DANVILLE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

February 26, 2020 Minutes
Regular Board Meeting

The Danville Area School Board met at the Danville Primary School on Wednesday, February 26, 2020.

1. MEETING OPENING

(1.1) The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM by Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, President followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

(1.2) ROLL CALL - Board Members

Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard were present. Mr. Chris Huron was absent.

OTHERS PRESENT

Dr. Ricki Boyle, Acting Superintendent; Mrs. Bobbi Ely, Business Manager; Mrs. Donna Christensen, Director of Special Education; Mr. Jeffrey Ryan, Director of Network Administration; Mr. Ken Berkich, Director of Building and Grounds; Mrs. Linda Marshall, Head Start Director; Mrs. Amy Willoughby, Assistant High School Principal; Mr. David Snover, Interim Middle School Principal; Mr. Pelle Nejman, Interim Assistant Middle School Principal; Mr. Lee Gump, Intermediate Principal; Dr. John Bickhart, Primary Principal; Mrs. Terri Faust, Board Secretary; and approximately 50 members of the staff, public and news media.

(1.3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- **February 12, 2020**

Motion: (To approve the minutes from the February 12, 2020 meeting)
A motion was made by Mr. Derl Reichard to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2020 board meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Victor Marks. The motion was approved on a voice vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No; 1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

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2. BOARD ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENT

(2.1) Reports:

- Columbia-Montour Vocational Technical School – Chris Huron
- CSIU – Yohannes Getachew
- Curriculum Committee – Christina Fish

Dr. Boyle reported on the situation at Vo-Tech in Mr. Huron's absence. There were discussions on different options with Benton pulling out of Vo-Tech. The only way Benton can continue is if they have a one half day model for grades 10, 11, and 12 for their school. All districts which are part of the consortium must vote on this. We will be taking our vote on this proposal this evening.

Dr. Getachew reported on the CSIU. CSIU has approved his appointment on February 20, 2020. He will be attending the next meeting on March 11, 2020.

Mrs. Fish reported on the Curriculum Committee. She stated that there was a good turnout for the meeting. Middle School students attended to express their concerns and ideas. They talked about bullying and different types of curriculum and schedules which worked best for them and their individual types of learning. There was discussion about advanced placement, courses, and time for courses. Schedules and graduation requirements were also discussed although no decisions were made.

3. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- (3.1) Enrollment Report
- (3.2) Building Announcements and Information

Dr. Boyle began by talking about Kindergarten registration. She then gave some updates on the High School recognizing students from our Agricultural Science Program who placed at the Jr. Academy of Science and will be moving on to the next level in Harrisburg. Forensics attended the Bethel Black Hawk Invitational where 8 students placed. They also have students who have gone on to the District 9 State Qualifying Tournament. Morgan Everett was given the Certificate of Merit from the National Merit Scholarship Program. We had 16 students participate in the District Band Event which we hosted. They will be auditioning to move on to the regional level.

Dr. Boyle finished by explaining the enrollment report stating that we are maintaining our numbers and they remain consistent.

The Wizard of Oz will run from March 5 through March 7. Get your tickets early. The Munchkins are trying to get them all.

Dr. Boyle finished by introducing the National Honor Society which is promoting a fundraiser promoting kindness. Katie Clark, Paige Kupas, and Nick Cera spoke to

the Board about their project based on kindness. They would like to do this every year with student involvement. They presented painted rocks to the Board which promote kindness. The students spoke of a family who faced many struggles including having a child with Tay-Sachs disease. The rocks represent a campaign called Dylan Rocks named for the child. Their purpose is to remember Dylan by promoting kindness. Rock painting has been done at the High School and will be placed throughout the school and around town. There will also be a spirit week and they are having a Tay-Sachs fundraiser. Each year the NHS will pick a new organization to which the funds will be donated.

At this time Mrs. Edmeads announced there will be an addendum added to the Agenda.

Dr. Marks read the addendum:

(12.7) The Board will take action to retain the Levin Legal Group, P. C., in accordance with the Engagement Letter as presented.

Motion: (Add Addendum Item Personnel Item 12.7 to the Agenda)
A motion was made by Mrs. Christina Fish to add Item 12.7 under Personnel.
The motion was seconded by Dr. Yohannes Getachew.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT (Max. of 3 minutes each for agenda items only)

Heather Hackenberg, 811 C Street, Danville, stated that she believes Mr. Snover is well deserving of the Middle School Principal position. She also is concerned about reducing the time at Vo-Tech and asked if the vote could be delayed to better inform the public. Dr. Boyle explained that there is a deadline of March1st for the motion. Mrs. Hackenberg is concerned that the public won't be able to see this before the vote.

