DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 22, 2011 Minutes

The Danville Area School Board held their meeting in the Senior High School Cafeteria on Tuesday, February 22, 2011.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Allan Schappert, board president, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL - Board Members

Mrs. Barbara Bickhart (via phone), Mr. Gregg Campbell, Mrs. Dawn Gill, Mr. Jamie Hosterman, Mr. Christopher Outt, Mr. Allan Schappert, Mr. Steve Schooley, Mr. Martin Walzer, and Mr. David Weader were present.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. David Price, Acting Superintendent; Mrs. Dawn Brookhart, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology; Ms Jillann Robbins, Director of Special Education; Mr. Lee Gump, Principal, High School; Mrs. Jennifer Gurski, Assistant Principal, High School; Mr. Charles Smargiassi, Middle School Principal; Mr. Ed Sanders, Assistant Principal, Middle School; Mr. Chris Johns, Intermediate Principal; Mr. John Bickhart, Primary Principal; Mrs. Pam Burrows, Director of Food Services; Mr. Rick Engle, Director of Maintenance; Mr. Richard Snodgrass, Business Administrator, Board Secretary; Mr. Jeff Ryan, Director of Network Administration and approximately sixteen members of the staff and public, and news media.

I. BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENT

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. There was an Executive Session tonight at 6:00 p.m. to discuss personnel.

B. Presentation by PFM regarding additional borrowing to complete the construction project.

C. There was a finance committee meeting tonight at 5:00 pm to review the Technology Budget.

Dave Price shared the following with the board:

- Sis Hause – Montour County Historical Society – sponsoring an essay contest
- Randy May – Danville Community Foundation – sponsoring a spelling bee at high school and middle school level
- Dave spoke about the budget timeline. Tonight they discussed the technology budget. March 8 the state budget will be unveiled
- John Bickhart and Rick Engle will be discussing furniture for the new building and the moving process at our next board meeting
- Pam Burrows will also be sharing information regarding the food service program. We will also be getting bids for contracting the food service program.
- March 15 – Business Manager was asked to present the first draft of the expenditure part of the budget to the finance committee
- Discuss our school calendar for the next school year. He is concerned with Vo-Tech starting a week before us. He asked the board members if they have any thoughts on changing our school calendar to start earlier because of busing costs. Dave asked them to let him know if they have any thoughts on this issue.
- Mr. Price said we need to finalize the name of the new building. He asked the board members to give some thought to a name for the new building.

Greg McLanahan, senior managing consultant from PFM, presented our Financial Analysis and the Refunding Analysis to the board. After his presentation the board had discussion regarding the issues at hand. Allan Schappert asked Mr. McLanahan what his recommendation would be to the board at this time. His recommendation to the board is to get out of the variable rate swap agreement and go to a fixed rate program. Allan said the board should authorize Dick Snodgrass and Dave Price to work with Mr. McLanahan to take care of the issue.

Motion: (To amend the agenda adding two items under finance)
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to amend the agenda adding two items under finance.
The motion was seconded by Dawn Gill
The motion was approved on a voice vote.

III. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Abbey Shaffer, Student representative gave the following report:

- January – juniors took CPR classes
- Karen Gronsky School of Dance - danced for half-time at a high school boys basketball game on January 29 and then at the 76ers game on January 30.
- District wrestling this weekend
- Boys and Girls Basketball playoffs are underway
- Daffodil days
- French Club bowl-a-thon in February
- Spring sport physicals

- Mod meeting – Mr. Gump and Mrs. Gurski – talked about scheduling
- FFA week – Feb. 21-25
- Ski Club – going to Greek Peak on Saturday
- Matt Hockney started his own Leadership Club
- Forensics – Feb 5 - 13 students went to a tournament – took 1st place; last week they went to Bethel Park Tournament – took 2nd in debate, 1st in speech and 1st overall; 20 students qualified to go to districts; they are working hard to become state champions.
- SGA – Feb 25-26 hosting a lock-in for Janet Weis Children's Hospital
- Mr. Mast and three students are going to a summit in Harrisburg, PA
- Abbey asked the school board members if they are interested in a luncheon to meet with different clubs in the high school. The board said yes.

Dave asked how she feels about cyber bullying. She spoke a little on her feelings regarding this issue.
Steve said he is curious to know about the atmosphere in the high school and asked Abbey to talk to her peers and possibly come back to the board with topics students feel should be dealt with.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Elaine Balum asked the board for clarification regarding the salary schedule for the new professional contract. She asked if the board validates your senior teachers. Did the decision to not give the senior teachers a raise come from the board or the union? Dave said the priority of the union is step movements. He told Elaine to speak to the union representative. Elaine said she was told the board was against giving the senior teachers anything. Mr. Price told her that is a lie. Mr. Price assured her this was the union's priority. After brief discussion, Elaine thanked the board for their time.

V. ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES

A. The Athletic Department received a donation from McCann School of Business in Sunbury to use in any way they wish.

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the out of state trips for the High School Art Department. They plan to go to Washington DC National Gallery on April 13, 2011. (Enclosure A)

C. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Matt Diltz, as assistant baseball coach, effective immediately.

D. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Joanna Kreischer, as Middle School head track coach, effective immediately.

E. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the employment of Brian Raup, as assistant baseball coach, at a salary of $1,212, effective immediately.

F. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the employment of Michael Bayly, as Middle School head track coach, at a salary of $1,212, effective immediately.

G. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the employment of Tom Williams, as assistant high school girls track coach, at a salary of $2,724, effective immediately.

H. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the 2011 spring coaches and salaries, as listed on the enclosure. (Enclosure B)

Motion: (To Approve items A-G under Athletics)
A motion was made by Dawn Gill to approve Athletics/Activities Item A-G
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 9 yes, 0 no

Motion: (To Approve items H under Athletics)
A motion was made by Dawn Gill to approve Athletics/Activities Item H
The motion was seconded by David Weader
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 8 yes, 0 no, 1 Abstain – Steve Schooley

VI. CURRICULUM AND MANAGEMENT REPORT

A. Congratulations to Carla Horne, Elementary Librarian, for being selected to attend a workshop “Teaching American History: K-6 Teachers and Librarians – Exploring Colonial America: 1682 to 1776”. (Enclosure C)

B. Instruction Plan Update – Keystones (Dawn Brookhart)
Mr. Charles Smargiassi & Mr. Ed Sanders – Middle School
Mr. Lee Bump and Mrs. Jen Gurski – High School

Chris Johns congratulated Carla Horne for being selected to attend a workshop “Teaching American History: K-6 Teachers and Librarians – Exploring Colonial America: 1862 to 1776”.

Dawn Brookhart showed a PowerPoint presentation on the Keystone Exams. Lee Gump spoke about the graduation requirements. He discussed the graduation policy phases. Lee showed the timeline for what grade level students would take the Keystone Exams. Danville field tested Algebra I, Biology and Literature in the fall of 2010. This spring we will field test Algebra II, Geometry, and English composition. Dave Price stressed how important the Keystone Exams are. They must be passed in order to graduate. Public meetings will be held to stress to parents and students how important Keystone Exams are going to be.
Dawn discussed the stand-alone option for the district.
Dawn discussed the point scale for passing the keystone exams. If you take AP tests and pass them they will count for the keystone exam.
Mr. Smargiassi spoke about the district level preparation – plan to meet with parents and students to get everyone up to speed on these exams.

VII. SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the agreement with Danville Area Soccer Association for the 2011 Fall Sports Season. (Enclosure D)

Motion: (To Approve Item A under School/Community Relations)
A motion was made by Greg Campbell to approve School/Community Relations – Item A
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 9 yes, 0 no

VIII. SCHOOL PROPERTY AND SUPPLIES

VII. FINANCE

A. The Board of School Directors of the Danville Area School District (the "School District") does hereby authorize the Administration to work with Public Financial management, as Financial Advisor, Mette, Evans & Woodside, as Bond Counsel and their Solicitor in conjunction with the issuance of General obligation Bonds, Series A of 2011 for the purpose of refunding the Variable rate Demand Revenue Bonds, Series of 2009 and termination of related interest rate swap.

B. The Board of School Directors of the Danville Area School District (the "School District") foes hereby authorize the Administration to work with Public Financial Management, as Financial Advisor, Mette, Evans A& Woodside, as Bond Counsel and their Solicitor in conjunction with the issuance of General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2011 in the amount of $3 million plus costs of issuance for the purpose of financing the District's capital projects.

Motion: (To Approve Items A & B under Finance)
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve Items A and B under Finance
The motion was seconded by Dawn Gill
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 9 yes, 0 no

IX. PERSONNEL

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the employment of Michael Capita, as a day-to-day substitute as a learning support teacher replacing Nicole Watson at Liberty Valley beginning February 23, 2011, for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year.

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the employment of the 2010-2011 substitute list. (Teachers, Teacher Aides, Custodians, Cafeteria Workers, Secretaries, etc.) (Enclosure E)

C. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the realignment of support personnel due to consolidation. (Enclosure F)

Motion: (To Approve Personnel Items A & B)
A motion was made by David Weader to approve Personnel Items A & B
The motion was seconded by Dawn Gill
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 9 yes, 0 no

Motion: (To Approve Personnel Item C – Option A)
A motion was made by Dawn Gill to approve Personnel Item C – Option A
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 8 yes, 0 no, 1 Abstain – Jamie Hosterman

XI. POLICY & INSURANCE

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve a two-year contract for the Danville Area Education Association for the 2010-2011 and 2011-2012 school years. (Enclosure G)

Motion: (To Reject Policy and Insurance Item A)
A motion was made by Dawn Gill to approve Policy and Insurance Item A
The motion was seconded by Barbara Boyer
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 4 yes, 5 no

Motion: (To Approve Policy and Insurance Item A)
A motion was made by Dave Weader to approve Policy and Insurance Item A
The motion was seconded by Chris Outt
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 5 yes, 4 no

XII. TRANSPORTATION

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve Richard Rawlings as a substitute driver for Fishing Creek Transportation, Inc. (Enclosure H)

Motion: (To Approve Item A under Transportation)
A motion was made by Dawn Gill to approve Transportation Item A
The motion was seconded by Greg Campbell
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 9 yes, 0 no

XIII. BOARD CONCERNS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Steve Schooley said we need to set a meeting for closing of three public school buildings

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dave Fortunato thanked the board for approving the contract. He also said he never kept anything from the teachers regarding the negotiations.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:45 pm motion was made by Dawn Gill and seconded by Steve Schooley 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