

**SOUTH MIDDLETON SCHOOL DISTRICT  
4 Forge Road, Boiling Springs, PA 17007**

**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
July 9, 2012**

The South Middleton Board of School Directors met on July 9, 2012, in Brenneman Auditorium at Boiling Springs High School for a Special Board Meeting. Board President, Thomas Merlie, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

The Recording Secretary called the roll with all members present except as designated:

**School Directors**

Mr. Steven Bear

Mr. Michael Berk

Mrs. Shelly Capozzi - **Absent**

Mr. Derek Clepper

Mr. Thomas Hayes

Ms. Pamela Martin

Mr. Thomas Merlie

Mr. Paul Slifko

Mr. Robert Winters

**Administrative Staff**

Dr. Patricia B. Sanker, Superintendent

Joseph Mancuso, BSHS Principal

Patrick Dieter, Athletic Director

**Visitors**

See attachment to the minutes.

**Board Secretary**

Richard R. Vensel – **Absent**

**Recording Secretary**

Tina Darchicourt

**Solicitor**

Philip H. Spare - **Absent**

**INTRODUCTIONS AND RECOGNITION – None**

**CITIZENS PARTICIPATION**

Scott Murphy, 1 Red Oak Drive, Boiling Springs, commented on the drug testing policy of the district. He suggested that the board revise the current policy to not only test student athletes, but to include all students at Boiling Springs High School. Mr. Murphy also stated that by not having a football coach in place, the football players were at a greater risk of injury due to the fact that they were conditioning and working out on their own without adult supervision. He asked when the public could expect to have a head football coach.

Mr. Merlie replied: July 16, one week from tonight.

Tracy Perry, 104 S. Ridge Road, Boiling Springs, asked why a Jr. High football coach was not included on the list of coaches to be approved at this meeting.

Mr. Merlie replied: Once a head coach is hired, the head coach will choose the Jr. High and JV coaching staff.

Mr. Dieter added that there will be two assistant coaches hired tonight, but the head coach will have the opportunity to select the additional coaching staff. He stated that there will be a Jr. High football program.

**TOPIC DISCUSSION - FOOTBALL**

Mr. Merlie stated that the Board has always had the best interest of the student athletes in mind and they are aware that time is of the essence. He expects that the administration will hire a football coach in the coming week and the board will be voting on that coach one week from tonight.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bear, that the Board approves the agenda of July 9, 2012, with all corrections as indicated.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Clepper made a motion, seconded by Mr. Berk that the Board appoints Tina Darchicourt as the recording secretary for the meeting of July 9, 2012.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**PERSONNEL**

The Board approved the following personnel items:

**Administration**

**Resignation**

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Clepper that the Board accepts with regret, the resignation of Scott J. Govern, from the position of Director of Athletics and Facilities Use, with an effective date to be determined.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Professional**

**Resignation**

Mr. Bear made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hayes that the Board accepts the resignation of Kent A. Kenyon from the position of music teacher/band director at the Boiling Springs High School, effective June 25, 2012.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

**Employment – Extra Duty – Athletics**

Mr. Berk made a motion, seconded by Mr. Clepper, that the Board removes from the table the motion to approve the extra duty athletic positions for the 2012-2013 school year.

**The motion passed unanimously.**

Mr. Bear made a motion, seconded by Mr. Clepper, that the Board approves the extra duty athletic positions for the 2012-2013 school year.

Mr. Bear:	Yes	Ms. Martin:	Yes
Mr. Berk:	Yes	Mr. Merlie:	Yes
Mrs. Capozzi:	Absent	Mr. Slifko:	Yes
Mr. Clepper:	Yes	Mr. Winters:	Yes
Mr. Hayes:	Yes		

**8 – Yes, 0 – No, 1 – Absent, 0 - Abstentions**

**CITIZENS PARTICIPATION**

Lori Weaver asked why women's soccer coaches were not included on the list.

Mr. Merlie replied that women's soccer coaches were intentionally excluded from the list until Mr. Dieter had an opportunity to address some parental concerns.

Tracy Delp, 201 Shirley Lane, Boiling Springs, asked what policies and procedures will be put into place to ensure that if an emergency were to happen in the future, the staff is better prepared.

Dr. Sanker assured her that the policy was in the process of being changed. She explained that policy changes must go through a process, but in an effort to speed it up, procedures have been adjusted in order to educate coaches and players about cardiac arrest and dehydration. She stated that the District has learned from this unfortunate event and changes will be made so that things will be handled differently in the future.

