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Minutes of the
Board of School Directors
DERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
Hershey, PA 17033

September 26, 2011

OPENING ITEMS

1.01 Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of School Directors, Derry Township School District was held on Monday, September 26, 2011, in the District Office Board Room. Dr. Henry Donahue, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

1.02 Roll Call

Directors Present: Mrs. Beulah Chabal
Dr. Donna Cronin
Dr. Henry Donahue
Mr. John Gräb
Dr. Mary Beth Hagan
Mr. Christopher Morelli
Dr. William Parrish
Mrs. Ellen Sheffey
Mr. Charles Stover

Superintendent: Dr. Richard Faidley (Excused)

Secretary: Mr. Stephen Rineer

Solicitor: Mr. Brian Jackson (Not Present)

Student Representative: Mr. Zachary Cole

Press: Mr. Nick Malawskey THE PATRIOT-NEWS

Representatives of the Administrative Staff: Mr. Dan Tredinnick, Mr. Joseph McFarland, and Dr. Bernie Kepler.

Representatives of the Staff and Community: Mark Shade, Brian Shiflett, Joseph W. Judge, Bruce Hancock, John Freeman, Maryellen Sheehan, Jeff Rosensteel, Mike Leonard, Peggy Donahue, John Donahue, Heidi Eby.

Dr. Donahue: Dr. Faidley is unable to attend this meeting. He is recovering from knee surgery. Dr. Kepler will preside.

1.03 Flag Salute

Mr. Stover led those gathered in the Salute to the American Flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.01 Approval of August 22 and September 12, 2011 School Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mrs. Chabal and seconded by Dr. Hagan to approve the minutes of the August 22 and September 12 School Board meetings. All Board members present signified by a Yes vote.

MOTION APPROVED

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

3.01 Announcement of Executive Session

Dr. Donahue: I'd like to announce that the Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss labor relations and arbitrations and matters that must be conducted in private to protect a lawful privilege or confidentiality.

3.02 Recognition of Citizens (Agenda Items)

None.

3.03 Student Representatives' Report

Mr. Cole: Stephen could not be here tonight; he has a soccer game so he's unfortunately not here. When Stephen and I accepted the position, both the School Administration and the School Board requested that we share genuine concerns that the students have in the District. So tonight, well since we last met rather, Stephen and I have been talking with fellow students and school faculty. Out of all of the concerns presented, some legitimate some not so legitimate, there appeared to be one pervasive concerns and that was very simply technology. Students are aware that the high school specifically is moving towards a one to one ratio in terms of students and computers, yet

they are also aware that if the technology is not functioning properly, it's really not effective. It's a simple situation of quality versus quantity, and we can really move towards the quantity, yet if there's not quality, we'll be eternally logged off. That's all.

Dr. Donahue: Thank you Mr. Cole. [Not audible] as something you want to relay to the students that have that concern is that we're very much wanting to develop the technology, but it's important to make sure that the teachers are also brought on board with the technology. If you experience a teacher that's not adept to this technology, it's highly problematic, but we're working on that. You can report that back. Thank you.

Mr. Cole: Thank you.

3.04 Standing Committee Report

Mr. Stover: We discussed a number of things today. Primarily, the most important thing that we went over is the budget calendar. It's very similar to what we did last year with one exception. The primary vote is now scheduled for May 24. Last year, that was scheduled for May 17, so it's about three weeks earlier than normal. The reason that's significant is that we must pass our preliminary budget 90 days prior to that, so we have to move up our passing of the preliminary budget by about three weeks which just makes this whole compressed schedule a little bit tougher than it was last year, but we'll basically be following the same timeline.

We discussed some things that we do know already. It's very difficult to put together a budget so far in advance, but at this point and time we do have at least a pretty good handle on what our HESPA costs are, our Act 93, PSERS. We do know that our index is 1.7 for this year, which is up from 1.4 last year. You plug those numbers in along with debt service. The parts that we don't know yet are what the HEA impact when that contract is finally negotiated. We don't have a clear picture on what the assessed values update is going to be and healthcare is always – it's just way too early to predict what our healthcare costs are going to be.

There were a number of changes to the PDE exceptions that are allowable. For the most part, if we were to put in for all the exceptions, we could probably get an additional about \$400,000.

We went over the enrollment numbers and actually the 3rd day enrollment numbers compared to last year, we're only up 2 students, I believe, but throughout the year, typically, we gain students so we'll probably see some growth there if things continue the way they normally do.

