DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

July 21, 2011 Minutes

The Danville Area School Board held a special meeting in the Senior High School Cafeteria on Thursday, July 21, 2011.

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

Mr. Gregg Campbell, Mr. Jamie Hosterman, Mr. Chris Outt, Mr. Allan Schappert, Mr. Steve Schooley, and Mr. David Weader were present. Mrs. Barbara Bickhart and Mrs. Dawn Gill were absent.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mr. Timothy Bowers, school solicitor; Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Board Secretary and two members of the public, and news media.

I. BOARD APPOINTMENT INTERVIEWS

A. The Board will interview candidates to fill the vacancy resulting from the resignation of Mr. Martin Walzer.

The interviews began with Sharon Frey. Following is a summary of her interview: Sharon said she wants to get involved in the community. She feels the school board would be a great place to start. She feels the district is going in the right direction with education. She said she feels the school board is here for the children – they must meet the needs of all children. Sharon thinks the PSSA and Keystone test are okay but, she said we need to meet the challenges of all children taking these tests. Sharon said she feels she would be an asset to the district and community.

Next up was George Brown. George said after receiving his taxes and saw the increase he felt it was time to get involved. George said he would want to look over the situation of the district before suggesting a change. He said the path Mr. Price was taking was a real asset to the district and hopes we stay on that path. Long term George thinks we need to work on discipline, budget, union and do just for taxpayers. He said he hasn't seen an educational excellence lately. He said we need to stick to the three R's. George said if we are teaching students to pass the PSSA's and the Keystone exams then we are not teaching correctly. George said he has experience in working in budgets and feels the business manager should investigate

and follow-up with the way money is spent. His final words were he feels his background speaks for itself as to why he would be a good fit for the board seat.

Our third candidate was Jim Long. Jim is a retired teacher who has been away from the district for ten years and he would like to get involved in the community. Jim does feel we need to stick with the subject matter in the three R's. Jim feels we give our students a variety of curriculum. He does believe in testing, Jim said we have good teachers in our district and the board needs to support them. Jim fells his role on the board would be – one of a group of people that would be spending a large amount of money and he feels he could offer things to the board without the board loosing its dignity. Jim said he has respect for the board of directors. In Jim's closing remarks he said he spent time thinking about being on the board to do what needs to be done and feels it is time for him to serve on the board.

The last interview was with Joseph Stemm. Joe is very interested in issues and has been following the board for several years. He has functioned in the capacity as a board member on several medical boards. He said he would have voted no on the current teacher contract. He would like to see improvement in performance of students. Long term he would like to see financial viability in pensions and salaries. He said he feels we have educational excellence. He thinks teachers should have accountability for student test scores for the PSSA's and Keystone exams. He feels he would be an asset to do the board because of his personality and analytical approach and also his experience in leadership positions and management experience, Joe thanked the board for this opportunity.

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public comment

III. APPOINTMENT

Motion: (To open nominations for vacant School Board seat)
A motion was made by Allan Schappert to open nominations to appoint a board member to fill the vacant seat.
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley
The motion was approved by voice vote.

Nominations for vacant School Board seat:
Joseph Stemm was nominated by Chris Outt
The nomination was seconded by Steve Schooley

Motion: (To close nominations)
A motion was made by Allan Schappert to close the nominations.
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

Mr. Bowers explained that a voice vote would be conducted and that the nominee must have five (5) votes to be seated in the office.

After a brief discussion on the candidates the board voted to appoint Joseph Stemm to the board.

The motion to appoint Joseph Stemm held and the vote was 6 Yes, 0 No, 2 Absent – Mrs. Barbara Bickhart and Mrs. Dawn Gill.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:00 p.m. a motion was made by Steve Schooley and seconded by Christopher Outt to adjourn the meeting.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

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Bonnie A. Edmeads
Board Secretary