DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

September 23, 2008 Minutes

The Danville Area School Board held their meeting in the Senior High School Cafeteria on Tuesday, September 23, 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. Barbara Boyer, Mrs. Dawn Gill, Mrs. Jennifer Henning, Mr. Jamie Hosterman, Mrs. Kellie Krum, Dr. Paul Moser, Ms Megan Raup, Mr. Steve Schooley, and Mr. Allan Schappert were present.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Susan Bickford, Superintendent; Ms. Daphne Snook, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Technology; Mr. Richard Snodgrass, Business Administrative/Board Secretary; Mr. Craig Burger, Principal, High School; Mr. Charles Smargiassi, Assistant, Principal, High School; Mrs. Cynthia Hutchinson, Principal, Middle School; Mrs. Molly Nied, Elementary Principal; Mr. John Bickhart, Elementary Principal; Mr. Daniel Rathfon, Elementary Principal; Mr. Rick Engle, Director of Maintenance; Mrs. Susan Blake, Director of Head Start; Mrs. Pam Burrows, Director of Food Services; Mrs. Ricki Boyle, Director of Special Education; and approximately 60 members of the staff and public, and news media.

I. BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENT

Additions and changes to the agenda
Under Personnel add addendum items and Item Q Act 93 Salaries

Motion: (To amend the agenda)
A motion was made by Jim Moser to approve the agenda.

The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley
The motion was approved on a voice vote

II. BOARD AFFILIATION REPORTS

CSIU Board Report – Jennifer Henning
Personnel, paying bills, market adjustment for nurses

Vo-Tech Board report – Megan Raup

Steve Schooley

Mr. Curry 3% salary increase

Fuel adjustment for transportation $8,000.00

El Tax Board – Barbara Boyer

No meeting

Head Start Policy Council Report – Kellie Krum

Video presentation

Legislative – Dawn Gill

No meeting

III. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Executive session was held at 5:30 pm this evening. Discussion included personnel and one real estate item.
Calendar of events for each building for the month of October were included in the board packets.

IV. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Tyler Rosini did not attend the meeting.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Coach Barnes, Dillon Myers – Captain of the boys swim team, Sarah Krum, Gregg Cole – spoke on behalf of the swim team. They spoke about the positive benefits that being a part of our swim team is to our students.

Mrs. Kessler said she attended the meeting last night. She felt the meeting last evening was not advertised enough. She was very disappointed in the presentation. Started with MC – both required acquiring property, didn't like the idea of a chair lift at MC; RS – did not see good solutions for the building, not comfortable with water, soil, etc.; Danville Elementary – plans not what is expected, she feels we should negotiation for Iron and Cedar Street from the borough, build on bus circle, feels we should build a consolidated school at the Danville Elementary site.

VI. CURRICULUM AND MANAGEMENT REPORTS

A. Gifted Program presentation – Ricki Boyle

Ricki had a PowerPoint presentation on the gifted program. She showed the in-

crease in the program of several years. Explained the screening process, test, IQ 120 or above (have looked at 119), formal evaluation – permission is needed from the patent to do the formal evaluation (look at IQ 130 and above)
Mrs. Heffner is the gifted teacher for elementary and middle school.
Students do projects, individual based work, and team based work, grouped K-3 and 4-5 and is transported to middle school for ½ day per week.
Middle school is scheduled daily and meet as individual grade levels.
High school is scheduled daily. The program is student led. Mr. Kanaskie is the gifted teacher at the high school level.

Motion: (To recess)
A motion was made by Kellie Krum to take a 10-minute recess

The motion was seconded by Megan Raup
The motion was approved on a voice vote

Reconvened after a 10-minute recess

Jennifer Henning asked Mrs. Boyle if the AP and Dual Enrollment programs in the high school are only for gifted students. She was assured that is not the case.
Kellie Krum asked if we test a lot of students for the gifted program. Mrs. Boyle said we test a fair number of students. Students are recommended by teachers to be tested and also parent request that they child be tested.
We have parent involvement on the gifted advisory council.

VII. SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A. The Board will take action on the approval of a new after school activity – Math Olympiad – for grades 4, 5, and 6. Lynn Breyfogle will be the volunteer advisor for the club.

Motion: (To Approve Math Olympiad)
A motion was made by Kellie Krum to approve Math Olympiad.

The motion was seconded by Dawn Gill
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 9 yes, 0 no,

VIII. FINANCE

A. Bond Update
Mr. Payne was present to speak about the bond. He told the board the schedule may need to be moved due to what is happening in the market. He said we have time in our schedule and feels we should wait to see what happens with the market. He also said the district rating is great, we are rated A3.

B. Single Audit Report (June 30, 2007)

Mr. Snodgrass a brief overview of the audit report, which was given to the board members.