The bottom line of where we are – we're in a much better position than we were last year.

Dr. Donahue: Chuck, what do you mean by a better position?

Mr. Stover: Well, we're not as far – the gap isn't large. So, in other words, if we don't take any PDE exceptions, with the 1.7 index that we're allowed, that would give us an additional approximately \$1.6 million. If we do take the exceptions, it would give us an additional \$2.1 million. As hard as it is to project where we are now, we're showing an increase of about \$1.9 million. There's about a \$300,000 difference if we don't take the exceptions. That's what I'm trying to say. Last year, we were in a much much more difficult situation.

Dr. Donahue: We're over one million at this point.

Mr. Stover: Right. So it's not great, but it's better. The bottom line is that it's really difficult at this early stage in predicting these numbers, but that's the best we could do at this point. That concludes my report.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks Chuck. To the extent possible, I'd like to encourage the Committee and the Administration to put as much of this stuff online as they can. We were really transparent last year with that stop light grid that we had. It was really really helpful so eventually we'll come to that point. Thank you. Any questions for Chuck?

Mrs. Chabal: I think a clarification on the dates. You say two Mays. Did you have an April and a May? Was that the intent?

Mr. Stover: On what?

Mrs. Sheffey: You said May 24. You meant April 24.

Mrs. Chabal: Yes. I think you said May 24 instead of April 24?

Mr. Stover: Yes. April 24 is the primary. Last year it was May 17.

Mrs. Chabal: Right.

Mr. Stover: So it really moves things up.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay. Thank you.

Dr. Donahue: Any other questions for Chuck?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.01 Unfinished Business

None.

NEW BUSINESS

5.01 Approval of Finance Report for August 2011

Dr. Kepler: The Administration recommended the approval of the August 2011 Finance Report as listed.

1.	The Treasurer's Report for the month ending August 31, 2011 was summarized as follows:	
	• General Fund Revenues	\$8,382,345
	• General Fund Expenditures	3,321,706
	• Balance of Cash Plus Investments (Includes \$4,759,452 Capital Reserve)	18,369,988
2.	The listed schedule of investment transactions for the period beginning August 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011 had total interest earnings of \$3,288 comprised of the following:	
	• General Fund	\$194
	• Money Market	2,018
	• Capital Reserve	1,076
	• PA Local Government Investment Trust	0
	The average interest rate for August 2011 was .22%	
3.	The August 2011 expenditures for the paid bills for all funds totaled \$2,152,738 excluding net payroll, retirement contributions, and debt service.	
4.	The September 2011 expenditures for the unpaid bills for all funds totaled \$1,355,784.	
5.	The estimated expenditures of the General Fund for the month of September 2011 were in the following amounts:	
	• Operating Expenses	\$1,100,000
	• Utilities	171,900
	• Net Payroll (End of Year Pay)	1,218,000
	• Employer Provided Insurance	386,000
	• Payroll Deductions	560,000
	• Employer Payroll Taxes (FICA/RET)	490,000
	• Debt Service	<u>3,758,060</u>

Total Estimated Expenditures	\$7,683,960
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Mr. Gräb moved the Board approve the Finance Report and was seconded by Mrs. Sheffey.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover - Yes

9 Yes

MOTION CARRIED

5.02 Requests for Payment - Construction Projects

The Administration recommended the approval of the following invoices as reviewed and approved by Mr. Consalo:

	Middle School Expansion:	
1.	eci Construction LLC (General Contractor) Application No: 16	7,870.57
2.	A.H. Moyer (HVAC) Application No: 15	21,731.93
3.	Guy M. Cooper, Inc. (Fire Systems) Application No: 14	4,155.65
4.	Leer Electric (Electrical) Application No: 15	12,825.94

Dr. Parrish moved the Board approve the payments and was seconded by Mrs. Chabal.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover - Yes

9 Yes

MOTION CARRIED

5.03 Approval of Overnight Field Trip/Excursion - High School Chorus - Roxbury - March 2012

The Administration recommended the approval of the overnight field trip/excursion as listed:

<i>Group:</i>	High School Chorus
<i>Number of Participating Students:</i>	70
<i>Grade Level:</i>	9-12
<i>Destination:</i>	Roxbury, NJ and New York City
<i>Purpose:</i>	Roxbury High School Choir Invitational
<i>Depart:</i>	March 23, 2012
<i>Return:</i>	March 25, 2012
<i>Trip Leader:</i>	Joe Farrell

The District reserves the right to cancel the excursion based on events that could pose a heightened safety or security risk.

