

Derry Township School District
Board of Directors Meeting
April 11, 2016
Summary Minutes - XVIII

1. OPENING ITEMS

a. Call to Order

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Brian Shiflett at 7:05 p.m.

b. Roll Call

Present: Chris Barrett, Heidi Eby, Maria Memmi, Jennifer Mysel, Julie Neal, Brian Shiflett, Kathy Sicher, Terry Singer

Absent: Jayanth Franklin

Non-Voting Members in attendance: Joseph McFarland

Staff/Public in attendance: Jason Reifsnyder, Mike Frentz, Dan Tredinnick, Stacy Winslow, Ruth Still, Theresa Baker, Richard Manthey, Ashley Manthey, Erick Valentin, Ray Faidley, Mike Knause, Justin Engle

Solicitor in Attendance: Kim Smith

Media in Attendance: Monica von Dobeneck –*The Sun*

c. Flag Salute

d. Approval of Board of Directors Agenda

Minutes

Following a motion by Mrs. Neal and a second by Mrs. Eby the Board Agenda for this evening's meeting was approved.

2. INFORMATIONAL AND PROPOSALS

a. Presentation - Learn Through Making

Minutes

Mrs. Lister provided the Board with an overview of Makers Space.

b. Presentation - Finance

Minutes

Mr. Frentz provided the Board with a Finance/Budget update.

c. Announcement of Executive Session

Minutes

The Board met on April 6, 2016 for a Board Workshop and in Executive Session prior to and immediately following this meeting to discuss matters of personnel, labor relations and arbitrations, and agency business which, if conducted in public would violate a lawful privilege or lead to disclosure of confidential matters.

d. Recognition of Citizens (Agenda Items)

Minutes

The following citizens were recognized by the Board:
None

e. Standing Committee Meeting Report

Minutes

Mrs. Sicher provided the following updates with regard to the Curriculum Council Standing Committee Meeting:

- 2016-2017 Goals
- Spring Keystone Letter
- Textbook Recommendations
- New Course Recommendations

Mr. Shiflett shared Mr. Franklin's notes regarding the General Services Standing Committee Meeting updates:

- Food Service Audit Report
- Commercial Advertising
- Elementary Chiller
- Elementary School Roof Project

f. Student Representatives' Report

Minutes

The student representatives provided the Board with the following updates:

- Recent Activities

g. Community Correspondence Report

Minutes

Mr. Tredinnick informed the Board that there were a total of four submissions during the month of March.

h. Anticipated Agenda Items for the Next Board of Directors Meeting

The listed anticipated items will be on the Agenda for the April 25, 2016 Public Board of Directors Meeting:

1. Presentation: Finance/Community Budget Forum
2. Presentation: Dauphin County Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees Laurretta Woodson Award Presentation
3. Approval of April 11, 2016 Board of Directors Summary Minutes
4. Student Recognition
5. Requests for the Use of Facilities
6. Personnel
7. Staff Development

Minutes

The anticipated agenda items for the April 25, 2016 meeting of the Derry Township Board of School Directors were reviewed.

3. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

Minutes

Following a motion by Mrs. Mysel and a second by Mr. Singer the consent agenda items were approved.

Vote Results

Aye: 8 Chris Barrett, Brian Shiflett, Julie Neal, Terry Singer, Heidi Eby, Kathy Sicher, Jennifer Mysel, Maria Memmi

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Not Cast: 1 Jayanth Franklin

MOTION CARRIED

a. Approval of March 29, 2016 Summary Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – XVII

b. Approval of Thirty-Day Review of Policies

The Administration recommended the approval of a Thirty-Day Review of the listed policies of the Derry Township School District Policy Manual:

- 004 Membership
- 011 Standards and Code of Conduct
- 115 Career and Technical Education
- 211 Student Accident Insurance
- 317 Conduct-Discipline Procedures
- 800 Records Retention
- 806 Child Abuse
- 907 School Visitors

The policies will be on display in the following locations: Hershey Public Library, District Office, and the Derry Township School District Website.

c. Approval of Thirty-Day Review of Policy (New Policy)