Melissa Specht, 1336 Bloom Road, Danville was the next to speak. Her first concern is to install cameras on all busses to protect our students and so that we can address dangerous situations caused by drivers who disregard the stop and caution signals on the busses. She is also concerned about the appointment of Mr. Snover who she does not believe is the right person for the Middle School Principal. She believes he does not have the students' and the staffs' best interest at heart.
Mrs. Specht wanted the Board to be aware of her concerns.

5. PRESENTATIONS/OUTSIDE GUESTS (Max. of 5 minutes each)

5.1 Culture Club - Paul Dennehy and High School Students

5.2 Johns Hopkins University's NNPS Leadership Institute on Family & Community Engagement - Megan Geise, June Heeter and Madison Earnest

Paul Dennehy introduced The Culture Club. The students from the Culture Club explained why they believe a club like this is important for High School Students to express what culture means to them. They believe there is more understanding among students when they learn more about different cultures. They also believe that when students talk about where they are from and where they are going there is a better understanding between all different cultures. The group is planning different trips to cities and even religious institutions to learn more about and understand different cultures. They plan on doing different fundraisers to fund these trips. The group presented a list of potential officers to the Board.

Dr. Bickhart introduced June Heeter, Madison Earnest, and Megan Geise to the Board who are teachers from Danville Primary School who are promoting Parent Involvement in all aspects of their child's education. The teachers have written action plans to engage parents in education and the community. There is a 1 year action plan for DPS where teachers and other staff are engaged in the plan. There was Rock Your School Day. Fifty-thousand educators worldwide participated in this. The entire school participated during the whole day. It was a fun and educational day. In November parents were invited to participate in the program to learn about the program. The DPS Parent Blue Ribbon University is where parents can come and learn about different topics. There has been a great turn-out from parents to learn about different topics. The group helps families to create a better learning environment for students at home. Through community donations, about 80 desks were purchased for students to take home. There are speakers and authors who come to the school to make presentations, and some authors even come to read to the students. There is community involvement for students and parents. There is a great focus on the power of play where screen time is limited, increasing imagination and creativity. There are also events planned with veterans and other members of the community.
Mr. Gordon was impressed because there was no mention of grade scores, just hands on and fun. Dr. Boyle said it is good to let kids be kids. The Board commended the teachers on the great job they are doing.Mrs. Heeter said they couldn't do it without community and the families.

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS

(6.1) *The Board will take action to approve the consent agenda items.

Motion: (To approve Consent Agenda Items)
A motion was made by Dr. Victor Marks to approve the Consent Agenda Items.
The motion was seconded by Dr. Yohannes Getachew.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 7 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No; 1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron; 1 – Abstain – Dr. Jennifer Gurski (due to miscommunication).

Dr. Gurski questioned the Personnel items that are not consent. Mrs. Edmeads explained that is because they involve money.

7. SCHOOL PROPERTY & SUPPLIES

(7.1) The Board will take action to approve the payment of Invoice #022-03 in the amount of $500 for completion of a NESHAPS/AHERA style pre-demolition survey of the Maintenance Building as presented.

(7.2) The Board will take action to approve the New Maintenance Building Contracts as presented.

(7.3) The Board will take action to approve the payment of $560 to Mid-Penn Engineering Corporation for additional services in the building design stage for the new Maintenance Building Project as presented.

(7.4) The Board will take action to approve the JMSI Environmental Corp proposal regarding the Maintenance Building Project in the amount of $1,200 as presented. **(Addendum Item)**

Motion: (To approve School Property and Supplies Items 7.1 – 7.3)
A motion was made by Dr. Yohannes Getachew to approve School Property and Supplies items 7.1 – 7.3. The motion was seconded by Dr. Victor Marks.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

8. ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES

(8.1) The Board will take action to approve Grace Sullivan as a volunteer Girls Lacrosse Coach pending the receipt of all required documentation. **(Consent)**

(8.2) The Board will take action to approve the following coaches for Spring 2020 pending all required documentation. The stipend, if applicable will be paid at the end of the season consistent with the 2019-2020 budget:

- Karen Boone – JV Girls Soccer Coach
  (Year 1; 12-week season)
- Hailey Bingaman – Volunteer Girls Soccer Coach
- Bob Kennedy – Volunteer Girls Soccer Coach

(Addendum Item)

Motion: (To approve Athletics/Activities Item 8.2)
A motion was made by Mr. Yohannes Getachew to approve Athletics/Activities item 8.2. The motion was seconded by Dr. Victor Marks.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

9. CURRICULUM AND MANAGEMENT REPORT

10. SCHOOL/COMMUNITY RELATIONS

(10.1) The Board will take action to approve the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Pennsylvania College of Technology and DASD for concurrent enrollment partnership. **(Consent)**

11. FINANCE

(11.1) The Board will take action to approve the Bills for Payment for January 17, 2020 thru February 18, 2020 as presented.

(11.2) The Board will take action to approve the 2018-2019 audit completed by Wagner, Dreese, Elasser & Associates.