Dr. Cronin moved the Board approve the field trip excursion and was seconded by Dr. Parrish.

Mr. Morelli: I can't tell from this application, it looks like it's totally student funded. Is that true?

Dr. Kepler: That is correct.

Mr. Morelli: Thank you.

Dr. Donahue: Do they stay overnight?

Dr. Kepler: Yes. If it were not an overnight – the overnight is the intention of . . .

Dr. Donahue: They'll be having a night at the Roxbury then.

Dr. Kepler: They could.

Dr. Donahue: I did that last year. Nobody laughed last year either.

Roll Call Vote:
Chabal – Yes

Gräb – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Cronin – Yes
Donahue – Yes

Hagan – Yes
Morelli – Yes

Sheffey – Yes
Stover - Yes

9 Yes

MOTION CARRIED

5.04 Requests for the Use of School Facilities

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

1.	Group:	Pennsylvania Educational Technology Expo & Conference (PETE) & C
	Date/Time:	February 12, 2012 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
	Requested Facility:	High School Computer Labs
	Event:	Pre-conference Workshop Activities
	Fee:	None
2.	Group:	Hershey Women's Club
	Date/Time:	February 19, 2012 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
		Snow Date: February 26, 2012 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
	Requested Facility:	High School Cafeteria/Kitchen
	Event:	Annual Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner
	Fee:	As per Lease Agreement

Dr. Cronin moved the Board approve the requests and was seconded by Mrs. Chabal.

Roll Call Vote:
Chabal – Yes
Cronin – Yes
Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes
Hagan – Yes
Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes
Sheffey – Yes
Stover - Yes

9 Yes

MOTION CARRIED

5.05 Personnel – Resignations

The Administration recommended the approval of the following resignations:

Classified:
Waybright, Patricia General Food Service Worker Early Childhood Center Reason: Personal Effective: 09/23/2011 (retroactive)
Limited Service Contract:
Brought, Naomi Co-Set Design - Musical High School Reason: Personal Effective: 09/19/2011 (retroactive)

Mrs. Chabal moved the Board approve the resignations and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes
Cronin – Yes
Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes
Hagan – Yes
Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes
Sheffey – Yes
Stover - Yes

9 Yes

MOTION CARRIED

5.06 Personnel – General

1.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following appointments:
	Professional:
	Bucs, David * (for Jennifer Ettinger) Part-time Art Teacher Middle School Long Term Substitute Bachelors, Step 1 Salary: \$40,281.25 (pro-rated) (pending HEA Agreement)

Effective: 09/12/2011 through the end of the 2011-2012 school year (retroactive)
Classified:
Kreamer, Cecelia Substitute General Food Service Worker District-wide Salary: \$9.56 per hour Effective: 09/27/2011 (pending receipt of Act 114 clearance)
Pfeiffer, Mary Ann (replacing Kristi Bowers) Cafeteria Aide Elementary School Level A: 3.0 hours per day Salary: \$11.58 per hour Effective: 09/27/2011
Renaud, Kelly * Substitute Secretary District-wide Salary: \$14.58 per hour Effective: 09/12/2011 (retroactive)
Stough, James * (replacing Gary Mysel) Food Service/Stockroom Utility Driver Hershey Christian School Meal Run Part-time: 3.0 hours per day Monday, Wednesday, Friday Salary: \$15.58 per hour Effective: 09/27/2011
Walker, Jennifer Substitute Cafeteria/Recess Aide Elementary School Salary: \$10.10 per hour Effective: 09/27/2011 (pending receipt of Act 34 clearance)
Winblood, Susan Substitute Cafeteria/Recess Aide Elementary School Salary: \$10.10 per hour Effective: 09/27/2011 (pending receipt of Act 114 clearance)
Limited Service Contracts:
Costello, Patricia *

