ON FINANCE RESOLUTIONS AS LISTED: 9 YEAS; 0 NAYS

YEAS:	Mr. Breton	Mrs. McCree
	Mr. Santoro	Mr. Stamm
	Mr. Storch	Mrs. Torres-Figueroa

BE IT RESOLVED, that the content of Ordinances atta

WHEREAS, the City of Reading re-enacted the Residential Tax Abatement Ordinance at No. 32-2010 effective July 20, 2010, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "C" and incorporated herein by reference; and

Resolution FIN-351 was presented for consideration. The motion was made by Mr. Breton, and this was seconded by Mr. Santoro.

FIN-351 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors awards the bid for a Grand

VOTE ON FIN-356: 7 YEAS; 2 NAYS

YEAS: Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Ms. Wertz Mr. Santoro Ms. Stroman Mr. Washington Mr. Breton Mr. Stamm

NAYS: Mrs. McCree

Mr. Storch

RESOLUTION FIN-356 WAS APPROVED.

Resolution FIN-358 was presented for consideration. The motion was made by Mr. Breton, and this was seconded by Mr. Santoro.

FIN-358 IN RE: AUTHORIZATION PERTAINING TO CLAIMS AGAINST MCKISSICK ASSOCIATES, P.C. ARISING FROM THE DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE READING INTERMEDIATE HIGH SCHOOL (CITADEL).

BE IT RESOLVED, That Sam L. Warshawer, Jr. and K. Gerard Amadio, of the law firm of Venzie, Phillips & Warshawer, Special Construction Counsel for Reading School District, are hereby authorized to:

1. Prepare and solicit the execution of an agreement between the District and McKissick Associates, PC to preserve any claims of the District arising from the design and construction of the Reading Intermediate High School (Citadel) Project, including, without limitation, those related to the parking garage. If such an agreement is reached, the Administration is authorized, with the advice and assistance of Special Construction Counsel, to execute and perform its obligations thereunder; and

2. In the absence of such an agreement, to commence legal action against McKissick Associates, PC by the filing of a writ of summons to recover damages arising from the design and construction of the Reading Intermediate High School (Citadel) including, without limitation, those related to the parking garage, and to take such further actions as may be necessary to protect the District's rights, claims, remedies and defenses therein.

VOTE ON FIN-358: 7 YEAS; 2 NAYS

YEAS:	Mr. Washington	Ms. Wertz
	Mr. Breton	Mrs. McCree
	Mr. Santoro	Mrs. Torres-Figueroa
	Ms. Stroman	
NAYS:	Mr. Stamm	Mr. Storch

RESOLUTION FIN-358

WAS APPROVED.

Facilities and Security

The Facilities and Security Committee presented resolutions FAC-376 – 386 for consideration. Resolutions FAC-376 – 382 were voted on together. The motion was made by Mr. Santoro, and this was seconded by Ms. Wertz.

FAC-376 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors ratifies Change Directive (PCO 726), to Perrotto Builders, Ltd., to close off louver in Room 0028 to corridor basement Bldg. B per City of Reading, in the amount of \$779.00.

FAC-376-A

FAC-377 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors ratifies Change Directive (PCO 718), to Perrotto Builders, Ltd., to provide a

Mr. Washington

Ms. Stroman

NAYS: Mr. Storch

RESOLUTIONS FAC-376 – 382 WERE APPROVED.

Resolutions FAC-383 – 385 were presented for consideration. The motion was made by Mr. Santoro, and this was seconded by Mr. Washington.

FAC-383 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors authorizes Administration to ratify additional services to Michael Kostival Architects for the 18th Ward Playlot at Grace and Pansy Streets due to changes, revisions and additional submissions to the Zoning Board required with the purchase of the property. Total amount not to exceed \$9,500. Monies to be taken from the 2008 Bond Funds.

FAC- 383-A

FAC-384 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors authorizes Administration to ratify Michael Kostival Architects a contract extension for the completion of all services for the 18th Ward Playlot at Grace and Pansy Streets until April 29, 2011 at no charge to the school district. (Upon Solicitor's approval.)

FAC-385 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors authorizes the Administration to solicit bids for the Amanda Stout Elementary School/Benners Court project.

VOTE ON FAC-383 - 385: 9 YEAS; 0 NAYS

YEAS: Mr. Breton Mr. Santoro Mr. Storch Mr. Washington

Ms. Stroman

Mrs. McCree Mr. Stamm Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Ms. Wertz

RESOLUTIONS FAC-383 - 385 WERE APPROVED.