The Administration recommended the approval of a Thirty-Day Review of the listed policy of the Derry Township School District Policy Manual:

- 824 Maintaining Professional Adult-Student Boundaries

The policy will be on display in the following locations: Hershey Public Library, District Office, and the Derry Township School District Website.

d. Approval of Thirty-Day Review of New Board Operating Guideline

The Administration recommended the approval of a Thirty-Day Review of the listed Board Operating Guideline of the Derry Township School District Policy Manual:

- 005-BOG-4 Principles for Governance and Leadership

The Guideline will be on display in the following locations: Hershey Public Library, District Office, and the Derry Township School District Website.

e. Requests for the Use of School Facilities

The Administration recommended the approval of the following Requests for the Use of School Facilities:

Group: Hershey Soccer Club

Date/Time: May 15, 28, 2016

Requested Facility: June 19, 2016
322 Turf Field - 3:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
High School Locker Rooms (4) - 2:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

May 22, 2016

June 11, 2016

322 Turf Field - 6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

High School Locker Rooms (2) - 5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

June 4, 12, 18, 2016

July 2, 2016

322 Turf Field - 5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

High School Locker Rooms (2) - 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Event: Hershey FC Women's Premier Soccer League and National Premier Soccer League Games

Fee: Rental of Turf Field: \$55/per hour per field
Turf Field Manager: \$30 per hour
Custodian: \$41.64 per hour or per HESPA Contract Rate

Group: Hershey Youth Field Hockey/Hershey High School Field Hockey Booster Club

Date/Time: June 27 - 30, 2016
5:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Requested Facility: 322 Turf Field

Event: Youth Field Hockey Camp

Fee: None

f. Announcement of Staff Development Conference

Staff Member: Jean Good

Conference: National Association of College Admissions Counselors

Location: Columbus, OH

Dates: September 22-24, 2016

Expenses: \$1,195.00

5. NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution - Continuing Disclosure Requirements

The Administration recommended the Board approve the resolution authorizing the business manager to file the audited financial report for continuing disclosure compliance prior to the Board's acceptance of the audit report.

Minutes

Following a motion by Mrs. Neal and a second by Mrs. Eby the resolution authorizing the business manager to file the audited financial report for continuing disclosure compliance prior to the Board's acceptance of the audit report was approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	8	Chris Barrett, Brian Shiflett, Julie Neal, Terry Singer, Heidi Eby, Kathy Sicher, Jennifer Mysel, Maria Memmi
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	1	Jayanth Franklin

MOTION CARRIED**b. Approval of CAIU 2016-2017 General Operating Budget**

The Administration recommended the approval of the 2016-2017 Capital Area Intermediate Unit General Operating Budget. Derry Township School District's contribution to the General Operating Budget is \$52,549.88.

Minutes

Following a motion by Mrs. Eby and a second by Mrs. Mysel the approval of the 2016-2017 Capital Area Intermediate Unit General Operating Budget was approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	8	Maria Memmi, Jennifer Mysel, Kathy Sicher, Heidi Eby, Terry Singer, Julie Neal, Brian Shiflett, Chris Barrett
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	1	Jayanth Franklin

MOTION CARRIED**c. Approval of Technology Port to Port Internet**

The Administration recommended the Board approve the 3-year agreement with Comcast Cable Communications for port to port internet bandwidth between the district administration building and Transportation department at a cost of \$600/month.

Minutes

Following a motion by Mrs. Eby and a second by Mrs. Mysel the three year agreement with Comcast Cable Communications for port to port internet bandwidth between the district administration building and transportation department was approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	8	Maria Memmi, Jennifer Mysel, Kathy Sicher, Heidi Eby, Terry Singer, Julie Neal, Brian Shiflett, Chris Barrett
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	1	Jayanth Franklin

MOTION CARRIED

d. Approval of Buses for Online Auction

The Administration recommended the Board approve the contract with 422 Sales for the auction of Bus 6 (2007 Bluebird), Bus 7 (2005 Bluebird), and Bus 18 (2005 Bluebird).

