DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
January 23, 2007

The Danville Area School Board held their meeting in the Senior High School Cafeteria on Tuesday, January 23, 2007.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Randy Keister followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL - Board Members

Mrs. Carol Bisordi, Mrs. Helen Hause, Mrs. Kellie Krum, Dr. Paul Moser, Mrs. Megan Raup, Mr. Allan Schappert, Mr. Steven Schooley, Mr. Randy Keister, were present.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Steven Keifer, Superintendent; Mr. Richard B. Snodgrass, Business Administrator; Mrs. Gwen Belding, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Craig Burger, Principal, High School; Mrs. Abbey Walshaw-Wertz, Assistant Principal, Middle School; Mr. Daniel Rathfon, Principal, Liberty-Valley Elementary; Mr. Scott Zimmerman, Principal, Riverside Elementary; Mrs. Susan Blake, Director of Head Start; Mr. Rick Engle, Director of Maintenance; Mrs. Ricki Boyle, Director of Student Support Services; Mr. James Garringer, Director of Network Administration; Mrs. Marie Dryer, Office Manager; and approximately 15 members of the staff and public, and news media.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Mr. Keifer presented a proposed a date and agenda for a public meeting on the DASD Facilities project. It was agreed to hold the meeting on February 20, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the Danville Middle School cafeteria.

Mr. Keifer also suggested that the district prepare a report on an annual basis that would provide district teaching and learning data from the previous school year. He explained that this information would be especially helpful in an Act I environment.

Mr. Keifer noted that goals for the next school year are being prepared by the Administrative team and will be presented at the next board meeting.

At 7:05 p.m. Mr. Martinez arrived.

II. Board Affiliation Reports

- CSIU Board - Carol Bisordi reported that the CSIU strategic plan was presented at the board meeting last Wednesday. The possibility of joint Act I advertising among interested school districts was discussed as a potential cost saving measure.
- Vo-Tech Board - Megan Raup reported that the Vo-Tech hired a new principal, Mr. Greg Capoccioni, and that the budget will be reviewed at next month's meeting.
- EI Tax Board - Fil Martinez reported that there had been no meeting of the EI Tax Board.
- Head Start Policy Council - Susan Blake will be presenting Head Start information later in meeting.
- Legislative - Allan Schappert and Helen Hause reported that the PA Legislature is back in session, but there has not been much activity that relates to education. They suggested that there may be a need to consider public education on Act I.

III. Student Representative Report

There was no student representative report at this time.

IV. Public Comment

Bill Klein, school bus driver/contractor for sixty years in the district, requested that his contract be transferred to Keith Hilkert.

Keith Hilkert, school bus driver for Joe and Jans, spoke regarding his work experience.

Mr. Keister responded that Mr. Klein and Mr. Hilkert should contact Mr. Snodgrass to submit the required forms.

Barb Moyer inquired about a possible snow make-up day for the February 20th meeting, and also about committee members on the DEA negotiations committee.

Darla Gill asked questions regarding the agenda for the public meeting scheduled for February 20, 2007.

Dawn Gill asked questions regarding the drug testing program for students that was discussed last year.

IV. Curriculum and Management Report

A. There were no questions or comments on the buildings' Calendars of Events.

B. Ricki Boyle presented information on the Olweus Program that was initiated in the district's elementary schools and middle school in September and October of this school year. She explained the origins of the program, the definition of bullying and the methods being used to implement the program. She stressed that Olweus is not a curriculum, but a building-wide initiative to create a bully-free environment in the schools by changing attitudes regarding what is acceptable behavior.

C. Susan Blake distributed Head Start annual reports and explained that the Danville Head Start program was selected as one of the agencies selected to receive a state grant that will fund the Head Start extended year program. She extended an invitation to school board members to visit the Danville Head Start program. Mrs. Blake reviewed the survey that board members are required to complete as part of the Head Start planning process. She also discussed the National Reporting System Scores from last year, noting that Danville Head Start students tested at the beginning of the school year and again in the spring showed an increase in knowledge in every area in which they were tested.

V. School and Community Relations

VI. Finance

A. Dick Snodgrass presented 2007-2008 Preliminary Budget information, reviewing estimated millage rates and significant issues such as health insurance rates, PSERS retirement rate, and local and state revenues. A Budget Resolution will be presented to the board for approval at a later meeting.

B. Mr. Snodgrass also discussed the May Tax Referendum question regarding real estate tax reduction under Act I, explaining that the referendum must be placed on the primary ballot. He reviewed the Tax Study Commission recommendation and presented several examples of the effect this recommendation would have on various individuals (homeowners, renters, farmers, retirees). He also expressed the need to provide public education on the Act I referendum question at school board meetings and other locations convenient to the public.

C. Mr. Snodgrass explained the Act I requirement for the board to adopt a resolution by June 30, 2007 authorizing real estate tax installment payments for owners of homesteads or farmsteads. He reviewed proposed installment due dates and consideration of the impact on the tax collection process.

VII. Personnel

Motion: **(Approving Personnel Items A through D.)**
A motion was made by Jim Moser to approve Personnel Agenda Items A. through D.

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the retirement of Jerone Greene as Custodian, effective May 15, 2007.

B. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of additions to the 2006-2007 Substitute List (Teachers, Teacher Aides, Custodians, Cafeteria Workers, Secretaries, etc.).

C. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Kristin Bowers as an Aide, effective January 25, 2007.

D. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of Dale Myers as an Aide at Danville High School at $7.51 per hour effective January 25, 2007.

The motion was seconded by Sis Hause.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 9 yes, 0 no.

VIII. School Property and Supplies

IX. Policy & Insurance.

Motion: **(Approving Art Class out-of-state trip)**
A motion was made by Fil Martinez to approve Policy & Insurance Item A.

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of an out-of-state trip for the Danville High School Art class to travel to Washington, D.C. on March 16, 2007.

The motion was seconded by Sis Hause.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 9 yes, 0 no.

X. Athletics

XI. Transportation

XII. Public Comment

Sis Hause inquired as to when the baseball and softball coaching positions will be filled. Interviews will be starting next week.

Jim Moser asked if anyone from our district plans to attend the PA Junior Academy of Science at Susquehanna University. Mr. Burger requested more information on the event.

Adjournment:
At 8:51 p.m. a motion was made by Allan Schappert and seconded by Carol Bisordi to adjourn the meeting.

The motion was approved by voice vote.

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Richard B. Snodgrass
Board Secretary

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Susan B. Hancock
Assistant Board Secretary