DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 12, 2011 Minutes

The Danville Area School Board held their meeting in the Senior High School Cafeteria on Tuesday, July 12, 2011.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 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, Mr. Gregg Campbell, Mr. Jamie Hosterman, Mr. Christopher Outt, and Mr. Allan Schappert. Mrs. Dawn Gill, Mr. Steve Schooley and Mr. David Weader were absent.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. David Price, Acting Superintendent; Mrs. Dawn Brookhart, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Technology; Ms Jillian Robbins, Director of Special Education; Mr. Lee Gump, Principal, High School; Mrs. Jennifer Gatski, Assistant Principal, High School; Mr. Charles Smargiassi, Principal, Middle School; Mr. Ed Sanders, Assistant Principal, Middle School; Mrs. Susan Blake, Director of Head Start; Mr. Rick Engle, Director of Maintenance; Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Acting Board Secretary; and approximately 12 members of the staff and public, and news media.

Motion: (To Approve Minutes from the June meetings)
A motion was made by Barbara Bickhart to approve the minutes.
The motion was seconded by Chris Outt.
The motion was approved on a voice vote.

Motion: (To Approve amend the agenda)
A motion was made by Gregg Campbell to amend the agenda, adding items C, D and E under School Property and Supplies and items D, E, and F under Personnel
The motion was seconded by Chris Outt.
The motion was approved on a voice vote.

I. BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENT

A. We are having a reception on July 19 at 7 pm in the high school cafeteria for faculty/staff and community members to meet our new Superintendent, Mr. Cheryl Latorre.

B. There will be a special board meeting on July 21 at 6 pm in the high school cafeteria to interview candidates and appoint an individual to fill Mr. Martin Walzer's unexpired term on the school board.

Allan Schappert, on behalf of the board, presented Mrs. Price with a vase of beautiful red roses for all her support through Dave's term as acting superintendent at the Danville Area School District. Allan spoke on behalf of the board, about the great job Dave Price did at the Danville Area School District and presented him with a gift card for a restaurant and also lifetime pass for athletic events in Danville. Dave and Mrs. Price thanked the board.

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. There was an Executive Session tonight at 5:30 pm and a tour of the new building at 6:00 pm

Dave showed a slide presentation showing the update on transportation for the 2011-2012 school year. Dave said he added 3 bus runs in the district. The presentation showed the three new bus runs – one in Mahoning Cooper area, one in the old Danville Elementary area, and one in Riverside. Dave said he encourages parents of children K-2 not drive their children to school. The Primary school will begin classes at 8:05 AM and Liberty Valley Intermediate at 8:00 AM.

Next, Mr. Price showed a PowerPoint tour of the new Primary School. He showed several pictures of each floor and different areas of the new building. Mr. Price said the building is still scheduled to be ready to start school August 24, 2011. Dave said their will be a significant punch list in the building.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

V. ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the FFA out-of-state trip to Columbus, Ohio from October 17 – 22, 2011 for the National FFA Convention. (Enclosure A)

Motion: (To Approve Item A under Athletics/Activities)
A motion was made by Gregg Campbell to approve item A under Athletics/Activities
The motion was seconded by Barbara Bickhart
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 5 yes, 0 no, 3 Absent – Mr. Steve Schooley, David Weader and Dawn Gill were absent.

VI. CURRICULUM AND MANAGEMENT REPORT

A. Curriculum Update – Dawn Brookhart

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the new curriculum for AP History, Sociology, and English 9 and 10.

Dawn Brookhart gave an extensive presentation on curriculum in our district. The philosophy is a standard alignment core. Standards must be posted in each classroom and be included in all lesson plans. A course overview for each course is posted on our website. She spoke about common core, keystone exams, district common assessments, data teams, and intervention plans. She spoke about the balanced reading and math programs for our students. Liberty Valley did standards checklists throughout the year and found at the end that we were missing over half of the state standards. The teachers are working over the summer to adjust lesson plans to make sure we are matching state standards. Dawn spoke about alignments in the middle school. She also said that our test results in the middle school are great. She spoke about the high school curriculum and work the teachers are doing over the summer.

Allan asked if there is frustration on the changes to our standards. Dawn said there were but we are working through it.

Dave Weader asked about PSSA's and the scandal in Atlanta and if cheating is possible. Dave Price said some districts in PA are being checked for such problems. Dave said the answer is for the teachers to teach the students the information they need. Dave said he feels we have made great progress and he salutes our teachers, principals and Dawn for a job well done.

Dave Weader came to the meeting at 7:45 PM.