Minutes

Following a motion by Mrs. Eby and a second by Mr. Barrett the approval the contract with 422 sales for the auction of bus 6 (2006 Bluebird), bus 7 (2005 Bluebird), and bus 18 (2005 Bluebird) was approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	8	Chris Barrett, Brian Shiflett, Julie Neal, Terry Singer, Heidi Eby, Kathy Sicher, Jennifer Mysel, Maria Memmi
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	1	Jayanth Franklin

MOTION CARRIED

e. Personnel – General

1. The Administration recommended the approval of the following appointments:

Classified:

Cooper, Dominique

Substitute Bus Driver

District-wide

Salary: \$16.83 per hour

Effective: 04/12/2016

Transfer of Classified Staff:

May, Beverly*

From: Substitute Bus Driver

District-wide

To: Bus Driver (replacing Ronald Reedy)

District-wide

Level A: 5.25 hours per day

Salary: \$16.83 per hour

Effective: 04/12/2016

2. The Administration recommends the approval of the following request in accordance with Section 6.10 of the HEA Collective Bargaining Agreement:

Melhorn, Emma*

English Teacher

Middle School

Paid/Unpaid Childrearing Leave

Effective: 08/15/2016 through the end of the 2016-2017 school year

*** This individual is currently an employee. Clearances are on file.**

Minutes

Following a motion by Mr. Barrett and a second by Mrs. Eby the personnel - general items were approved.

Vote Results

Aye:	8	Maria Memmi, Jennifer Mysel, Kathy Sicher, Heidi Eby, Terry Singer, Julie Neal, Brian Shiflett, Chris Barrett
No:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Not Cast:	1	Jayanth Franklin

MOTION CARRIED

6. DELEGATE REPORT

a. Dauphin County Technical School

Minutes

Mr. Shiflett attached his report for the Dauphin County Technical School.

b. PSBA

Minutes

Mrs. Sicher attached her report for the Pennsylvania School Board Association.

7. SPECIAL REPORTS

a. Board Members' Report

Minutes

The following members provided reports to the Board:

- Mrs. Memmi - Student Wellness Committee Update

b. Superintendent's Report

Minutes

Mr. McFarland provided the Board with the following updates:

- Special Education Comprehensive Strategic Plan
- Recognition of HS Librarian (PA Teacher of the Year Finalist)
- Recognition of Key Club activity (Walk for Clean Water)

c. Board President's Report

Minutes

Mr. Shiflett provided the Board with the following updates:

- PA School Funding Formula

8. RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS**Minutes**

The following citizens were recognized by the Board:

- Ray Faidley - Changes in public education

9. ADJOURNMENT**Minutes**

Following a motion by Mr. Barrett and a second by Mrs. Mysel the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

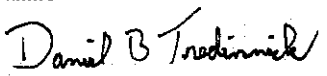
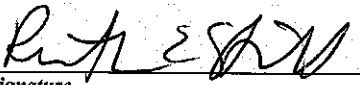
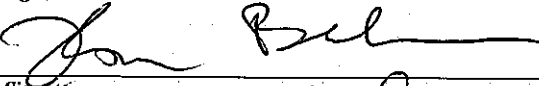
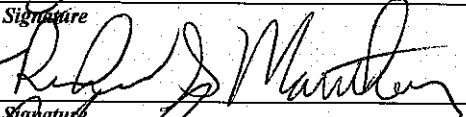
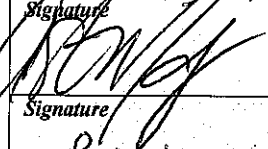
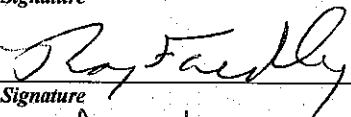
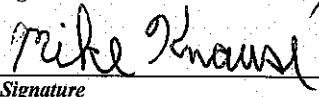
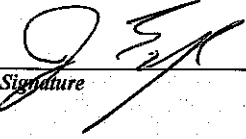
Michael Frentz
Secretary to the Board
Approved at the April 25, 2016 meeting

