# DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

## January 8, 2008

The Danville Area School Board held their meeting in the Senior High School Cafeteria on Tuesday, January 8, 2008.

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

**ROLL CALL - Board Members**

Mrs. Carol Bisordi, Mrs. Barbara Boyer, Mrs. Dawn Gill, Mr. Jamie Hosterman, Mrs. Kellie Krum, Dr. Paul Moser, Mrs. Megan Raup, Mr. Steve Schooley, Mr. Allan Schappert were present.

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Dr. Susan Bickford, Superintendent; Mr. Richard B. Snodgrass, Business Administrator; Mrs. Gwen Belding, Director of Curriculum and Instruction; Mr. Craig Burger, Principal, High School; Mr. Charles Smargiassi, Assistant Principal, High School; Ms. Cynthia Hutchinson, 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, Mahoning Cooper and Riverside Elementary; Mrs. Susan Blake, Director of Head Start; Mr. Rick Engle, Director of Maintenance; 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; Mrs. Marie Dryer, Office Manager; and approximately 15 members of the staff and public, and news media.

**Approval of Minutes of December 3, 2007**

**Motion: (To approve minutes of the December 3, 2007 School Board meeting)**
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve the minutes of the December 3, 2007 meeting.
The motion was seconded by Barbara Boyer.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

**RECOGNITION**

Dr. Bickford commented on the excellent Band & Choral Concert and the successful FFA competition results.

## I. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Bickford noted that the enrollment report numbers remained fairly stable, that DAEA and ESPA negotiations continue, and that the Elementary Building Committee will be meeting in the near future. She also expressed appreciation for the volunteer service given by the district school board members and announced that January is School Board Appreciation Month, noting that school board members will be visiting schools in the district, starting with the High School in January.

Dr. Bickford explained the concern being expressed by area school districts and the Columbia-Montour Area Vocational Technical School (CMAVT) regarding the recent PDE PSSA attribution ruling which would require that PSSA test scores of CMAVT students be attributed back to the school of their attendance area. Dr Bickford also discussed graduation testing.

Dr. Bickford noted that there was an Executive Session at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

**Motion: (To consider putting grievance #10-30-07 on the agenda)**
Steve Schooley made a motion to consider putting grievance #10-30-07 on the agenda.
The motion was seconded by Carol Bisordi.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

**Motion: (To deny grievance #10-30-07)**
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to deny grievance #10-30-07.
The motion was seconded by Jim Moser.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 9 yes, 0 no.

## II. Student Representative Report

Student Representative, Kyle Miller, presented an update on High School activities including the Band and Choral concert, District Band qualifiers, Forensics competition results, FBLA competition results, Guidance Department opportunities, Ski Club, student government, Yearbook, Journalism and Key Club activities.

## III. Public Comment

Mr. James Gulliver expressed his appreciation of the excellent Student Representative Report.

## IV. School Property & Supplies

Mr. Snodgrass, Ms. Boyle, and Mr. Engle presented information regarding the student medical needs, financial ramifications, and building structure in considering the installation of air conditioning in a portion of Danville Middle School.

**Motion: (To grant authorization to approve preparation of specifications by architect for Middle School air conditioning)**
A motion was made by Megan Raup to grant authorization for the architects to produce specifications for installation of air conditioning in a portion of the Danville Middle School.

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval to proceed with preparation of specifications bidding process for air conditioning a portion of the Danville Middle School.

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

B. Rick Witt and Roger Hulsey presented information on various roof style and material alternatives for the new elementary school building.

C. Rick Witt and Roger Hulsey answered questions from the Board regarding various building options.

D. Allan Schappert explained that after speaking with Trans Associates to resolve questions regarding the traffic study contract, some issues remained unsettled, so he is going to request further clarification.

The Board discussed the depth of results reported in the Demographic Study prepared by Pennsylvania Economy League (PEL). It was suggested that (PEL) make a presentation on their report, and that the study be expanded to considered additional factors.

Roger Hulsey and Rick Witt discussed storm water management on the proposed building site and current High School grounds, explaining testing involved and alternatives to current storm water system.

Megan Raup left the meeting at 8:48 p.m.

Rick Engle provided information to the Board regarding playground area per student.