Motion: (To Approve Item B under Curriculum and Management)
A motion was made by Chris Outt to approve item B under Curriculum and Management
The motion was seconded by Barbara Bickhart
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 6 yes, 0 no, 2 Absent – Mr. Steve Schooley and Dawn Gill were absent.

VII. SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

VIII. SCHOOL PROPERTY AND SUPPLIES

A. Building Project Update – Chuck Knauff

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the change order for $4,678.00 to Mid Atlantic Park and Playground Concepts to provide and install black rubber mulch protective surfacing on the playground area. (Enclosure B)

C. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of change order 02-054 to use River Rock in lieu of Mulch. (Attachment)

D. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to award the bid for drainage work, Option 1A, to the FW Diehl Baseball Field to Robert Feaster Corp. in the amount of $22,750. (Attachment)

E. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to award the bid for drainage work to the FW Diehl high school practice football field to Robert Feaster Corp. in the amount of $68,000. (Attachment)

Chuck Knauff gave a progress report on the building project. Starting tomorrow they have 17 days to finish the project. He feels the bulk of the building to be in place by the start of school. The building is showing about 2 weeks behind schedule. We will take the building July 29 with an occupancy permit and work will then begin second shift. The floor in the multi-purpose room is not dry enough to put the floor down. Sidewalks should be completed by July 29. They are planning to do the asphalt the end of the first week in August.
Dave Weader asked about the multi-purpose room floor and if it is laid too soon and it does not cure then what. Chuck said there will be a warranty to take care of that if it would happen.

Motion: (To Approve Items B, C, and D under School Property and Supplies)
A motion was made by Gregg Campbell to approve items B, C, and D under School Property and Supplies
The motion was seconded by Barbara Bickhart
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 6 yes, 0 no, 2 Absent – Mr. Steve Schooley and Dawn Gill

Motion: (To Approve Item E under School Property and Supplies)
A motion was made by David Weader to approve item E under School Property and Supplies
The motion was seconded by Chris Outt
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 6 yes, 0 no, 2 Absent – Mr. Steve Schooley and Dawn Gill

VII. FINANCE

A. General Fund – Revenues and Expenditures Summary

B. Local Revenues – Actual vs. Budget

C. State Revenues – Actual vs. Budget

D. Cash Receipts (Enclosure C)

E. Investments

F. Bills for Payment – June 8, 2011, through July 1, 2011 (Enclosure D)

Motion: (To Approve Finance Item F)
A motion was made by Barbara Bickhart to approve finance – Item F.
The motion was seconded by Chris Outt
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 6 yes, 0 no, 2 Absent – Mr. Steve Schooley and Dawn Gill

IX. PERSONNEL

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Dawn Roberts, a cafeteria worker, effective immediately. (Enclosure E)

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to appoint Ms. Janis Venna, as business manager, pending resolution of contract language and receipt of clearances. (Enclosure F)

C. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the employment of Jason Potoka, as long term high school social studies teacher, at a Bachelor's degree, Step 1 salary of $40,703, effective July 12, 2011. (Enclosure G)

D. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent transfer Stephanie Brame, middle school librarian to Liberty Valley librarian/gifted teacher, effective immediately.

E. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the employment of Amanda Cordovani, as librarian/gifted teacher at the Danville Primary School, at a master's degree, Step 1 salary of $42,922, pending certificate. (Attachment)

F. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the employment of Samantha Simatos, as librarian/gifted teacher at the Danville Middle School, at a master's degree, Step 3 salary of $45,556, effective July 12, 2011. (Attachment)

Allan Schappert gave a brief introduction of the new business manager, Janis Venna. Janis will be coming to us from Mt. Carmel Area School District. Her salary will be $85,000. Her start date is to be determined.

Motion: (To Approve Personnel Items A - F)
A motion was made by David Weader to approve Personnel Items A - F
The motion was seconded by Barbara Bickhart
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 6 yes, 0 no, 2 Absent – Mr. Steve Schooley and Dawn Gill

XI. POLICY & INSURANCE

XII. TRANSPORTATION

A. Update on bus schedules

XIII. BOARD CONCERNS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Jim Gulliver – asked about the practice field drainage. He said nothing was done for drainage when it was constructed. He is very upset that we need to pay $68,000 to put drainage in now. The situation is what it is but it is necessary to fix this problem for the main reason of our neighbors.

Jim Gulliver – is the contract a multi-year contract. Allan said that it is a multi-year contract.

Roberta English asked if the issue of the drainage could have been brought up by the public in the beginning. Allan Schappert said yes they could make comment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:10 pm motion was made by Chris Outt and seconded by Barbara Bickhart to adjourn the meeting.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

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Bonnie A. Edmeads
Assistant Board Secretary