Mr. Dieter stated that a substantial list of policy changes has been made including CPR training and heat exhaustion education for players and coaches.

Mr. Mancuso added that in February a revision to the Athletic Emergency Medical Plan took place to guide the coaches through emergency procedures.

James Hair, 151 Oxford Road, Gardners, stated that coaches for the Midget Football program had to be certified, but coaches for Boiling Springs Athletics did not. Mr. Hair commented that there is a good group of Jr. High boys sitting in the audience, which he coached last season, he then offered himself as a possible assistant coach.

Michele Gouhin asked if an AED was available to the coaches when the players were outside and whether or not the coaches were trained on the use of the AED machines.

Dr. Sanker stated that Mr. Widder, the Athletic Trainer, has an AED machine with him at all times.

Mr. Mancuso mentioned that Mr. Widder may not be at practice at all times.

Mr. Berk stated that there are a number of different athletic practices going on at the same time and asked Mr. Mancuso and Mr. Dieter to assess if the purchase of a new AED machine was needed.

Sharon Sites stated that anyone who goes through CPR training learns how to use an AED machine. She asked what qualifications the board is looking for in a coach and if the players have had an opportunity to speak to the coaching applicants.

Mr. Merlie said that he could not discuss personnel issues. He stated that there are finalists and that from the Board's standpoint; it is on the recommendation of the paid professionals to assess the individuals. He mentioned that there was a round of interviews where some of the players attended along with the Athletic Committee, Mr. Mancuso, Mr. Govern and Dr. Sanker. He noted that the process is not over.

Sharon Sites said that she was happy to hear that some of the boys had an opportunity to speak to the finalists.

Mr. Merlie said that there were one or two finalists that the players have not had the opportunity to talk with.

Mr. Dieter said the boys have not talked to two of the finalists.

Sharon Sites asked if the boys would have a chance to speak with those finalists.

Mr. Merlie said that time is a problem and this could cause a delay.

Sharon Sites remarked that we do not want a delay.

Sue Mellott, 7 Wesley Drive, Carlisle, commented that she felt that because of a “knee jerk reaction”, the Board was too hasty in making the decisions they made and due to that, we lost a lot of great people on our coaching staff. She asked why Nate Frier was invited back for a second round of interviews if the Board knew that they did not want the coaching staff to return. She complimented Nate Frier’s integrity and leadership ability. She asked the team to work with and respect Mr. Dieter and wished him luck.

Mr. Merlie stated that no action to remove any coach or approve any coach has been taken by the board until tonight when two assistant coaches were appointed.

Candy Weibley, 44 Petersburg Road, Carlisle, complimented Tracy Parry on her courage to speak to the board last week. She agreed with Mr. Murphy about the need for drug testing changes at the school. She complimented Coach Davis, Coach Hair and Coach Weibley on their work with the Jr. High team last season in which the team was undefeated and said she is sad that Coach Davis is not returning.

Jeff Giselman, 108 Sicamore Drive, Mt. Holly Springs, said that Attorney Amy Guerin from the Levin Legal Group did a good job at “embellishing what she had to say”. He stated that Coach Heiser was responsible for and had control of the young men on the team. He asked who was responsible if something were to happen in the off season, the school or the coach. He believes that there is a lack of training for the coaches as far as emergency response.

Jennifer Taylor, 294 Fairview Street, Carlisle, stated that there was a lack of communication, judgment and decision making on part of the board. She said Coach Heiser and the other coaches resigned because the board did not communicate with them or the parents regarding their future at Boiling Springs.

Garret Enck, 3 Mulberry Court, Boiling Springs, noted that he was voted Team Captain for the upcoming season. He stated that he was confused about Nathan Frier. He said that he was a part of the interview process and met all three of the coaches that Mr. Govern had recommended. Coach Frier was the only coach that inspired and excited the team. Now that Coach Frier is gone the team doesn’t know what to do. He ended by saying, “We wanted Coach Frier”.

Mr. Merlie said that we made a good choice of Team Captain.

**FOR THE RECORD**

Mr. Merlie stated that the Board met in Executive Session on a personnel issue from 6:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m. that evening.

The Board recessed at 8:10 p.m. to go into executive session on a personnel issue. The executive session began at 8:15 p.m. and ended at 9:15 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Board came out of executive session at 9:15 p.m. and Mr. Slifko made a motion, seconded by Mr. Bear, to adjourn the special meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina L. Darchicourt  
Recording Secretary