

**Dist. 205 Board of Education**  
**May 12, 2008**  
**7:30 pm – 10:30 pm**

**Carlquist arr. 8:25, Conroy arr. 8:40**  
**Public: 60 Staff: 9 Press: 2**  
**Observer: J. Dorner**

Note: Mrs. Conroy was representing the Board at the York Academic Awards night and attended the Board meeting once the awards night was complete.

The special meeting previously scheduled for Monday, May 12, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. was cancelled. The Board had been in closed session since 6:00 pm to consider the performance of and employment of specific employees, collective negotiations, student discipline, and probable or imminent litigation. President Davy called the regular workshop meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

**Public Comment:** Two Conrad Fischer parents criticized the handling of finding a “to kill” list of students. Parents were not notified for 5 days and a letter explaining the situation did not go home for another week after that. Although no apparent author of the list was found, the school administration stated that no child was in danger.

Fifteen Jackson parents spoke about the move of two early childhood classes from Conrad Fischer to Jackson school. These classes are slated for the two new classrooms that Jackson had built after the referendum. This will force the movement of the music classes back to the lower level (“the dungeon”). Although the administration says that these two e.c. classes are temporarily at Jackson (two years max), most of the school community does not believe that this is true. Most parents are requesting that some of the administration at Madison should move to make room at Madison for these two classes.

A retired teacher stated that York is falling apart. He said that tiles are peeling up and the roof is leaking. He noted that the “Field of Drams” presentation was following and that the District should fix what it already has.

### **Superintendent Communications**

Special Education Student Transition Planning – Follow-up of the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting when many parents spoke against moving the ABC classroom from Jackson to Hawthorne and further discussion of the move of two early childhood classes to Jackson. Dr. Krizic explained that many different options were presented to the Board in January, including 8 different options for Madison school as well as moving the program around. At that time, the Board decided to wait for the report of the task force, since one of the subcommittees was specifically addressing this issue. Almost two hours were spent on this topic.

### **Workshop Discussion Topics:**

Athletic Stadium Advisory Task Force Presentation: A Superintendent’s stadium advisory task force was established in December of 2007. Six community members, 3 staff and Mr. Carlquist, who represented the Board, made up the committee. Currently, the stadium field is used 19% of allowable time. If this field was artificial turf, it is estimated that the use would become 82% of allowable time. Besides bringing York soccer and lacrosse on campus, turf would increase the time that athletic practices and PE classes could use the field. Synthetic turf would allow for all weather playing surface, unlimited scheduling, safety and injury reduction and reduced maintenance and transportation costs (currently soccer teams are transported to other fields for

daily after school practice). It is estimated to cost between \$1.1 and \$1.2 million to install a synthetic turf field in the York stadium. Estimated maintenance costs for natural grass is about \$40,000 and for synthetic turf it is \$4,000 annually. This committee (the “Field of Dreams” committee) is committing to raising about \$700,000 between June and November of 2008. They are asking that the School Board join them in a public/private partnership to create this year round stadium facility. There were several questions from the Board. Water detention may be an issue. Dr. Krizic suggested that this issue will be on the May 27<sup>th</sup> school board agenda for action.

Middle School Task Force Sub-Committee Reports, Reading/Language Arts Sub Committee  
And the Unified Arts Sub-Committee were both deferred due to the late hour.

**Superintendent’s Agenda:** The Board approved:

- Insurance Renewal Rates/Plan Design – The total cost of funding for the 08-09 is \$10,450,266 or a 7.2% increase over the 07-08 year. The Board’s responsibility for the increase is \$490,637 or 6.7% over the 07-08 school year. Mr. Spaeth was not comfortable in supporting this, but the remainder of the Board did vote to approve.

**Board Communications:** None

**Action on Closed Session Items:** The Board approved the expulsion of York student “E” for the rest of the 07-08 and all of the 08-09 school year.

**The Board returned to closed session** to consider the performance of and employment of specific employees, collective negotiations, student discipline, and probable or imminent litigation.