Brian L. Shiflett
President of the Board of Directors

JWR

Derry Township School District
General Services Committee
October 13, 2015

Please Sign In AND Print Your Name


Signature 	Printed Name Dan Tredinnick
Signature 	Printed Name Ruth Still
Signature 	Printed Name Theresa Baker
Signature 	Printed Name Richard Manthey
Signature 	Printed Name Eric Valentin
Signature 	Printed Name RAY FAIRLEY
Signature 	Printed Name Mike Krause
Signature 	Printed Name Justin Fagle
Signature	Printed Name
Signature	Printed Name
Signature	Printed Name
Signature	Printed Name

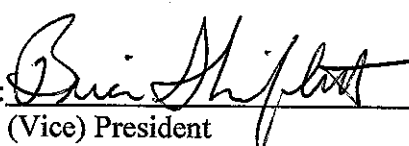
DERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PRELIMINARY USE BY
THE BUSINESS MANAGER OF ANNUAL AUDITED
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT
FOR PURPOSES OF CONTINUING DISCLOSURE
COMPLIANCE.

BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of School Directors ("Board") of Derry Township School District ("School District"), Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, that the Business Manager of the School District is hereby authorized and directed, when necessary, and prior to and in anticipation of formal acknowledgment, receipt and approval by the Board, to file and make such use of annual audited financial statements received by the School District, to ensure compliance with the continuing disclosure obligations of the School District arising under Rule 15c2-12 adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.

DULY RESOLVED by the Board this 11th day of April, 2016.

Attest: 
Secretary

DERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
By: 
(Vice) President

RESOLUTION

Regarding the Capital Area Intermediate Unit General Operating Budget for the 2016-17 Fiscal Year

Section 9-964(6) of the Pennsylvania School Code of 1949 as amended, requires that each intermediate unit budget "shall be approved by (i) at least a majority of the school districts comprising the intermediate unit; and (ii) at least a majority of the proportionate votes of all school directors".

At a meeting held on April 11, 2016
by a vote of 8 aye to 0 nay, with 0 abstaining and 1 absent,
as recorded in the minutes, the members of the School Board of the
Derry Township School District,
a member of the Capital Area Intermediate Unit, approved ✓ or disapproved _____
the General Operating Budget of the Capital Area Intermediate Unit for the 2016-17 fiscal year.

Ben Shiflett
Board President

4/11/2016
Date

Attest:

[Signature]
Board Secretary

4/12/16
Date

Instructions: Please e-mail this completed form as a PDF to dmoran@caiu.org, or send by US Postal Service to Daren Moran, CAIU Business Office, 55 Miller Street, Enola, PA 17025. Each school district is required to file a copy of this form with the CAIU and it is made part of the CAIU budget file to confirm compliance with PA School Code Section 9-964(6).



Dauphin County Technical School

March 2016

FIND YOUR DIRECTION

It was Raining Money at DCTS...\$10,148.21 to be Exact!

by Mr. Clinton Heath, Assistant Principal

In 1972, Charles and Irma Millard, a Lancaster County couple who lost their son, Christopher to cancer, established the Four Diamonds Fund. Their idea was to start a fund that would prevent financial devastation to local Central PA families whose children have cancer. The fund got its name from an essay that Christopher wrote after undergoing cancer treatment. The Four Diamonds are significant in meaning, representing courage, wisdom, strength, and honesty. Since 1972, over 3,300 families have benefited from the Fund with the mission of conquering childhood cancer by assisting children treated at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital and their families through superior care, comprehensive support, and innovative research. To help support this wonderful cause, schools from all over Pennsylvania host their own mini-thons, all in an effort to raise money to fight childhood cancer and teach young people how beneficial it is to help others in their time of need.

This year, DCTS decided to join in the good fight and host our own Four

Diamonds events. Two kick-off assemblies were held on January 19 to aid in building excitement for our first mini-thon. The student led assembly featured a Four Diamonds testimonial video and dynamic guest speaker, Tracy Kerchner, who discussed her personal experiences of her son's battle with cancer. In addition to the kick-off assembly, several other activities were planned to set the stage for the mini-thon, which included having an awareness table set up at open house, a tee shirt design contest, and various fund raising events. The week prior to the mini-thon students voted on their favorite teacher challenges, helping to build momentum going into the event. The four winning challenges were carried out during the school-wide Four Diamonds social on March 11. A special thank you goes out to Miss Robinson, Mr. Hollen, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. Stumpf for throwing their dignity out the window and following through with their challenge!