**Motion: (For 10 minute recess)**
A motion was made by Kellie Krum to recess for ten minutes.
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

The Board reconvened at 9:09

## V. CURRICULUM AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

A. Gwen Belding described changes in the 2008-2009 Kindergarten registration process, explaining that basic student information will be collected at the first session, and student screening will be held at the

building where the student will be attending kindergarten for the second session, using a new screening technique, “Get it, Got it, Go.”

## VI. School / Community Relations

## VI. Finance

**Motion: (Approving financial reports and bills for payment)**
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve financial reports and payment of bills, November 28, 2007 through January 2, 2008.

A. General Fund – Revenues and Expenditures Summary

B. Local Revenues – Actual vs. Budget

C. State Revenues – Actual vs. Budget

D. Cash Receipts

E. Investments

F. Bills for Payment – November 28, 2007 through January 2, 2008

G. Mr. Snodgrass discussed the Preliminary Budget that was distributed to board members and recommended its approval at the January 22, 2008 School Board meeting. He reviewed the millage rates in Montour County and Northumberland County, and other significant issues including salaries, unsettled staff and teacher contracts, health insurance increases, and the PSERS retirement rate.

H. Mr. Snograss opened discussion on problems with the current district phone system that have been developing over the past seven or eight years. He explained that approval for a new phone system would be requested at a later meeting.

The motion was seconded by Barb Boyer.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent (Raup).

## VII. Personnel

**Motion**: **(Approving personnel changes)**
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve Personnel Agenda Items VII A. through L .

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of Patti VanHorn as a full-time Cafeteria Worker at $7.51 per hour, effective December 10, 2007.

B. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of a change of status for Jeanine Reibsome from Cafeteria Worker to an Aide at $7.51 per hour, effective December 10, 2007.

C. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the retirement of Patti Wolf as an Aide at Riverside Elementary, effective December 31, 2007.

D. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of an uncompensated medical leave of absence for Bonnie High from November 14, 2007 through November 30, 2007.

E. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Stacey Hovenstine as High School Secretary effective January 4, 2008.

F. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Gwen Belding as Director of Curriculum & Instruction, effective January 18, 2008.

G. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of continued sabbatical for Darby McDonnell.

H. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of Paige Blickley as a Head Start Education Assistant at $8.83 per hour, effective January 9, 2008.

I. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of Deborah Parker as an English Teacher at Danville High School at a salary to be determined per negotiated contract, pro-rated, effective date to be determined.

J. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of Michael Espinosa as a Long-term Substitute English Teacher at Danville Middle School at a salary to be determined per negotiated contract, pro-rated, effective January 9, 2008.)

K. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the employment of Todd Egger as a Music Teacher at a salary to be determined per negotiated contract, pro-rated, effective date to be determined. (Enclosure R)

L. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of the 2007-2008 Substitute List (Teachers, Teacher Aides, Custodians, Cafeteria Workers, Secretaries, etc.).

The motion was seconded by Carol Bisordi.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent (Raup).

## VIII. School Property and Supplies

## IX. Policy & Insurance

**Motion: (To Approve Policy & Insurance Item A.)**
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve Policy & Insurance Item A.

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the first reading of revised Student Wellness Policy #246.

The motion was seconded by Carol Bisordi.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

## X. Athletics

## XI. Transportation

**Motion: (To Approve Transportation Items A. and B.)**
A motion was made by Carol Bisordi to approve Transportation Items A. and B.

A. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of Karen Kulha of 84B Slowick Road, Berwick, PA, as a Head Start bus driver for Fishing Creek Transportation.

B. The Board take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the approval of Karla Sue Wright of 149 Turner High VW Road, Bloomsburg, PA, as a Head Start bus driver for Fishing Creek Transportation.

The motion was seconded by Kellie Krum.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 yes, 0 no, 1 absent (Raup).

## XII. Board Member Discussion Points

Board members discussed the importance of teaching interview skills for students, considering sending board packets via CD, timeframe for sending agenda materials, Ed-line updates, and publication of school board meetings in school newsletters.

## XIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

## XIV. CONSIDERATION FROM THE PUBLIC, BOARD MEMBERS & ADMINISTRATORS

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 10:32 p.m. a motion was made by Steve Schooley and seconded by Kellie Krum 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