DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

October 25, 2011 Minutes

The Danville Area School Board held their meeting in the Senior High School Cafeteria on Tuesday, October 25, 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

Mr. Gregg Campbell, Mrs. Dawn Gill, Mr. Jamie Hosterman, Mr. Christopher Outt, Mr. Allan Schappert, Mr. Steve Schooley, Dr. Joseph Stemm, and Mr. David Weader were present. Mrs. Barbara Bickhart was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT

Mrs. Cheryl Latorre Superintendent; Mrs. Janis Venna, Business Manager; Mrs. Dawn Brookhart, Director of Curriculum, Technology and Instruction; Ms Jillian Robbins, Director of Special Education; Mr. Lee Gump, Principal, High School; Mrs. Jen Gurski, Assistant High School Principal; Mr. Charles Smargiassi, Middle School Principal; Mr. Ed Sanders, Assistant Principal, Middle School; Mr. Chris Johns, Intermediate Principal; Mr. John Bickhart, Primary Principal; Mrs. Susan Blake, Director of Head Start; Mrs. Pam Burrows, Director of Food Services; Mr. Jeffrey Ryan, Network Administrator; Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Board Secretary and approximately 10 members of the public and news media.

I. BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENT

Next support staff negotiations meeting will be held on December 7, 2011.

We still need a representative for the Columbia-Montour Vo-Tech.

II. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

A. There was an Executive Session tonight at 6:00 pm to discuss personnel issues.

B. Thank you to the First Baptist Church for allowing us to borrow chairs for the fall drama production.

C. A special “thank you” for Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries, United States group cares and the Upper Susquehanna Synod of Lutheran , supervised by Gary Hutchinson, for the Big Day of Service event at our middle school (DES)

D. Drama Club Fall Production will be held November 18-20, 2011 at the Danville Primary Center.

E. Middle School Survey/Update

F. Safe Schools Council Update

Rick spoke about the clean-up at the middle school. The gym floor, boilers and removal of insulation in the crawl space still needs to be done.

Chiller project at Liberty Valley will begin next week and in about a month the electrical project at Liberty Valley will begin.

Danville Elementary needs 4 modular classrooms. Some electrical upgrades will also need to be done. Steve Schooley asked if the modules we have could be moved. Rick said we could but it would be very costly to move them.

FEMA meeting for the school district is set for November 11.

Career Link is going to give us a group to volunteer to help complete the work at the Danville Elementary building.

III. STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Abby Schafer – Student Representative

Abby gave the following report:

- Drama Club production is November 18-20. The production is “Our Town”.
- Last Friday we had our homecoming carnival which was very successful.
- Last Saturday was the homecoming dance
- PSSA retakes for 12th grade were held today
- This week is Red Ribbon Week
- November 3 is the end of marking period
- Forensics Team is going to Pittsburgh this coming weekend
- Ag Dept got 2011 Ag program award
- Saturday, October 29 is Trails for Treats at the high school from 6-8 pm
- Thursday, October 27 is Danville’s Halloween Parade
- Feed-A-Friend Program will be begin very soon

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kelly Krum asked about cost estimates for the options, the board told her they are on the web page. She ten asked if adding a third floor to the high school would be feasible. Rick it can be done but it would be expensive.

Cathy Petruncio expressed her feelings on the middle school. She feels they were a great family of both teachers and students at the old middle school and hopes they can get back together soon.

Kelly Krum said her children expressed how much they miss the middle school.

IV. ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve The Barn for middle school basketball practices at a cost of $9,990 for the full season.

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve MATS for middle school wrestling practice at a cost of $2,500 for the full season.

C. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the opening of the following clubs: Odyssey of the Mind and Robotics Club.

Motion: (To approve Items A-C under athletics/activities)
A motion was made by Chris Outt to approve Items A-C under athletics/activities
The motion was seconded by Gregg Campbell
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 8 yes – Gregg Campbell, Dawn Gill, Jamie Hosterman, Chris Outt, Steve Schooley, Dave Weader, Joseph Stemm and Allan Schappert; 0 no; 1 Absent – Mrs. Barbara Bickhart

Odyssey of the Mind will have a membership fee and we ask the club to do fundraising.

Robotics Club, we have someone who has offered to help with this club and also with our Industrial Arts in the middle school and high school. Dawn Brookhart spoke about the opportunity for the district to benefit from the help we have offered to us with both getting the robotics club started and the help with our industrial arts program.

V. CURRICULUM AND MANAGEMENT REPORT

A. Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA) Presentation – Dawn Brookhart, Lee Gump, Charles Smargiassi, Chris John, John Bickhart and Jill Robbins (Enclosure A)

Dawn Brookhart gave a presentation on PSSA testing. Dawn used a PowerPoint presentation to show detailed information. Lee Gump, Charles Smargiassi, Chris Johns, and John Bickhart also shared information at building level. Jill Robbins spoke about the Special Education results.