On Friday, March 11, Dauphin County Technical School held its first Four

Diamonds mini-thon. Approximately 100 students and 30 staff members participated in an evening of sports, games, dancing and fun in hopes of reaching our goal of raising \$5,000.00. DCTS is very proud to announce, because of such generous student and staff participants and sponsors, we more than doubled our goal: raising a total of \$10,148.21! We would like to thank our amazing student body, staff and community members for coming together and contributing to this outstanding fundraising effort! We plan to go bigger and better in 2017!



2016 Pennsylvania Home Show

Students from Building Construction Technology, Carpentry, Electrical Construction & Maintenance, Masonry, and Ornamental Horticulture collaborated to create a beautiful outdoor venue for the 2016 Pennsylvania Home Show held at the State Farm Show Complex in March.

Special thank you to their instructors: Mr. Brightbill, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Liddick, Mr. Civitello, and Mr. Arnold.



DCTS Masonry in Action

The masonry students had an opportunity to work on a "live" job site in March. Students were asked by Central Dauphin East High School to rebuild their baseball dugouts that were burned down earlier in the year. The students were able to put their skills and knowledge to work by constructing the dugouts professionally and timely. Students from all four grades contributed and knocked the ball out of the park in two days!



Students of the Month

9th Grade – Letrele Roberts, Building Construction Technology

Letrele's home school is Susquehanna Township. He enjoys playing video games, watching YouTube, and reading comic books. Letrele is a member of Student Council and volunteers at parks and recreation areas during the summer. His future plans are to attend college and become a freelance contractor.

10th Grade – Justin Stinson, Carpentry

Justin's home school is Central Dauphin East. He enjoys sports and purchasing sneakers. Justin is involved in the Basketball and Carpentry Clubs. His future plan is to start a clothing business.

11th Grade – Joseph Clement, Automotive Technology

Joseph's home school is Central Dauphin. He enjoys collecting football and baseball cards, watching sports, and hanging out with friends and family. Joseph is involved in the Hangman Club and Church. He also volunteers at Breast Cancer Walks. Joseph's future plan is to further his education in Automotive Technology.

11th Grade – Katelyn Sharrow, Graphic Arts

Katelyn's home school is Lower Dauphin. She enjoys reading, drawing, stargazing, space exploration, engineering, and art. Katelyn is a member of Normality Zero Robotics Team and volunteers at the East Hanover Park and Recreation Outdoor Program. Her future plans are to attend college for aerospace engineering and build spaceships for NASA.

12th Grade – Trent Dietrich, Precision Metals

Trent's home school is Central Dauphin East. He enjoys metal working, archery, marksmanship, reading, and playing the cello. Trent is a member of Normality Zero Robotics Team, a student ambassador, and involved in the DCTS Four Diamonds mini-thon. He volunteers at the Food Bank and assists with Eagle Scout Projects. Trent's future plans are to attend Penn State for Biomedical Engineering and Post-College Military Service.

Rotary – Rebecca Diner, Health Careers

Rebecca's home school is Central Dauphin East. She enjoys spending time with family and friends. Rebecca is a member of the National Honor Society and a Student Ambassador. She also volunteers at the YMCA Summer Camp. Rebecca's future plans are to finish her EMT course at HACC and become a Trauma Nurse.





Normality Zero

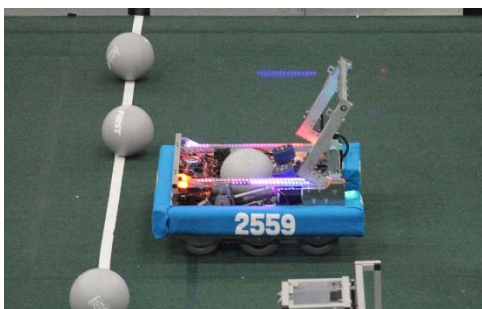
The Dauphin County Technical School Robotics Team, Normality Zero, attended the Hatboro-Horsham High School FIRST Robotics Competition (Mid-Atlantic Robotics Qualifying Competition) on March 4-6. After a rough start to the weekend, the team pulled it together to secure themselves the 13th position at the end of the qualifying matches. In this position, they were selected as a second alliance pick for by the second place team. With this alliance during the elimination rounds, they made it all the way to the finals before being eliminated. Overall, ending as a finalist was a great achievement for the team whose robot seemingly did not want to stay together. This performance gained the team 37 qualifying points towards the Regional Competition.