	Mentor to David Bucs, Long-term Substitute Part-time Art Teacher Salary: \$1,053 (pending HEA Agreement) Effective: 09/12/2011 (retroactive)
	Dell, Hailey * Volunteer Assistant Varsity Cross Country Coach High School Effective: 09/27/2011
2.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following request in accordance with District Policy 535:
	Teets, Wendy * General Food Service Worker Elementary School Paid/Unpaid Family Medical Leave (up to 12 weeks) Effective: 08/23/2011 through 11/15/2011 (retroactive)
3.	The Administration recommended the approval of the Revised Limited Service Contract List for the 2011-2012 school year as attached.
4.	The Administration recommended the approval of the Revised Limited Service Contract List of Coaches for the 2011-2012 school year as attached.
5.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following additions to the 2011-2012 Substitute Teacher List:
	Collins, Alicia B.A. in Communications from Widener University with certification in Elementary Education from Drexel University
	Davis, William * M.E. in Social Studies from Eastern New Mexico University
	Lane, Megan B.S. in Elementary Education from Millersville University of Pennsylvania
	Laviola, Joseph M.A. in Social Studies from West Virginia University
	Reese, Laura * B.A. in Social Studies from Syracuse University
	Rhine, Amber B.S. in Elementary and Special Education from Messiah College

	Shearer, Rafe M.E. in School Counseling from Temple University (pending receipt of Act 151 and 114 clearances)
	Stauffer, Christina B.S. in Elementary Education from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
	Sullivan, Melody B.S. in Elementary Education from Geneva College
	Umberger, Matthew B.S. in Elementary Education from The Pennsylvania State University
6.	The Administration recommended the approval of the Guest Teacher List for the 2011-2012 school year as attached.
*	This individual is currently an employee and/or volunteer. Clearances are on file.

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the personnel recommendations and was seconded by Mrs. Chabal.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes
Cronin – Yes
Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Yes
Hagan – Yes
Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes
Sheffey – Yes
Stover - Yes

9 Yes

MOTION CARRIED

DELEGATES REPORTS

6.01 Dauphin County Technical School Report

Mr. Gräb: We have a brief report. We had an unexpected ending to our meeting last Wednesday – lightning struck the transformers behind the building and we were without electricity. However, we did have a report on the summer school that was held at the Dauphin County Technical School and I am happy to report that all five Hershey High Students who participated did pass their course.

Dr. Lacey provided us with a revised organizational chart in an attempt to save some money over the years, we have downsized somewhat and some positions have become consultants as opposed to full time employees.

Mrs. Zaharick, the Business Manager did give us a draft report of the school finances ending June 30, 2011. In revenues, there was an excess of approximately \$1,074,000. That basically came from two areas: the one area being the Dauphin County Technical School local authority who had \$594,000 left from a bond issue issued in 1994 and they turned that over to the Tech School to be placed into their PSERS reserve fund. There was also income of \$377,000 from stop loss insurance and that makes up the vast majority of the \$1 million dollars. The expenditures came in at approximately \$87 less than what they were last year. Of that amount of money, they'd like to put the \$583,000 from the Tech School authority into the PSERS reserve fund, they'd like to put \$15,000 in a healthcare reserve allocation, they'd like to put approximately \$200,000 more into the PSERS reserve, and approximately \$50,000 into their capital reserves which leaves an amount to be returned to member districts of approximately \$310,000 and Derry Township can look forward to receiving about \$15,000 back from the Tech School.

Anything to add Mr. Morelli?

Mr. Morelli: Just one thing – the students completed a dress down day and the proceeds – they were all charged to participate – the proceeds went towards breast cancer.

Mr. Gräb: Any questions?

Dr. Donahue: Thank you John and Chris.

6.02 Harrisburg Area Community College Report

Dr. Cronin: I am waiting to hear the date of the October meeting. There hasn't been a meeting yet, and I will have a report after that.

Dr. Donahue: Thank you.

6.03 Capital Area Intermediate Unit Report

Mrs. Chabal: A very short one. There has been a tentative agreement with the Teachers Association. The Board has not yet seen the particulars of that – that will be distributed to us over this week. The IU Board will then discuss and vote on that particular contract at our upcoming meeting on October 27. It has been, I believe, two years without a contract – at least two years. It has been a long road for everyone and all of us look forward to having that settled.