Jamie Hosterman left the meeting at 8:25 PM.

Charles Smargiassi also spoke on Ortin Gillingham and how working with a small group of kids has been successful.

Dawn closed with reviewing the goals that were presented at an earlier board meeting.

VI. SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the Good News Club to utilize the Primary School one day per week from 3:00 to 4:00 pm. A facility usage/insurance form is on file. (Enclosure B)

Motion: (To approve Item A under school/community relations)
A motion was made by Christopher Outt to approve Item A under school/community relations
The motion was seconded by Dawn Gill
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 7 yes – Gregg Campbell, Dawn Gill, Chris Outt, Steve Schooley, Dave Weader, Joseph Stemm and Allan Schappert; 0 no; 2 Absent – Mrs. Barbara Bickhart and Jamie Hosterman

VII. SCHOOL PROPERTY AND SUPPLIES

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the purchase of individual student headphones from Coby Electronics at a cost of $2,800 for 560 headphones.

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the opening of a new life skills classroom at the high school for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year.

Motion: (To approve Item A and B under School Property and Supplies)
A motion was made by Dawn Gill to approve Item A and B under School Property and Supplies
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 7 yes – Gregg Campbell, Dawn Gill, Chris Outt, Steve Schooley, Dave Weader, Joseph Stemm and Allan Schappert; 0 no; 2 Absent – Mrs. Barbara Bickhart and Jamie Hosterman

Dr. Stemm questioned the purchase of the headphones. Cheryl said we are hoping to have headphones for each student for precaution reasons. Dawn Brookhart and John Bickhart both spoke on this matter.

VIII. FINANCE

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve Janis Venna and Cheryl Latorre as the designated authorized personnel for all Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLIGIT) accounts.

Motion: (To approve Item A under Finance)
A motion was made by Dawn Gill to approve Item A under Finance
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 7 yes – Gregg Campbell, Dawn Gill, Chris Outt, Steve Schooley, Dave Weader, Joseph Stemm and Allan Schappert; 0 no; 2 Absent – Mrs. Barbara Bickhart and Jamie Hosterman

IX. PERSONNEL

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the resignation of Dale Myers effective immediately.

B. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the resignation of Don Beck effective immediately. (Enclosure C)

C. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the retirement of Gilbert Riley, a custodian in the district, effective December 1, 2011. (Enclosure D)

D. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the resignation of Nicole Strouse, a cafeteria worker, effective October 31, 2011. (Enclosure E)

E. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to accept the resignation of Leticia Santiago, as a crossing guard at the Danville Primary School, effective October 17, 2011. (Enclosure F)

E. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the employment of Paul Dennehy, as long-term substitute biology/physics teacher at the high school, at a pro--rated salary of $40,703, effective November 21, 2011 for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year. (Enclosure G)

G. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to grant approval of the employment of the 2011-2012 substitute list. (Teachers, Teacher Aides, Secretaries, etc.) (Enclosure H)

Motion: (To postpone Item B under personnel)
A motion was made by Allan Schappert to postpone Item B under personnel.
The motion was seconded by David Weader
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 7 yes – Gregg Campbell, Dawn Gill, Chris Outt, Steve Schooley, Dave Weader, Joseph Stemm and Allan Schappert; 0 no; 2 Absent – Mrs. Barbara Bickhart and Jamie Hosterman

Motion: (To approve Items A, C-G under personnel)
A motion was made by Steve Schooley to approve Items A, C-G under personnel.
The motion was seconded by Dawn Gill
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 7 yes – Gregg Campbell, Dawn Gill, Chris Outt, Steve Schooley, Dave Weader, Joseph Stemm and Allan Schappert; 0 no; 2 Absent – Mrs. Barbara Bickhart and Jamie Hosterman

X. POLICY & INSURANCE

A. The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Superintendent to approve the first reading of Policy 227, Controlled Substances/Paraphernalia. (Enclosure I)

Motion: (To postpone Item A under policy and insurance)
A motion was made by Dawn Brookhart to approve Item A under policy and insurance.
The motion was seconded by Steve Schooley
The motion was approved on a roll call vote 7 yes – Gregg Campbell, Dawn Gill, Chris Outt, Steve Schooley, Dave Weader, Joseph Stemm and Allan Schappert; 0 no; 2 Absent – Mrs. Barbara Bickhart and Jamie Hosterman

Allan raised many questions regarding policy 227. After a lengthy discussion on this policy the board voted to postpone the movement of and approval until the policy is rewritten.

Cheryl said to ask PSBA for sample policies and then have a committee to discuss creating a policy.

XII. TRANSPORTATION

XIII. BOARD CONCERNS AND ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Dawn Gill asked to move Item X Policy and Insurance closer to the beginning of the agenda in the future.

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kelly Krum said she remembers discussing policy 227 when she was a board member and is glad we are going to work on it.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:35 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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Bonnie A. Edmeads
Board Secretary