IX. PERSONNEL

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Marie Fazio, cafeteria worker in the Danville Middle School, effective September 5, 2008. (Enclosure E)

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Sharon Strausser, cafeteria worker in the Danville Area School District, effective September 2, 2008. (Enclosure F)

C. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Beth Wertman, cafeteria worker in the Danville High School, effective June 29, 2008. (Enclosure G)

D. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Sandra Spickard, substitute-crossing guard at Danville Elementary School, effective July 25, 2008. (Enclosure H)

E. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the employment of Leticia Santiago, as a part-time cook's helper at the Danville High School, effective September 17, 2008. (Enclosure I)

F. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the change of status of Peggy Dimmick, from Head Start Health/Disabilities Specialist to Head Start Pre-K Counts Teacher at a salary of $35,000. (Enclosure J)

G. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the employment of Robert Cloud, as math sub, at sub pay, at the Danville Middle School, effective October 2, 2008. (Enclosure K)

H. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the employment of Charles Good as a substitute custo-

dian at an hourly rate of $10.55, effective September 23, 2008 (Enclosure L)

I. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the employment of Brock Diehl as a substitute custodian at an hourly rate of $10.55, effective September 23, 2008 (Enclosure M)

J. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the employment of Josh Flint as a medical assistant aide at Danville Middle School, at an hourly rate of $16.49, effective September 29, 2008. (Enclosure N)

K. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the resignation of Carolyn Doebler, Substitute cafeteria worker, effective September 23, 2008 (Enclosure O)

L. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the employment of the 2008-2009 substitute list (Teachers, Teacher Aides, Custodians, Cafeteria Workers, Secretaries, etc.) (Enclosure P)

M. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the employment of Leticia Santiago, as a substitute crossing guard at Danville Elementary, at an hourly rate of $8.85, effective September 22, 2008.

N. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the employment of Alexis Rhodes, as an instructional aide at Danville Elementary, at an hourly rate of $8.85, effective September 24, 2008. (Enclosure)

O. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Elizabeth Rathfon, Office Manager at Head Start, effective October 8, 2008. (Enclosure)

P. Additions to the substitute-teaching list – Mindy Kerstetter and Dean Walize.

Q. Act 93 salaries

Motion: (To Approve Personnel Items A-P)
A motion was made by Paul Moser to approve Personnel Items A-P.

The motion was seconded by Jennifer Henning.

The motion was approved on a roll call vote 9 yes, 0 no

Motion: (To Approve Personnel Item Q)
A motion was made by Paul Moser to approve Personnel Item Q.

The motion was seconded by Kellie Krum.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 8 yes, 1 no – Mrs. Barbara Boyer

X. SCHOOL PROPERTY & SUPPLIES

A. Discussion about obtaining public input for elementary building options.

Mr. Snodgrass said he has contacted two firms who can do a survey –one firm said the cost would be between $3600-$4500. They would do a phone survey. They would do a 5-minute interview with 300 to 400 community members. The second firm would also do a phone interview at a cost of $15000-$16000 depending on the number interviewed. They also said they would do a 5-minute interview with 400-500 community members.

Dawn Gill said a minister from Trinity Methodist Church has offered to undertake the project of surveying the public for input. She also said that maybe we could get the league of women voters to do this survey.

Although civic groups have offered to help with a survey – it is felt that an outside source would be best.

Mr. Snodgrass is going to continue to investigate options for the survey. And the discussion will be placed on our next agenda.

Mr. Snodgrass handed-out an update on building costs. He shared with the board and public the costs at this time.

Dawn Gill left the meeting at approximately 9:20 PM

XI. POLICY & INSURANCE

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant the first reading of revised Policy #004, Assignment within District. (Enclosure Q)

Motion: (To Approve first reading of policies)
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve first reading of policies

The motion was seconded by Kellie Krum.

The motion was approved on a roll call vote 8 yes, 0 no, 1 Absent – Dawn Gill

XII. ATHLETICS

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the resignation of William Freeman, as assistant wrestling coach at Danville Area High School, effective September 17, 2008 (Enclosure R)

Motion: (To Approve Athletics)
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve Athletics

The motion was seconded by Mr. Jamie Hosterman

The motion was approved on a roll call vote 8 yes, 0 no, 1 Absent – Dawn Gill

XII. TRANSPORTATION

XIV BOARD CONCERNS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Mr. Schooley asked if high school students could only get their homework assignments off the Internet at home. Mr. Burger will check this situation out and email the board.

Mrs. Boyer asked Mr. Snodgrass to remove himself from the DACC board.
Mr. Snodgrass said his only interest is that of the district.
Mr. Tim Bowers says this is really not a conflict of interest. It is a non- profit operation.
The board said they see no reason for Mr. Snodgrass to go off the board.

Dr. Moser said that between the community center and Sechuyler Barn there are very tall weeds that need to be removed. Rick Engle said he would take care of it.

XV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mato DeLuca said he feels a survey should be sent home with students. He doe not think we should spend money to have this done. He is concerned with tax increases.

Greg Hein also feels we should send a survey home with students. A tax increase will hurt us.

Jim Gallagher wants more public comment time.

Mr. Steimling said he feels faculty needs more training on dealing with special education and gifted students. He said Mrs. Boyle is doing a fine job, but she is just one person. He has a student at both ends of the spectrum – one special education and one gifted student.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:15pm motion was made by Mrs. Jennifer Henning and seconded by Mrs. 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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Bonnie A. Edmeads
Assistant Board Secretary