Resolution FAC-386 was presented for consideration. The motion was made by Ms. Wertz, and this was seconded by Mr. Washington.

FAC-386 IN RE: AUTHORIZATION TO EMPLOY GAI CONSULTANTS, INC. FOR INVESTIGATION INTO CONCRETE FLOOR CONSTRUCTION AT THE READING INTERMEDIATE HIGH SCHOOL (CITADEL).

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Administration is authorized to employ GAI Consultants, Inc., 1055 Westlakes Drive, Suite 200, Berwyn, PA 19312, to conduct an investigation into the concrete floor construction in certain areas of the Reading Intermediate High School (Citadel) that have exhibited cracking, at a cost not to exceed the sum of Eleven

Thousand One Hundred and 00/100 Dollars (\$11,100.00), in accordance with GAI's proposal dated November 17, 2010.

VOTE ON FAC-386: 9 YEAS; 0 NAYS

YEAS: Mrs. McCree Mr. Stamm Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Ms. Wertz Ms. Stroman Mr. Santoro Mr. Storch Mr. Washington Mr. Breton

RESOLUTION FAC-386 WAS APPROVED.

Student Services

The Student Services Committee presented resolutions SS-165 – 172 for consideration. All resolutions were voted on together. The motion was made by Ms. Wertz, and this was seconded by Mr. Santoro.

SS-165 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors ratifies continuation of an Agreement between the Reading School District and KidsPeace Children's Hospital, Inc., County of Lehigh, Pennsylvania to provide tutorial education services to eight (8) Special Education students, listed below, placed in the Acute Partial Hospital Program referred by the parent/guardian. Services will be provided by KidsPeace National Centers, Inc., at the tutorial rate of \$26.00 per hour, five (5) hours per week, at a cost not to exceed \$32,500.00. (General

<u>ID#</u>	Duration	Cost
305566	Nov. 3, 2010 thru June 10, 2011 – Tuition	\$20,391.08
	Speech Therapy-\$40.98/30 min/wk (30 wks)	\$ 1,229.40

economic guidelines and may include low-income, first generation college-bound students with a cumulative grade point average of 2.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale. Participants will complete academic, career, and college readiness courses and complete a career portfolio at the conclusion of the program that can be used for a senior project, employment or college entrance. Grant supported through Reading Area Community College \$245,000.00.

SS-170-A

SS-171 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors approves the ARRA budget to support professional development, programs for various learning needs specific to a students' Individual Education Plan (IEP), along with the purchase of related supplies and materials, and the purchase of contracted services to support students and programs in the Reading School District K – 12. This authorizes the administration to make the necessary budgetary transfers to fund the allocated dollars in conformance with the attached spending plan. Budgeted amount includes \$3,268,574.00.

SS-171-A

SS-172 BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors amends Resolution 132 from the September 22, 2010 board agenda which reads:

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of School Directors approves the 2010-2011 Agreement

Mr. Storch Mr. Washington Mr. Breton Ms. Stroman Mrs. Torres-Figueroa Ms. Wertz Mrs. McCree

RESOLUTIONS SS-165 – 172 WERE APPROVED.

Community Relations and Policy

The Community Relations and Policy Committee presented resolutions CRP-37 and 38 for

Ms. Stroman

NAYS: Mr. Stamm

ABSTAIN: Mr. Washington

RESOLUTION CRP-38 WAS APPROVED.

Extracurricular Activities

The Extracurricular Activities Committee presented resolutions EX-63 – 68 for consideration. All resolutions were voted on together. The motion was made by Mr. Santoro, and this was

Add	ТВА	\$1,110.00
Remove	Robert Duncan	

NEMS Wrestling Head Coach			
Add	Irran D. Rivera (Pending Cl.	.) \$1,850.00	
Remove	David Calambas		
NWMS Boys Basketball Asst			
Add	David Stevenson	\$1,110.00	
Remove	ТВА		

EX-65 BE IT RESOLVED, That the following named personnel be granted permission to be absent from duty, witm8OD G/55J8/OJ2IO8IDiG/(npbehaa77

Ms. Wertz Mrs. McCree Mr. Stamm Ms. Stroman Mr. Breton Mr. Santoro Mr. Storch

RESOLUTIONS EX-63 – 68 WERE APPROVED.