I think that I had mentioned in a report several months back that the IU budget was a un-wieldedly sort of octopus. We had a quite extensive review of exactly how the total IU budget was put together at this last meeting. My intention is to give this handout to Dr. Faidley, but just real quickly: there are 70 separate budgets that are administrated by the IU. Only one of those affects - the general operating budget requires a vote by each of the district's board members and then that particular small piece of those budgets is the one that we then pay to the IU for our services. It was a very interesting examination really of these budget categories. It's very extensive. My hats off to them for really being able to juggle so many of these different budgets. Quite frankly they do a very good job of it. There are some concerns when you have so many different types of budgets that sort of weave in and out of one another, but I do think that they have done a very good job. They've got an excellent staff there working from their budgetary standpoint, so I certainly have no concerns there, but it is a huge endeavor. All of those budgets are voted on by the sitting IU Board, but only one of those budgets affects each and every one of our particular districts, so you not only have things that are ongoing that affect us as we sit around the room, but then all the additional things that the IU does in its mission to serve the overall IU area. That's all I have to say.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks Beulah. Do you have any questions for Beulah?

6.04 Derry Township Tax Collection Association Report

Mr. Stover: The Tax Association met on September 22. The most significant outcome of that meeting is that, if you remember, we'd been having a dilemma on who was going to be supporting our software come January. We were potentially looking at two options: either pay about \$1,500 a month to keep our current supplier or find a new supplier. We were having a lot of difficulty trying to find a new supplier, but some things changed in the last month and they offered us that they would support us next year for \$2,400 for the year. We were very excited at that price and we'll probably be signing that contract as soon as possible. That problem is solved and that was looming over us pretty heavily.

The other good news that I just found out today - we were very concerned that when we are no longer collecting the EIT that we're not going to be gathering employer information and we use that employer information to find out who we should be sending tax bills as people come in and leave our footprint. Keystone Collections, I found out today, has agreed that they will, on an annual basis, give us names and addresses of the people in our District - to the school. What happens is the school and the Township must request it and they will provide it to the Tax Association. That's going to be very good news as far as us being able to collect taxes from people that we have a hard time getting information on.

Our next Tax Association meeting will be held on October 20.

The Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee met on September 21. Significant items there were that we chose, voted, and selected Susquehanna Bank to be our depository. Due to the flood, we had to cancel the EIT workshops that are being provided – there are three of them being provided for employers. The new date for the employer’s workshop is October 18. There will be a 9:00 and a 1:00 session and that will be held at the Township offices.

The next Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee meeting will be on October 19.

That’s it.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks Chuck. Are there are questions for Chuck?

SPECIAL REPORTS

7.01 School Community Information Report

Mr. Tredinnick: Just as a quick follow up to Mr. Stover’s report for those of you who did not get the date that information is posted to the District website for when the 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. events will be held here in Derry Township so that is posted to our website. Also posted to our website is a rundown of the events for the upcoming Homecoming weekend which will be this coming Friday and Saturday. One item of note is a change to the traditional Homecoming parade which has historically gone through the town. Because of the ongoing construction downtown, however, there is a change to the parade route this year. The parade route now will basically entail following the tram route through the parking lot over at the Hersheypark facilities. Those of you who have enjoyed watching the parade, the floats, please make note of that and that’s where the parade will be held this year. It will go through the parking lot, surround the arena, and end up as it traditionally has then on the home side of the football field.

Also just wanted to take note as sort of a little human interest piece following up on the flooding. We had one of our bus drivers who had some pretty severe damage at her home due to the flooding. We found out very recently that the parents of the children on that bus drivers bus route have banded together and performed work at that bus driver’s home. I just want to report that for the Board. I felt that was a nice gesture on the community and the parents’ part to help out one of our employees.

Dr. Donahue: Great. Excellent. Thanks Dan. Any questions for Dan?

Dr. Hagan: I have a question about the homecoming parade. Where should everybody park when they’re going to watch the parade. We want to try and get as many people there.

Mr. Tredinnick: I would suggest parking as you typically would for the football game.

Dr. Hagan: What if we don't want to stay for the game – that wouldn't be anybody here.

Mr. Tredinnick: But the good news is since the parade starts at 6 and the game doesn't start until 7 that you would have the opportunity.

Dr. Hagan: Okay. I'm just trying to picture in my head where exactly . . .

Dr. Donahue: Any other questions for Dan?

Dr. Hagan: Thank you.

7.02 Board Members' Report

Mr. Gräb: Mr. President, would it be possible to follow the Superintendent's Report with a couple comments? I don't want to steal his thunder.

Dr. Donahue: Sure.

Mr. Gräb: Thank you.