Upcoming Competitions: The Westtown School District's Mid-Atlantic Robotics, FIRST Robotics Competition in West Chester on April 1-3. This is the second of two qualifying districts which Normality Zero is participating. The team will have the opportunity to earn points towards securing a spot at the Regional Championship at Lehigh University's Stabler Arena in Bethlehem on April 14-16. Teams from all over the Mid-Atlantic region participate in this event in hopes to advance all the way to the World Championship held in St. Louis on April 28-30.

Meet the Team: Austin Clement, Trent Dietrich, Kyle Felty, Raquel-Ann Garcia, Noah Greene, Curtis Heater, Drew Hobbs, Kyle Kelly, Benjamin Monaco, Sheldon Pink, Katelyn Sharrow, Mohammad Tanveer, Evan Tonkin, and Larry Vega

Mentors: Adam Dawson, Dean Jacobs, Ashley Stoner, Emilie Tekely, Rob Baragona, Sara Bolha, Evan Colarusso, Riddhi Khinvasara, Alexander King, Maurizio Marcurio, Bill Miller, and Dan Tekely

Major Sponsors: TE Connectivity, The Hershey Company, Janville Home Improvement



Zoo America invades DCTS

On March 11, Tyler Bridgehouse from the outreach program at Zoo America came to DCTS. The presentation was given to the Veterinary Assistant students and focused on some of the North American wildlife animals they have at the zoo. Some of the animals Tyler brought along were a Red Tailed Hawk; Tortoise; Skunk; Owl; Black Rat Snake; Baby Alligator; and Ferret. The students learned nutrition facts, husbandry, behavior and handling, unique characteristics, anatomy, and history of each animal. Students also learned what it is like to be a Zoo Keeper. The presentation was very informative and interactive. Students left the auditorium with a new respect and gained new insight for the zoology and wildlife field.



DCTS Billboard Showcase

To celebrate Career and Technical Education month, a billboard designed by Commercial Art students Helen Dreher and Quique Garcia, is located on US 22 & 3798 Walnut Street. The billboard will be up from March 14 through April 10. Students from Commercial Art, Graphic Arts, and Marketing visited Lamar Advertising to learn about the billboard initiative. The billboard, sponsored by TechLink, showcases our great school and CTE opportunities.



Physics in Action

On March 23, the physics classes left the confines of room 2109 and invaded the program areas. The event was a demonstration of a lesson on the force of friction. In the arena, the students got to experience the reduction of friction first-hand on a hovercraft.

During classroom demonstrations and discussions, students learned that friction is a force caused by the interaction of other forces and the two surfaces in contact. They also learned that when two surfaces come into contact, they create a unique value called the coefficient of friction. Each physics student was given the opportunity to ride the hovercraft and experience this method of cheating friction.

The hovercraft used by the physics class is very simple to build. It is a disk of about four feet in diameter cut from thick plywood. The bottom of the disk is covered by a light canvas skirt with a few strategically placed holes. A single hole in the plywood gives the intake for the air pressure to lift the hovercraft off the floor. The air pressure is supplied by a cordless leaf blower.



Announcements

BC CARES PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 2 from 7:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the Cafeteria. Cost is \$6.00. Blueberry pancakes will be on the menu!

SPRING DINNER & SILENT AUCTION

Friday, April 22 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Doors Open at 5:00 p.m.

