

DANSVILLE SCHOOLS
Board Meeting Minutes
September 15, 2008

A regular meeting of the Dansville Schools Board of Education was called to order at 7:02 pm by President Mike Kapp.

Members Present: Mary Clinton, Carolyn Jones, Mike Kapp, Dave Lilly, Phil Minshall, Charlie O'Rourke, Dan Pheils,

Administrators: Ron Stoneman, Faith Norman, Amy Hodgson, Terry Jones

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Participation

None

Special Presentations

Travis Gucky, Elementary Physical Ed Teacher, gave a presentation on a fundraiser he would like to sponsor for the Elementary School. He would like to have a climbing wall installed in the Elementary Multi-purpose room to help elementary students gain upper body strength, something he feels they are lacking. Elementary students need upper body strength and this system will help achieve that goal. He is proposing a Walk-A-Thon on Sunday October 12, 2008. A copy of the presentation is available in the Superintendent's office for review.

- Motion by Dave Lilly, seconded by Charlie O'Rourke to approve the fundraiser and climbing wall.
 - 7 yes, 0 no

Board Reports and Correspondence

Superintendent's Report:

- Mr. Stoneman discussed a worksheet provided by Tracey Moore, Stockbridge Transportation Supervisor, which provides savings to district by utilizing the VersaTrans Routing software. The worksheet compared miles driven from 2007-08 to 08-09.
- Mr. Stoneman discussed the beginning of the year transportation challenges.
- Mr. Stoneman introduced Tracey Moore, Stockbridge Transportation Supervisor.
 - Ms. Moore discussed mileage savings; the bus drivers driving their bus from home vs. starting their route from the bus garage.
- Mr. Stoneman discussed the ADAAG report and updates that have been made to the school to become in compliance with state regulations; signs, sinks, hot water, etc. Bids have been requested to repair the steps outside the Superintendent's office.

Terry Jones requested the 8th Grade Field Trip be added as a discussion item to the agenda. She explained the trip is scheduled for May 6-10, 2009. There is an increase of \$30 per person, making the total \$599 per person. The Board approved this item to be added as Action during the October Board Meeting.

High School Report

Principal Amy Hodgson reported:

- The High School has purchased Examview and Study Island. Examview allows teachers to create Michigan standards-based assessments for each Michigan Merit Core class in multiple formats. Students can then work on Study Island, a computer program where students can get remediation on the standards to prepare to retake the test.
- Six adults have volunteered to be mentors for HS students this year.
- Rachel's Challenge: Year Two: Legacy Program will take place on Wednesday, September 24, 2008.
- Mrs. Hodgson commented on the new cleaning services and how nice the school looks. The GRBS staff is very positive and helpful.

Middle School Report

Principal Terry Jones reported:

- The Middle School staff has received positive support regarding Advisory period. Surveys will be conducted during conferences for feedback from parents and students.
- Early release Professional Development was well received by teachers. There was high staff involvement.
- Middle School registration will include 6th grade for the 2009-10 school year.
- Mrs. Jones introduced new teacher Amy Croegaert as the half-time technology teacher.
- Mrs. Jones described the Middle School Positive Behavioral Program, including the rewards and consequences.

Curriculum Director

Mrs. Terry Jones reported:

- MEAP testing for Dansville Schools will be from October 14 – 30, 2008. Due to state mandate, all students will take each section of the test on the same days.
- Through STARNET and the determination of our district needs, the High School and Middle School were able to purchase Study Island to help with identification, remediation and extension of student's knowledge of the Grade Level Content Expectations and High School Content Expectations.

Elementary School

Principal Faith Norman reported:

- Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2 teachers are attending an in service at the Battle Creek Math and Science Center to learn how to implement the new science Grade Level Content Expectations with their new or re-aligned kits.
- Constitution Day will be recognized on September 17, 2008 with a K-5 assembly.
- Tom Pease, IT Coordinator, instructed teachers in the use of Grade Quick Web. Teachers are now able to work on their grades at home.
- New sinks, faucets and hot water have been installed in the large bathrooms by the elementary gym.
- The annual Back-To-School Bash was held on August 28, 2008. Approximately 550 students and parents attended.
- Plans are being made for the Grade 4 Mackinaw Trip in May 2009.

Board Reports

Transportation Committee Update – Mr. Stoneman stated he received an unsigned letter requesting a transportation committee meeting. The letter did not state specific concerns. Mr. Stoneman stated protocol had not been followed in regards to addressing issues with the Transportation Supervisor and Superintendent before taking them to the Board, but he wanted to give the Board an opportunity to respond. Mr. Stoneman did discuss possible concerns a driver has and Tracey Moore, Transportation Supervisor of Stockbridge, did confirm situation/bus stop was legal and safe.

