

**SOUTH COLONIE CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**



**MINUTES**

**October 21, 2015  
Saddlewood Elementary  
7:00 pm**



**CORE VALUES**

**We Believe:**

- \* That all children can learn.
- \* In educating the whole child so he/she can meet the District's Standards.
- \* In focusing on student achievement.
- \* In providing a comprehensive and enriched curriculum for all students reflecting the needs and available resources of the community.
- \* That the combined commitment of the Board of Education, staff, families, students, and community is the key to educational success.

**MISSION STATEMENT**

Preparing successful contributing citizens of the world through school, family and community partnerships, while addressing the diverse needs of all students.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the South Colonie Board of Education was called to order by Board Vice President, Mr. Sim at 7:00 pm.

**1. ROLL CALL**Members Present:

Christine Badger Mele	Shelle Jaquish	James T. Ryan
Brian Casey	Neil Johanning	Edward Sim
Rose Gigliello	Leonard Motto	

Members Excused:

David Kiehle

Also Present:

Jonathan Buhner, Superintendent of Schools  
 Tim Backus, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction  
 David Perry, Director of Human Resources, Safe Schools & IT  
 Jamie Mroczko, District Clerk

**2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

Mr. Sim led the pledge to the flag.

**3. SCHOOL BOARD RECOGNITION**

School Board Recognition Week is October 26-30, 2015. On behalf of the staff, faculty and students of the South Colonie Central School District, the Superintendent recognized the members of the Board of Education for their dedication, commitment and contributions to the students and community of South Colonie and for the many hours of service they provide in supporting excellence in education.

The South Colonie Teachers Association, South Colonie Administrators Association and the PTA Council also recognized Board members for their contributions to the South Colonie community and presented each member with gifts of appreciation.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Gigliello and seconded by Mr. Ryan, that the minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 6, 2015 be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

## 5. REPORTS FOR INFORMATION AND STUDY

### A. Solar Project Update

Tim Carr, Monolith Solar Associates, provided an update on the status of the District's solar project initiative. South Colonie is the largest public school solar installation in New York State. This project is expected to be completed and online by the end of the winter of 2016.

### B. District Operational Plan

Mr. Buhner provided a brief report on the District's Operation Plan, including annual goals, targets, and management statements. A copy of the plan will be posted on the District's website.

### C. Board Committee Reports

- Mr. Motto, Chairperson, provided a report on the Audit/Finance Committee meeting that was held October 6, 2015.
- Mr. Ryan, Chairperson, provided a report on the Facilities Committee meeting that was held on October 7, 2015.
- Mr. Johanning, Chairperson, provided a report on the Policy Committee meeting that was held on October 8, 2015.
- Mr. Johanning, Chairperson, provided a report on the IT Committee meeting that was held on October 13, 2015. The Committee commended Dr. Perry and the IT Department for all of their good work.

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS

### A. Correspondence/Board Activities

#### Mr. Sim

- Reported on the CCHS iCARE "Rugged Raider" event that was held on October 17. Approximately 50 teams participated in ten obstacles which were judged on creativity, sportsmanship, cooperation, and effort.
- Recognized CCHS Senior Seth Prevratil who was recently presented with the Outstanding Youth Award at the Northeastern Region PTA Annual Presidents and Principals dinner on October 19.
- Attended the New York State School Boards Association annual convention from October 18 to October 20 along with several other Board members. The group had the opportunity to attend training classes. They learned a lot that they were able to bring back to the District.

#### Mr. Ryan

- Reported that members of the Board recently returned from the NYS School Boards Association annual convention where they had an opportunity to attend several learning sessions.

Mr. Johanning

- Attended the CCHS iCARE “Rugged Raider” event on October 17. Tom Kachadurian and John Cogan organized an outstanding event. The National Guard were also on hand to help supervise.
- Attended the Presidents and Principals dinner on October 19 along with Mr. Backus and Mr. Robilotti. The event was hosted by the Northeastern Region PTA. There was good representation from South Colonie.
- Attended the SEPTA meeting on October 20. There was a presentation from the Parent-to-Parent Network organization. Some of the programs may integrate into the current Middle School to High School transition programs to address the needs of the Special Education population.

Mr. Casey

- Encouraged members to view the video of the “Rugged Raider Challenge” on the CCHS page of the website. The event raised approximately \$2,000 for military families and veterans.