Menu:

"Pirates of the Caribbean" Hors D'Oeuvres Station

"Ponce de Leon's Fountain of Youth" Salad Station

"Marco Polo" Pasta Station

"Olde England" Carving Station

"Treasure Chest" of Desserts

Tickets:

Adults \$30.00

DCTS Students \$25.00

Children (10 & under) \$10.00

For Reservations Call (717) 652-1320

THE BURG MAGAZINE

The March 2016 edition of The Burg, Greater Harrisburg's Community Magazine featured an article on Harrisburg students attending DCTS. *Learning Curve* by Phyllis Zimmerman features Cedrickia Hawkins, Mohammad Tanveer, Nila Cobb, and Jeremiah Ellison.

REGIONAL BOWLING TOURNAMENT

The Varsity Wolverines took their talents to Lancaster to compete in the Eastern PA Regional Bowling Championships.

In the singles portion of the tournament, Brittney Marsh qualified in 5th place, out of 151 bowlers, earning herself a trip to Pittsburgh to compete for the State Championship. During her six games of bowling, she never scored below a 204. Way to go, Brittney!

Arthur Felty, Dylan Dundore, and Tyler Garrett competed against 180 of the best bowlers in the State. Arthur led the Wolverine trio with a 26th place finish, followed by Dylan in 79th and Tyler in 149th.

In the team portion of the tournament, the Wolverines finished in 16th place out of 40 — only 240 pins away from making it to States. Congratulations to Dylan Dundore, Arthur Felty, Tanner Goggin, Brittney Marsh, Tyler Garrett, and Dylan Shumaker on an amazing season!

CEAD – CREATIVE EXPRESSIONS AT DCTS

Creative Expressions at DCTS will be hosting Open-Mic Nights throughout the 2015/2016 School Year. Want to play an instrument? No Problem! Want to try reading that poem you wrote? No Problem! You just need to come and experience the fun! Join in, sing along, try something new – just show up!

Culinary Dining Room from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

- April 8
- May 20

ANNUAL SPRING BULB FUNDRAISER

FFA is taking orders for spring bulbs from April 4-15. Delivery will be the week of May 2. Please contact Matt Arnold at marnold@dcts.org for details.

NO SCHOOL

Monday, April 25 (In-Service Day)

Monday, May 25 (Memorial Day)

DCTS ADULT AND CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES

Now registering for Auto Body & Refinishing, Emissions, Emissions Re-Cert, Forklift, OSHA 30, Small Engine Repair, Basic Welding II, Electrical Construction, and Safety Inspection. Current class offerings are for April, May and June.

Additional course selections can be added and/or customized training can be designed to meet the needs of a specific company or organization.

Call Barb Maroney, Adult and Continuing Education Coordinator, at (717) 652-3170 x7437 or visit www.dcts.org under Adult Education.





**PSBA Advocacy Forum, Monday, April 4, 2016,
Capitol Complex, Harrisburg, Pa**
Kathy Sicher & Julie Neal,
Derry Township School Director Liaisons

On Monday, we attended the PSBA Advocacy Forum at the Pennsylvania State Capitol. There were several speakers at the morning meeting. Representative Kristin Phillips-Hill spoke as a former school board member and current Representative about the need to voice our concerns at the state level. She commented that advocacy is very important because we can tell our stories on why increased school revenue is important. She said that sometimes legislators' intentions are good, but the impact is negative. If we share our local school stories with them, it can help legislators make better decisions.

Senator Jay Costa from Allegheny County spoke and took questions from the school board directors. He commented that the governor wants the new education funding formula to close the disparity in funding, and it would be layered on top of the old method. Someone commented that cyber-charter schools have issues. A child in her district logged in at 11:59pm and logged out at 12:01pm and got credit for two days of attendance.

PSBA representatives discussed with the group the critical issues: basic education subsidy; PlanCon reimbursements; pension reform; passing a '16-'17 budget that is timely, fair, and equitable; and passing the basic education funding commission's formula for calculating school funding. Attached are the handouts from the PSBA that outline these and more priorities.

In the afternoon, we delivered the attached "leave behinds" from the PSBA called "Critical Issues Facing Public Education" and "Legislative Priority Issues for the 2015-16 Session" to Senator Rob Teplitz and Representative John Payne.

Critical Issues Facing Public Education

2016-17 State Budget: Significant challenges are still ahead for school districts as our policymakers begin to work on the 2016-17 state budget. To ensure that schools can enter into the next academic year with confidence, legislators and the governor must work diligently to overcome these challenges and pass an equitable and fair budget by June 30.