Mr. Stoneman asked that the drivers put any concerns they have in writing and submit them to the Superintendent's office for discussion.

Mr. Stoneman requested Tracey Moore ride with each driver on their PM routes and to discuss driver suggestions.

Mike Kapp expressed the Board's support for bus drivers and the important work they do. He noted the difficulty in implementing such drastic change and that it might take some time to work through all the issues since one change impacts so many other things.

Mary Clinton requested more information on specific issues were needed before suggesting a committee meeting.

Phil Minshall agreed but also would like to have feedback on the new crossing guards, new transportation handbooks and general transportation issues.

Dave Lilly suggested a more formal request to any concerns bus drivers may have such as a written document, request for meeting with Transportation Supervisor and/or Superintendent.

Finance Committee Update – The Board feels the need to arrange a meeting to review student counts, rising prices and possible budget amendments. The Board would like to have a workshop with the Ingham ISD Business Office to review reports they are providing.

Evacuation Plan Update – Mr. Stoneman described a safety video available describing how to perform an evacuation. More information will be given on this subject when available.

Facilities Committee Update – Mr. Stoneman will arrange for another company to perform a site visit and give a presentation to the Board.

For Action

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Charlie O'Rourke to approve the Consent Calendar Items 1 – 3.
 - 7 yes, 0 no
 - **Motion passed**

President Mike Kapp asked for a recess at 9:37 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 9:44 pm

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Dan Pheils to approve the proposed contract for the Food Service Director.
 - 7 yes, 0 No
 - **Motion passed**
- Motion by Dave Lilly, seconded by Phil Minshall to approve the proposed salary increases for Food Service Personnel
 - 7 yes, 0 No
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Dan Pheils, seconded by Dave Lilly & Charlie O'Rourke to approve the Release Bible Time for 2008-09 school year.
 - 7 yes, 0 No,
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Dan Pheils to approve the appointment of Tom Pringle and John Parsons for positions of JV Head Football Coach and the Assistant Football Coach respectively.
 - 7 Yes, 0 No
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Charlie O'Rourke to establish a Personal Curriculum cut score of 60% minimum of the essential learning targets in order to earn high school credit. This cut score is in accordance with all other schools countywide.
 - 7 Yes, 0 No
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Phil Minshall to approve the establishment of Citizens Bank as Dansville School's banking facility as presented. It is noted with this approval, the Board By-laws adopted at the July 21, 2008 Board meeting are amended to reflect this change.
 - 7 Yes, 0 No
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Dave Lilly to approve the first reading of the proposed Board Policy regarding district-issued credit cards (PCards). Language changes were suggested by Mary Clinton and will be made. This item will be for Action at the October Meeting.
 - 7 Yes, 0 No
 - **Motion passed**

Discussion

1. District Transportation Policy
 - a. Suggested edits provided by Phil Minshall were proposed and discussed.
 - b. The Board agreed this item will be for Action at October meeting.

2. District Purchasing Cards
 - a. Mr. Stoneman has scheduled a meeting with Ingham ISD to review requirements for district-issued credit cards. He will also set parameters for the credit cards.

3. Reinstatement of Joan Weber, paraprofessional, from lay-off status.
 - a. Mr. Stoneman discussed the need to reinstate a paraprofessional from lay-off status. No Board action is required.

4. Voluntary lay-off of an elementary paraprofessional.
 - a. Mr. Stoneman described a situation that occurred resulting in a voluntary lay-off of a paraprofessional.

5. The use of sinking funds for reconfiguring the High School computer lab
 - a. The High School computer lab is outdated, patched together and not serving the needs of our students at this time. It is suggested fiber optics be added to the lab to help increase speed. The proposed updates will provide more space

in lab and better vision from teacher to each station. There is currently a non-compliance exit door which needs to be corrected. It is suggested that the computer lab have individual heating/cooling to help keep equipment cool. New carpet is also needed.

- i. The Board approved Mr. Stoneman to investigate and research these updates and the costs associated with it.

6. Proposed 1.5% wage increase for DESPA

- a. Mr. Stoneman requested to offer a 1.5% salary increase to the DESPA as both the school and DESPA union were having difficulty solving the proposed salary formula for the 2008-09 year.
- b. The Board approved Mr. Stoneman to proceed with this increase.

Other matters

Mr. Stoneman explained that Schedule B contract from the DEA contract was issued as a separate contract to individuals participating.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Pheils, Secretary