7.03 Superintendent's Report

Dr. Donahue: In lieu of the Superintendent's Report, we have Dr. Kepler giving the, well I guess it's still the Superintendent's Report.

Dr. Kepler: On behalf of Dr. Faidley.

Dr. Donahue: On behalf of Dr. Faidley.

Dr. Kepler: The middle school field trip survey has concluded and we are in the process of compiling that data. We'll get that out to you, the Board, in the days ahead and we'll post that on the website for our public and administratively we'll be reviewing that and bringing forward a recommendation at the October 10th Board meeting.

The ECC update: this week should be a telling week for us as compaction grouting continues in the front section or entrance area of the building. With compaction grouting, in essence a sand concrete mixture, is pumped into the ground to stabilize the footing and structure of those exterior weight bearing walls. We're working closely with our insurance agent and adjuster. We're working closely with geo-technical engineers, structural engineers, and our architect. At this point, cause is not finally or totally determined as once that compaction grouting work is complete, the idea by end of this week is we should have that front area footer exposed so that the professionals can ascertain really what is going on below the surface. We'll know further from that point what our long term mitigation and repair will be. At this point, our timeline is really

unknown. We'll be able to assess that at week's end as well how long, in fact, our kindergarten and first grade classes will be relocated. We'll have much more information come October 10. For any updates on that, we encourage you to use our website as our authoritative source of that information.

The Administrative team last week continued to focus on the tweaking of our K-1 arrival and dismissal and intricacies of security, etc. We have not yet debriefed ourselves as a team about the events of February 7. Did I say February? It feels like February. September 7. So we'll be doing that tomorrow. We have solicited input from our entire faculty and we'll be moving forward on that as we assess what went well and what we can improve upon.

Online – just for our public and parents – the Pennsylvania Youth survey is something that we're joining the efforts of this year. Every district in the county has conducted this in years past and it's been over a decade, at least, since we've done it here. Parents can view that survey through our webpage and there is a form should a family choose not to have a child in 6th, 8th, 10th or 12th grade participate in that drug and alcohol-based survey. They can certainly fill out that form and be exempt from taking that survey.

One last update and I'll turn it over to Mr. McFarland actually for an update on our Hershey Online Academy.

Mr. McFarland: Last year when we were looking at this option, we had shared with you that the breakeven point for us as a District was 5 students. At this point, we currently have 6 students enrolled. Three of those students are special education students and three are regular ed students. It's been an interesting journey along the way as we've been stepping our foot into the cyber world. I would say probably none of the students have been what we expected as far as the traditional, easy enrollment. They've all had their little intricacies, but it's been a journey for us moving forward. Our mentor has been actively involved getting the students enrolled, getting their equipment to them, and checking in with attendance and making sure that they're keeping up with their work.

We're taking copious notes as we look forward and looking at where do we want to go next with this. The Capital Area Online Learning Association this year began an elementary cyber curriculum. So now they have a K-12 offering that at some point down the road we'll want to look at. Some schools are also looking at blended environments which will be another avenue that we'll need to discuss down the road. But, we're happy to report that we have 6 students currently and we also have 7 students enrolled in the Chinese/Japanese courses which we offered before, but we're now offering through the Hershey Online Academy, so that's been going well too. So that's the update.

Dr. Donahue: Great. Are there questions for either Bernie or Joe? Mr. Gräß?

Mr. Gräb: Thank you Mr. President. I just wanted to know that when the difficulties arose at the Early Childhood Center, Dr. Faidley and Dr. Kepler asked me because I'm Chairman of the General Services Committee to tour the facilities. It was obvious there were some difficulties there, but what I would like to do is commend the entire staff – the custodians, the food service people, the transportation people, the administrative assistants, the Administrators and how easily they were able to move from their old classroom into the new classrooms that were being constructed. In fact, some people were putting up visual aids on the walls as the electricians were putting the final touches on the electrical boxes. I just want to commend those people in the group and I just wanted to make a public statement on that comment. Thank you.

Dr. Donahue: Great. Thank you John. Any other comments?

7.04 Board President's Report

Dr. Donahue: Along similar lines, earlier today the District was privileged to receive a copy of a commendation issued through the Dauphin County Commissioners office. I wanted to share with my fellow Board members, our community, and have it entered into the official record of this evening's meeting.