Pension Reform: There is an urgent need for both short-term and long-term pension reforms beyond what Act 120 created. The current system is financially unsustainable for the state and local school districts. The 2016-17 state budget needs to address the current pension crisis.

- School districts need meaningful, comprehensive pension reform that provides both immediate and long-term relief by reducing projected costs to school districts and taxpayers over the next two decades, while maintaining an appropriate pension benefit for school employees.
- Pension reform will allow local district budgets to keep more state and local dollars in their schools.
- Enactment of substantial long term pension reform to address the legitimate crisis of uncontrollable costs.

Basic Education Funding Commission Formula: The new school funding formula uses factors to reflect student and community differences such as poverty, local tax effort and capacity, and rural and small district condition. The formula would help close funding shortfalls and narrow the growing gap between wealthy and poorer districts.

- The formula will help to close the gap between poor and affluent districts, and is an equitable, predictable and transparent plan.
- The lack of a reliable funding formula has led the state's property owners down a road of enduring tax increases.
- Enact the BEFC formula for funding schools and other measures that would ensure this crisis does not repeat in just a few months.

PlanCon Reform: The 2016-17 state budget needs to include reimbursement for school construction and renovation projects, as well as a plan that moves towards restructuring the PlanCon approval process. Maintaining a program for state reimbursement for school construction and renovation ensures that all school districts can provide appropriate school facilities and safe and secure learning environments for their students. School districts deserve to receive the reimbursement promised.

- School districts are owed billions of dollars in promised state reimbursement for school construction and renovation projects.
- The General Assembly and governor need to deliver on the promise of providing state reimbursement for school construction and reforming the PlanCon process.

Reimbursement for Interest and Fees: The legislature and the governor need to reimburse districts for any and all interest payments they have or will have to make as a result of borrowing money due to the state's lack of fiscal responsibility.

- School districts need to be ensured that they will not be forced into a similar financial crisis in future years.



Legislative Priority Issues for the 2015-16 Session

Founded in 1895, PSBA is the voice for public education and the work of strong local school boards in the halls of the Capitol. We are committed to supporting an effective child-centered public education that is adequately and equitably funded. Pennsylvania public schools are the driving force behind – our state's economy. PSBA has identified the following issues as legislative priorities for the 2015-16 session of the General Assembly and will work to bring focus to leverage change in these areas that will improve our system of public education.

Address Pennsylvania's Pension Crisis

The state must immediately enact meaningful school employee pension reform with the dual purpose of providing long-term relief by reducing projected employer contribution rate increases and reducing projected costs to school districts and taxpayers over the next two decades, while maintaining an appropriate pension benefit for school employees.

Enact Meaningful Charter School Reform to Remove Inequities Within the System

Pennsylvania's current law allows charter schools to operate under separate rules. PSBA wants to level the playing field between charters and traditional public schools. The state must enact comprehensive and meaningful reforms to the Charter School Law to address areas of charter school operations, funding and accountability. PSBA will seek changes that require charter schools and educational management organizations (EMOs) to be subject to the same laws and regulations that all public schools must follow, including the same financial, academic and ethical accountability standards as school districts.

Reform the Charter School Formula for Special Education

The current flawed special education tuition calculation requires school districts to pay charter schools regardless of the costs of special education services provided by charter schools. As a result, school districts overpay charter schools for special education students. The new special education funding formula creates three tiers of special education tuition rates based on actual special education enrollment and weighted costs of providing a special education program to each eligible student according to several factors. Not including charter schools in this formula creates another double standard by which a charter school and a traditional public school would receive different amounts of funding to educate the same child. This system must apply equally to charter schools just as it applies to school districts.

Provide Adequate, Equitable and Fair Funding

PSBA urges the General Assembly to increase state basic education funding for public school districts with distribution in a manner that is adequate, consistent, fair and equitable and that provides districts with the greatest flexibility to use their resources. Pennsylvania must develop and maintain a system of public school financing that emphasizes a sharing of costs between the commonwealth and local school districts, recognizing that the state must provide the majority of funding for public education.