Motion: (To approve Finance Item 11.1)
A motion was made by Dr. Victor Marks to approve Finance item 11.1.
The motion was seconded by Mrs. Christina Fish.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 6 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Mr. Chris Huron, Mr. Castan Kiersch and Dr. Victor Marks; 2 – Abstain – Dr. Jennifer Gurski and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No.

Motion: (To approve Finance Item 11.2)
A motion was made by Mr. Castan Kiersch to approve Finance item 11.2.
The motion was seconded by Mr. Derl Reichard.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

Motion: (To go to Executive Session)
A motion was made at 7:52 PM to go to Executive Session by Dr. Jennifer Gurski.
The motion was seconded Mr. Castan Kiersch.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

The Board returned from Executive Session at 8:08 PM.

12. PERSONNEL

(12.1) The Board will take action on the recommendation of the Acting Superintendent to approve the substitute list for the 2019-2020 school year as presented. **(Consent)**

(12.2) The Board will take action to accept the resignation of Jennifer Hopple, Elementary Music Teacher at Liberty Valley effective the last day of the 2019-2020 school year. **(Consent)**

(12.3) The Board will take action to accept the resignation of Jennifer Neuhard as Family Services Manager at Head Start effective April 17, 2020. **(Consent)**

(12.4) The Board will take action to approve continuing Homebound Instruction for Student #102791 for approximately 12 weeks. **(Consent)**

(12.5) The Board will take action to approve the employment of Nicholas Truax as Data Services Specialist at a starting salary of $52,500 (corrected as per attachment) with the starting date to be determined pending the receipt of all required documentation. The position is a 12-month non-bargaining position.

(12.6) The Board will take action to approve the employment of David Snover as Middle School Principal at a starting salary of $93,000 effective March 2, 2020.

(12.7) The Board will take action to retain the Levin Legal Group, P. C., in accordance with the Engagement Letter as presented.

Motion: (To approve Personnel Item 12.5)
A motion was made by Mr. Castan Kiersch to approve Personnel Item 12.5.
The motion was seconded by Mrs. Christina Fish.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

Motion: (To approve Personnel Item 12.6)
A motion was made by Mr. Kyle Gordon to approve Personnel Item 12.6.
The motion was seconded by Dr. Victor Marks.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

Motion: (To approve Personnel Item 12.7)
A motion was made by Mrs. Christina Fish to approve Personnel Item 12.7.
The motion was seconded by Dr. Yohannes Getachew.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

Dr. Boyle congratulated Mr. Snover for his appointment. The crowd applauded.

13. POLICY & INSURANCE

(13.1) The Board will take action to approve the PHSA MENTOR/MENTEE Program Service agreement for Head Start as presented.

(13.2) The Board will take action to approve the First Reading of the 2020-2021 Danville Area School District Calendar as presented. **(Consent)**

(13.3) The Board will take action to approve the First Reading of Policy #008 District Organizational Chart as presented.

(13.4) The Board will take action to approve the Benton Area School District's request to have the Columbia Montour Vocational Technical School, beginning the 2020/21 school year, modify the school's delivery of education to only provide half (1/2) day vocational technical training for the 10th, 11th, and 12th grade students for all participating School Districts. **(Addendum)**

Motion: (To approve Policy & Insurance Item 13.1)
A motion was made by Mrs. Christina Fish to approve Policy & Insurance item 13.1. The motion was seconded by Dr. Yohannes Getachew.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

Motion: (To approve Policy & Insurance Item 13.3)
A motion was made by Mrs. Christina Fish to approve Policy & Insurance item 13.3. The motion was seconded by Dr. Yohannes Getachew.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;

Motion: (To approve Policy & Insurance Item 13.4)
A motion was made by Mrs. Christina Fish to approve Policy & Insurance item 13.4. The motion was seconded by Dr. Yohannes Getachew.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: **0 –Yes; 8- No** – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard.
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

There was a question if addendum item was voted on. The group believed that it was not. Dr. Boyle explained that this is due to our new format using BoardDocs.

Motion: (To approve School Property and Supplies Item 7.4)
A motion was made by Dr. Victor Marks to approve School Property and Supplies item 7.4. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jennifer Gurski.
The motion was approved on a roll call vote: 8 -Yes – Mrs. Bonnie Edmeads, Mrs. Christina Fish, Dr. Yohannes Getachew, Mr. Kyle Gordon, Dr. Jennifer Gurski, Mr. Castan Kiersch, Dr. Victor Marks and Mr. Derl Reichard; 0 – No;
1- Absent – Mr. Chris Huron.

14. TRANSPORTATION

15. BOARD CONCERNS & ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA

Mrs. Edmeads stated that we are hoping to hire a new superintendent in March and we are working on the contract at this time.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:19 PM a motion was made by Dr. Jennifer Gurski and seconded by Mrs. Christina Fish to adjourn the meeting.
The motion was approved by voice vote.

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Terri Faust
Board Secretary