DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

May 22, 2007

The Danville Area School Board held their meeting in the Senior High School Cafeteria on Tuesday, May 22, 2007.

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by President Randy Keister followed by a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL - Board Members

Mrs. Carol Bisordi, Mrs. Helen Hause, Mrs. Kellie Krum, Mr. Filiberto Martinez, Mr. Allan Schappert, Mr. Steve 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; Ms. Cynthia Hutchinson, Assistant Principal, High School; Mr. Kevin Duckworth, Principal, Middle School; Ms. Abbey Walshaw-Wertz, Assistant Principal, Middle School; Mr. Daniel Rathfon, Principal, Liberty-Valley Elementary; Mrs. Molly Nied, Principal Danville Elementary; Mr. Scott Zimmerman, Principal, Riverside Elementary; Mrs. Susan Blake, Director of Head Start; Mrs. Pam Burrows, Director of Food Services; Mrs. Ricki Boyle, Director of Student Support Services; Mrs. Daphne Snook, Director of Technology; Mr. James Garringer, Director of Network Administration; and approximately 20 members of the staff and public, and news media.

I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. Mr. Keifer made the following announcements:

- DEA Negotiation meeting will be held June 4, 2007.
- Valediction will be held June 7th at 7:00 p.m.
- Graduation will be held June 8th at 7:00 p.m.
- Newsweek Magazine listed Danville High School as one of the top schools in the United States.

B. Mr. Keifer recognized teachers retiring at the close of the 2007-2008 school year.

- Karen Lesher – Elementary Librarian, 31 years of service
- Pat Stryker – Danville Elementary Teacher, 37 years of service
- Pat Dill – Danville Elementary and Liberty Valley Elementary Learning Support Teacher, 16 years of service
- Cindy Forney Walzer – Danville Elementary Teacher, 21 years of service
- Dave Robinholt – Assistant Principal at High School and Middle School, 11 years of service
- Chuck Yost – Science Teacher at Middle School, 25 years of service
- Betsy Deal – Middle School Guidance Counselor, 10 years of service (not present)
- William Hudock – Middle School Music Teacher, 31 years of service (not present)

Gwen Belding recognized administrators who are “Lifeguards” for implementation of the Math Investigations curriculum: Dan Rathfon, Scott Zimmerman and Molly Nied. These administrators then recognized teachers who are “Lifeguards” in their buildings: Missy Ferguson and Michelle Garman at Liberty Valley, Donna Kreisher at Riverside, and Sue Kline and Mary Lou Potter at Danville Elementary. The “Lifeguards” received training on the new math curriculum and then conducted professional development for Danville District elementary teachers.

C. There was an Executive Session at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Act 93 Agreement.

II. Board Affiliation Reports

- CSIU Board - Carol Bisordi reported that there was a presentation on the joint purchasing program at the last IU meeting, and made available booklets and website with more information on this program.
- Vo-Tech Board - Steve Schooley reported that the Vo-Tech budget was approved, the school accepted a curriculum grant, and graduation will be held on June 6th at Haas auditorium. He also mentioned that the school is conducting a search for a Student Services Director.
- EI Tax Board - Filiberto Martinez reported that the Earned Income Tax Board reviewed and approved the annual audit, and discussed setting up a website to provide access to forms and information on rates.
- Head Start Policy Council - Susan Blake will be presenting Head Start information later in this meeting.

- Legislative - Allan Schappert reported that Act 1 was defeated in Pennsylvania elections. He also noted that an important court case regarding rights of parents is currently taking place.

III. Student Representative Report

Greg Titman reported on High School year end activities: Eight members of the Forensics Team will be going to Houston this weekend for the national competition; the High School Prom will be held this Saturday at Bloomsburg University; the High School Chorus will present their spring concert this Friday at 7:00 p.m. at the Middle School Auditorium; Physics students will be attending Physics Day at Knobels Grove on May 29th; Baccalaureate will be held on June 3rd at the Middle School Auditorium; Valediction will be held on June 7th and Graduation on June 8th. Greg thanked the Board and the Administration for the opportunity to serve as the Student Representative to the Board during this past school year.

IV. Public Comment

Ralph Schumacher expressed appreciation for the use of F. Q. Hartman stadium. He announced that the Fourth Annual Schumacher Rugby Football Classic will be held there on May 26, 2007 and noted that an upright on one of the goal posts is missing. He also suggested that the board consider rugby as a sport for the district.

Dawn Gill spoke on the mathematics curriculum. Gwen Belding explained the focus of and strategies employed by the Math Investigations curriculum.

IV. Curriculum and Management Report

A. Gwen Belding presented information on the two-week Summer Language Camp taking place this summer at the High School. This self-supporting program will introduce students to French and Spanish.

   Mrs. Belding also discussed the summer reading programs for Kindergarten and 1st through 5th grades. Kindergarteners will read and keep a journal on ten books. 1st through 5th grade students will read books of their choice with a total number of pages equal to the grade just completed multiplied by eighty.

B. Susan Blake reported on Head Start by reviewing the Community Assessment and Self Assessment results, noting that Danville Head Start is serving all the eligible students in the district. Mrs. Blake outlined the Goals and Objectives of the Danville Head Start Program.