**B. Requests to Speak:**

John Ryan: Addressed the Board on behalf of the South Colonie Teachers Association and expressed his appreciation for the great work the Board of Education does throughout the year. He stated that South Colonie is a great place to work and learn and that the teachers were in attendance to show support for the continued success of this relationship. Mr. Ryan also expressed his unit’s desire to successfully settle a new contract with the Board.

Mike Keane: Addressed the Board on behalf of the PTA Council and all District PTA groups in recognizing and thanking the Board of Education for their support. These groups are looking forward to another year of great collaboration. Mr. Keane also encouraged those in attendance to attend PTA Council meetings which are held at 7:00 pm on the last Monday of each month (except December and June) at the District Office.

Jerry Seyboth: Addressed the Board to ask them to consider implementing the veteran’s tax exemption. Mr. Seyboth is a 30 year resident of the school district and speaks as a Gold Star parent. His daughter Amy died in 2009 while serving in Iraq. She has also been inducted into the Military Wing of the CCHS Hall of Fame. Mr. Buhner responded that the District has previously advocated with the Governor and our legislators to fund this exemption and plans to have additional conversations with them again while planning for the 2016-2017 budget. If a school district votes to offer the exemptions, the other taxpayers would see their taxes go up to pay for the veterans’ tax breaks.

## **7. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

The Superintendent recommends approval of the following:

### **A. Committee on Special Education**

Placements as indicated on the attached sheets.

### **B. In-Service Courses**

1. One-half (0.5) in-service credit for participation in and completion of the 7.5 contact hours course, “Getting Gritty – Book Study of How Children Succeed: Grit, Curiosity and the Hidden Power of Character by Paul Tough” (#15-16-50), sponsored by NERIC – Model Schools. The course will be held October 13, 2015, October 20, 2015, November 3, 2015, November 17, 2015 and December 1, 2015 from 3:30 pm to 5:00 pm at the Mohonasen Central School District, Draper Middle School Library, 2070 Curry Road, Schenectady, NY. Participants must sign up on My Learning Plan and must attend all sessions to receive course credit. Kristi O’Connor (Colonie Central High School) is the contact person.
2. One-half (0.5) in-service credit for participation in and completion of the 7.5 contact hours course, “Introduction to Google Apps for Education and Chromebooks” (#15-16-51), sponsored by Capital Region BOCES–NERIC. The course will be held October 15, 2015; October 29, 2015; November 12, 2015; and December 3, 2015 from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at the Mohonasen Central School District, Mohonasen High School, 2072 Curry Road, Schenectady, NY. Participants must sign up on My Learning Plan and must attend all sessions to receive course credit. Gina Mooney (Lisha Kill Middle School) is the contact person.

### **C. Agreements**

1. Approval of an agreement with Tabner, Ryan & Keniry, LLP, Counselors at Law, 18 Corporate Woods Boulevard, Suite 8, Albany, NY for legal counsel services for matters involving Special Education. This agreement covers a five (5) year term commencing on September 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2020. The hourly rate shall be \$150.00 for services rendered.
2. Approval of an agreement with Capital Area School Development Association (CASDA), with a principal business address University at Albany, East Campus, 5 University Place – A409, Rensselaer, NY and the South Colonie Central School District for services to be performed for “Addressing Challenging Behaviors Using CPS”. CASDA will provide planning sessions for each student, coaching for staff and students bi-weekly, meetings with pilot staff and administrators to monitor progress and update team. The cost if these services are not to exceed \$3,850.00 (28 hours @ \$137.50 per hour).

3. Approval of an agreement with Gina Cosgrove, Psy.D. aka Campbell House Psychological Associates and South Colonie Central School District to perform educational and consultation services on an as-needed basis. Services included will be program and student consultation, staff/parent trainings and behavioral support plans. Upon request, services may also include diagnostic testing for students. This agreement begins September 9, 2015 and commences on June 30, 2016. The hourly rate per hour is \$180.00.