So this is a Proclamation from the Dauphin County Office of County Commissioner

We, the Dauphin County Board of Commissioners, are grateful for this opportunity to commend and congratulate the Derry Township School District for serving students with such noteworthy distinction;

Whereas, it is with great pride that Dauphin County applauds the District in their response to major flooding that occurred in September and for sheltering in place many who could not safely travel home;

Whereas, the teachers stayed and cared for the students, provided 1,600 meals, and unselfishly gave their time when some had flood waters encroaching on their own homes;

Whereas, it is reassuring to know that there are dedicated bus drivers who made critical life-saving decisions to ensure the safety of students when the roads became impassable;

Whereas, in a time of need, the Hershey Middle School was utilized as a Red Cross Shelter;

Whereas, putting public safety first, Derry Township School District and its caring and capable staff have gone above and beyond the call of duty during the worst flood this region has seen in decades;

Therefore, we join the 268,300 residents of Dauphin County in thanking Derry Township School District and its outstanding administration and staff for their exemplary dedication to public safety; we applaud their life-saving work; and, in honor thereof, we do hereby proudly declare September 26, 2011 to be “Derry Township School District Day” in Dauphin County.

It’s signed by Jeffrey Haste, Mike Pries, and George Hartwick. This will be presented to the Administration and I’d like to applaud their efforts also.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS (Non-Agenda Items)

8.01 Recognition of Citizens (Agenda and Non-Agenda Items)

Mike Leonard: I guess I have a question on – just curious to know if I’m supposed to be on the General Service Committee as a citizen advisor. I’m wondering when the last meeting of that was – somehow I’m out of the loop of those meetings. Last time I attended one would have been last December or January.

Male Voice: Mr. Gräb?

Mr. Gräb: I think one is being scheduled for this coming year. Off the top of my head, I do not know, but I will defer to Dr. Kepler.

Dr. Kepler: Mike, you’re probably correct and it was last – you have not missed a meeting – the last General Services Committee meeting was sometime mid year last year as we focused heavily on finance throughout the spring of the year. We reviewed in Finance Committee tonight that General Services will meet for the first time again on October 24.

Mr. Leonard: Alright. I guess I just stand here this evening a little frustrated and quite frankly dumbfounded by the lack of the General Service Committee meetings. A little background: Mike Leonard, lives in Hershey since 2nd grade 1969. I’ve been attending School Board meetings on and off for a considerable amount of time. Before meetings when Dr. DiSanti was here to discuss whether we were going with one campus. I’ve had many a chance to talk and present ideas – some I believe have helped save money, others maybe not heard, but I was able to speak and give it a shot. I realized a few years ago when I’m in the meetings and the decisions are being made about spending, at that point, most of the discussions are over and the decisions have been made. There’s a lot of effort that goes into this, I realize. Even though I might not decide with the decisions, a lot of talk is done before the decision is made, and I felt that I was in on the tail end of that and couldn’t persuade things too much. I was asked to be on the General Service Committee and thought, wow, I could plant some input ahead of time and maybe make a bigger impact on savings. I started with excitement and anticipation only to have the same old thing creep in. The feeling that no one really wants to hear it anyway. If you look on the School Board docs in Derry Township, it

says the Board of School Directors of Derry Township School acknowledges and encourages citizens' participation as a vital component for maintaining quality education. You can read on and on about how important it's supposed to be. All I hear is lack of money this and that. It was offered to the school for the tennis courts to be cleaned off by volunteers, an outside source if someone would cover the costs, there was a no there. It was offered for someone to have Pennsy Supply come in and put sewn in track, I guess it was a no there. Oh yeah, and the \$5,000 I offered for the field trip, no one ever contacted me yet. I am frustrated. I hear a Board member say we should be thankful, we could have raised taxes over the years and save that amount of money. I see quoted in the paper the Board's responsibility to be good stewards and make sure money is being spent properly and on and on. May I suggest you implement the General Service Committee, which I compliment you on, on a regular basis to start really trying to get input on how to save money?

Dr. Donahue: Thank you. Other comments from the community?

ADJOURNEMENT

9.01 Adjournment

Dr. Donahue: The next public School Board meeting will be held Monday, October 10, 2011 starting at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room.

Dr. Cronin moved to adjourn, with a second by Mrs. Chabal and, approved by unanimous voice vote by all members. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen E. Rineer
Secretary to the Board
Approved at the October 10, 2011 meeting

Dr. Henry Donahue
President of the Board

LDM