Motion: (To approve Head Start Goals & Objectives)
A motion was made by Sis Hause to approve the Danville Head Start Goals & Objectives.
The motion was seconded by Carol Bisordi.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

Mrs. Blake discussed the 2007-2008 Danville Head Start Budget, the Refunding Application, and the extended year program.

Motion: (To approve the Head Start Refunding Application)
A motion was made by Kellie Krum to approve the Danville Head Start Refunding Application.
The motion was seconded by Sis Hause.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

Motion: (To approve Support Assistance Program for Head Start)
A motion was made by Carol Bisordi to approve the application for the Support Assistance Program for Danville Head Start.
The motion was seconded by Kellie Krum.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

Mrs. Blake also discussed the Pre-K Counts grant that, if passed by the state legislature, would provide more students with preschool experience.

Motion: (To approve Head Start Application for Pre-K Counts grant)
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve the Danville Head Start application for the Pre-K Counts grant.
The motion was seconded by Sis Hause.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

C. Gwen Belding reported that Dr. Tom Winters, a Federal Programs Monitor visited the Danville School District. Dr. Winters met with Mrs. Belding and Molly Nied to evaluate Title I, Title II part A, and Title V part A programs in our district. After reviewing materials, visiting schools, and speaking with teachers, parents and students, the district received approval.

D. Cynthia Hutchinson presented an update on a proposed High School Schedule for the 2007-2008 school year. Mrs. Hutchinson explained that the purpose of the schedule change is to increase time available to meet with students, and increase teacher planning/collaboration time. She also gave examples of student and teacher schedules and discussed benefits and concerns associated with the proposed change.

Motion: (To take a ten minute recess)
A motion was made by Kellie Krum to take a ten minute recess.
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

The Board reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

V. School and Community Relations

VI. Finance

A. David Payne of PNC Bank presented a Bond Issue Status Report. Mr. Payne gave a brief update of current market conditions and reviewed the planned schedule of events, noting that rates can be locked in on June 12th, and on June 26th the SWAP advisor, PFM, along with PNC Bank will present information on the interest rate management plan and SWAP. He also explained that June 27th will be the earliest date possible to enact a resolution for the bond signing, and a special meeting may need to be scheduled to move forward on this. Mr. Payne provided additional statistics that indicate favorable market conditions.

B. Mr. Snodgrass presented the 2007-2008 Budget, noting that a list of projects and types of items are included in the budget with details of these categories provided in the third section. He also mentioned that not all of the field trips included in the budget have received final approval. Mr. Keifer explained the process by which field trips are evaluated. Mr. Snodgrass explained that he will make a detailed presentation of the 2007-2008 Budget on June 26, 2007 for Board approval.

Motion: (To Approve the 2007-2008 Head Start Budget)
A motion was made by Fil Martinez to approve the 2007-2008 Head Start Budget.
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 2 absent (Moser, Raup).

C. Dick Snodgrass presented a proposed Real Estate Tax Installment Payment Plan that would be available to all taxpayers. He explained the effect of taxpayers switching to the installment payment plan on revenue and suggested that the charge for a late installment payment be reduced to 5%. Mr. Snodgrass also discussed revised tax collector compensation. He would like the Board to approve two resolutions at the June 12th Board meeting, one for the Installment Payment Plan and the second for the Tax Collectors' compensation.

VII. Personnel

Motion: (Approving Personnel Items A through E)
A motion was made by Sis Hause to approve Personnel Agenda Items A through E.

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Dawn Ridgway as Drop-out Case Manager, effective June 5, 2007.

B. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of David Makowski as a School Psychologist Intern at a rate of $15.00/hour for 1,200 hours per year effective July 1, 2007.

C. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of Janice Ackerman as a Business Office Administrative Assistant at $26,000 per year, effective May 14, 2007.

D. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of a leave of absence under FMLA to be compensated to the extent of sick days and personal days available and uncompensated for the remainder, for Darby McDonnell.

The motion was seconded by Kellie Krum.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 2 absent (Moser, Raup).

VIII. School Property and Supplies

Mr. Keifer announced that the Educational Specifications Committee will meet tomorrow for the first time to outline educational specifications for the new elementary building. The committee will meet again on May 29th. Rick Witt and Roger Hulsey will be facilitators for both meetings.

A. Mr. Keifer explained that Requests for Proposal for Construction Manager were sent last week with plans to have a recommendation for Board approval at the June 26, 2007 meeting.

B. Mr. Keifer also noted that the Elementary Facility Timeline prepared by Kimball Associates has been distributed to Board members.

IX. Policy & Insurance.

X. Athletics

Motion: (To approve Athletics Item A.)
A motion was made by Carol Bisordi to approve Athletics Item A.

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of Jennifer Nardi as Middle School Cheerleading Advisor at a salary of $901, effective fall season 2007.

The motion was seconded by Sis Hause.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 2 absent (Moser, Raup).

XI. Transportation

Motion: (To approve Transportation Item A.)
A motion was made by Carol Bisordi to approve Transportation Item A.

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve revised transportation contracts for Joe & Jans, and Amity Leasing.

The motion was seconded by Kellie Krum.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 7 yes, 0 no, 2 absent (Moser, Raup).

XII. Public Comment

Adjournment:
At 10:02 p.m. a motion was made by Carol Bisordi and seconded by Sis Hause 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