**D. Student Trips**

Group: Grade 8 Students (170 students & 20 chaperones)  
School: Lisha Kill Middle School  
Destination: Six Flags New England, Agawam, MA  
Date: Friday, May 6, 2016  
Responsible: Maureen Musto, Kellie Gaffney  
Transportation: Charter Bus

**E. Bid Award – Musical Instrument Repair/Conditioning & Supplies**

Pursuant to a bid opening held on October 14, 2015, award to low bidders meeting specifications as follows:

1. Recommended award for the repair of woodwind, brass and string instruments

To: John Keal Music Company, Albany, New York  
\$35.00 per hour, 20-40% discount per manufacturer

2. Recommended award for repair and concert tuning of pianos

To: Dubois Piano Service, Amsterdam, New York  
\$90.00 per hour – standard  
\$95.00 per hour - concert

**F. Donations**

1. Donation from Shaker Road PTA to the Shaker Road Elementary School in the amount of \$1,849.45. The donation will be used to purchase thirty (30) Amazon Fire Tablets including cases that will be distributed across the five grade levels at Shaker Road Elementary School.
2. Donation from Michael Kane through Mr. Kane's AT&T Employee Giving Campaign to the Colonie Central High School in the amount of \$4.00 to be used towards the purchase of uniforms.

**G. Re-Appropriation of 2015-2016 Budget**

Re-appropriation of the 2015-2016 budget in the amount of \$1,853.00. The total re-appropriated budget is \$96,267,812.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan and seconded by Mr. Motto, that the above stated Reports and Recommendations be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**8. POLICIES****A. Single Reading & Approval**

Policy 5280 – Interscholastic Athletics

Policy 9290 – Supplemental Compensation Rates

Policy 9313 – Support Staff, Substitute & Occasional Employment

A motion was made by Mr. Johanning and seconded by Ms. Jaquish, that the above stated Policies (5280, 9290, 9313) be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**9. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION (Pages 9-10)**

The Board recognized Ms. Audra Conley, who plans to retire (Item #9-D), and thanked her for her 14 years of service to the District.

A motion was made by Mr. Casey and seconded by Ms. Badger Mele, that the Instructional Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated October 21, 2015 be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**10. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT (Pages 11-12)**

A recommendation was made that Item #10-B – Resignation, be deferred to a future agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan and seconded by Ms. Gigliello, that the Support Personnel changes listed on the attached sheets dated October 21, 2015, with the exception of Item #10-B, be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**11. MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT – SCTA/GCRTC**

Approval of the Memorandum of Agreement with the South Colonie Teachers' Association, outlining contractual revisions to the Collective Bargaining Agreement regarding certified employees of the Greater Capital Region Teacher Center as specified per attached agreement.

A motion was made by Ms. Gigliello and seconded by Mr. Casey, that the above stated Memorandum of Agreement be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**12. RESOLUTIONS**

Native American Heritage Month – November, 2015

A motion was made by Mr. Ryan and seconded by Mr. Johanning, that the above stated Resolution be approved.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**13. FUTURE MEETINGS**

- **October 26**                      Policy Committee – 6:00 pm – District Office
- **October 27**                      Accountability Committee – 6:00 pm – District Office
- **November 3**                      Strategic Planning Committee – 6:00 pm – Saddlewood Elementary  
Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 pm – Saddlewood Elementary
- **November 11**                      **District Closed – Veteran's Day**
- **November 17**                      Academic Achievement Committee – 6:00 pm – Saddlewood  
Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 pm – Saddlewood Elementary
- **November 18**                      Communications Committee – 6:00 pm – District Office
- **November 26-27**                      **District Closed – Thanksgiving Recess**
- **November 30**                      Policy Committee – 6:00 pm – District Office
- **December 1**                      Graduation Committee – 6:00 pm – Saddlewood Elementary  
Board of Education Meeting – 7:00 pm – Saddlewood Elementary
- **December 2**                      Facilities Committee – 7:30 am – District Office
- **December 3**                      Transportation Committee – 6:00 pm – District Office

A motion was made by Mr. Johanning and seconded by Ms. Gigliello, to **enter** Executive Session to discuss fiscal and employment matters relating to particular persons.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 7:59 pm.



A motion was made by Mr. Ryan and seconded by Ms. Jaquish to **adjourn** Executive Session.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

The Board adjourned Executive Session at 8:15 pm.

**14. RESOLUTION – SECTION 75 GENERAL RELEASE AGREEMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Education consents to the settlement of a Section 75 proceeding involving a certain employee, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Board of Education President, David Kiehle, be authorized to execute the General Release Agreement on behalf of the South Colonie Central School District.

A motion was made by Mr. Johanning and seconded by Mr. Motto, that the above stated Resolution be approved, pending a signed letter of resignation from the identified employee.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

**15. ADJOURN MEETING**

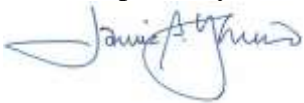
A motion was made by Ms. Gigliello and seconded by Mr. Ryan, that the Regular Meeting be adjourned.

8 Yes      0 No      0 Abstain

**Vote Carried: 8 – 0 – 0**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jamie S. Mroczko  
District Clerk

## 9. PERSONNEL – INSTRUCTION

### A. Long-Term Substitutes

1. Name: Jessica Narkiewicz  
Address: 23 Windy Hill, Apt. C, Ballston Lake, NY 12019  
Type: Long-Term Substitute  
Teaching Area: Science  
Location: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: October 6, 2015  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1 per SCTA Contract (pro-rated)  
Education: B.S. and M.S. from Stony Brook University  
Certification: Initial in Physics (7-12)
  
2. Name: Lynn Paradowski  
Address: 4 Burlwood Drive, Albany, NY 12205  
Type: Long-Term Substitute  
Teaching Area: Special Education  
Location: Veeder Elementary School  
Effective Date: October 8, 2015  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1 per SCTA Contract (pro-rated)  
Education: B.S. from Russell Sage College and M.S. from Sage Graduate School  
Certification: Professional in Students with Disabilities (Grades 1-6)
  
3. Name: Rachele Prawdzik  
Address: 738 Huntingdon Drive, Schenectady, NY 12309  
Type: Long-Term Substitute  
Teaching Area: Music  
Location: Sand Creek Middle School  
Effective Date: October 6, 2015  
Salary: Salary Schedule I, Step 1 per SCTA Contract (pro-rated)  
Education: B.M. from Ithaca College  
Certification: Initial in Music

### B. Odyssey of the Mind Coordinators for the 2015-2016 School Year

Appoint the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation:

Building Coordinator	Saddlewood Elementary School	Lucy Menard
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**C. Co-Curricular – 2015-2016 School Year**

Appoint the following previously approved positions at the approved rate of compensation:

**Colonie Central High School**

Productions:

Technical Director (set construction)	Liam Hilt	1.0
Electrical/Lighting	Liam Hilt	1.0
Yearbook Business Manager	Thomas Marrotta	1.0

**Sand Creek Middle School**

Math Club	Christine Balkwell	1.0
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**D. Retirement**

- Name: Audrey Conley  
Position: Teaching Assistant  
Location: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: October 25, 2015

**E. Substitute Teachers**

Approve substitute teachers on the attached list for regular appointments.

**10. PERSONNEL – SUPPORT****A. Creation of Position***Effective October 22, 2015 to June 30, 2016*

- (1) 0.81 Temporary School Monitor

**B. Resignation – Deferred to Future Meeting**

1. Name: Anita Johnson  
Address: 807 Rainbow Drive, Apt. #3, Schenectady, NY 12303  
Position: Permanent Custodial Worker  
Location: Colonie Central High School  
Effective Date: October 22, 2015  
Reason: Personal

**C. Appointments**

1. Name: Steven Oare  
Address: 480 Van Antwerp Road, Johnstown, NY 12095  
Position: IT Technician SSA  
Effective: September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016  
Salary: Stipend per Policy 9290
2. Name: Matthew Veino  
Address: 67 Preston Drive, Cohoes, NY 12047  
Position: IT Network Administrator SSA  
Effective: September 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016  
Salary: Stipend per Policy 9290
3. Name: Marylou Kelly  
Address: 79 Tennessee Avenue, Albany, NY 12205  
Position: Food Service Helper Substitute  
Effective: October 22, 2015  
Salary: \$9.75 per hour
4. Name: Martine Male  
Address: 17 Criswood Drive, Albany, NY 12205  
Position: Temporary School Monitor  
Effective: October 20, 2015 to June 30, 2016  
Salary: \$11.39 per hour per Teamsters Contract  
Hours: 6.5 hours per day  
Current Location: Forest Park Elementary School  
Probationary Period: October 20, 2015 to April 19, 2016

5. Name: Richard Thomas  
Address: 84 Hollywood Avenue, Albany, NY 12208  
Position: Custodial Worker Substitute  
Effective: October 22, 2015  
Salary: \$11.25 per hour