

DANSVILLE SCHOOLS
Board Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2008

A regular meeting of the Dansville Schools Board of Education was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Vice Pres Mary Clinton.

Members Present: Mary Clinton, Carolyn Jones, Phil Minshall, Charlie O'Rourke, Dan Pheils, Dave Lilly, Mike Kapp entered at 7:30 p.m.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Participation

Travis Gucky, Elementary Physical Education teacher, gave an update on the rock wall in the elementary gym. The Elementary students helped raise \$6000 from a fund raiser in order to acquire one. Mr. Gucky stated there would be a ribbon cutting ceremony on December 19th after the Elementary sing-along (approximately 9:20 a.m.). Mr. Gucky invited the Board to the ribbon cutting ceremony.

Steve Dougan, Ingham County Board of Commissioner Vice Co-Chairperson Pro-Tem, introduced himself and thanked everyone for their support in re-electing him to the Ingham County Board of Commissioners. He discussed his understanding of the current economic conditions and stated he supported the proposed senate bill to broaden the allowable sinking fund expenses.

Ricky Martinez, Dansville School student and Boy Scout, stated he was working on his citizenship in the community badge. This required him to attend a community meeting in its entirety. This badge is required for Eagle Scout status.

Special Presentations

None

Board Reports and Correspondence

Superintendent's Report:

- Mr. Stoneman reported that the Dansville Educational Foundation raised \$24,000 in their annual auction held December 5, 2008. In the tree decorating contest, the 5th grade class won 1st place and \$1000, the 8th grade class was awarded 2nd place, and the Elementary literacy center took 3rd.
- Mr. Stoneman discussed the design firm, Kingscott, and the correspondence he's received from other superintendents who have partnered with Kingscott for their facility needs.
- Mr. Stoneman is investigating the moving of the May election to November.
- The continuation of the water hook-up project is scheduled for December 22 – 29. Water to the entire district will be shut off during this time. Two items were not included in the engineering design; a backflow preventer and a water meter. The Village of Dansville does not provide a water meter for their customers. The cost of these two items was significant.

The Board of Education asked the individual principals questions pertaining to their school reports. Each principal report is available on the school website for complete review. A few questions to each principal follow.

High School Report

Principal Amy Hodgson:

- Topic of the December 10th Professional Development day was the Collins method. This method was discussed to incorporate into writing.

Middle School Report

Principal Terry Jones reported:

- The Middle School also wants to implement the Collins method. Two teachers were sent to the program, which was held in the Grand Rapids area.

Elementary School

Principal Faith Norman reported:

- Parent surveys regarding new elementary conference set up resulted in favorable responses.
- 2nd grade Christmas program
- The current Spanish teacher is moving to Florida.
 - Mrs. Norman will be seeking Board approval to hire Jessica Rusch, Dansville Middle School teacher, to start in fall 2009 as new elementary Spanish teacher.
 - Currently have a long term sub, January to June for this position.

Board Reports

Transportation Committee Update – None

Finance Committee Update – None

Evacuation Plan Update – None

Facilities Committee Update – Mr. Stoneman asked if the Board would like a Kingscott strategic plan. President Mike Kapp suggested a committee meeting to evaluate other districts' strategic plans by developed by Kingscott. The Board agreed and will set a committee date after information is received from other school districts.

Superintendent Evaluation Committee – The committee met on December 8, 2008. They discussed how to evaluate Mr. Stoneman for 2008-09 and a tool for same in 2009. The committee edited and updated a form for the current year evaluation. The Board will adopt this form at the regular January meeting. The evaluation form will be sent out to all Board members at that time and they are asked to return it by the end of January. A special Board meeting will then be set in February for the Superintendent's evaluation. A closed session will occur to go over the evaluation. The Board will reconvene to open session to adopt the completed evaluation. The Superintendent Committee is set to meet again January 5, 2009 to set 2009 goals.

Policy Committee – A December 29, 2008 meeting is planned.

Board Treasurer Phil Minshall expressed appreciation quiz bowl advisor Leah Braman for her organization of a quiz bowl banquet.

Board Member Carolyn Jones reported on the different bills being discussed in the State House and Senate.

For Action

- Motion by Dan Pheils, seconded by Phil Minshall to approve the Consent Calendar Items 1 – 5, including the change to the November 17, 2008 Special Meeting minutes that Vice President Clinton requested.
 - 7 yes, 0 no
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Phil Minshall, seconded by Dave Lilly to approve the coaching assignments as presented with the addition of Crystal Roe as JV Cheerleading coach.
 - Carolyn Jones questioned this required board action. Mary Clinton responded that during the policy review this would be clarified.
 - 7 yes, 0 no,
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Dave Lilly, seconded by Mary Clinton to amend the 2008-09 High School Handbook to reflect the changes in the MME testing requirements.
 - 7 yes, 0 no
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Charlie O'Rourke to approve the expense of sinking funds up to \$36,400 to allow the Superintendent to negotiate with contractors to renovate and update the high school computer classroom.
 - 7 yes, 0 no
 - **Motion passed**

Discussion Items

1. Potential school bus idling policy.
 - a. See attached spreadsheet for policies of surrounding schools
 - b. Possible county-wide bus idling policy to be implemented
 - i. The Board asked for suggestions from bus drivers and mechanic on this topic.
 - ii. Treasurer Phil Minshall suggested incorporating into the new transportation policy.

2. Superintendent Evaluation
 - a. The Superintendent Committee revised form to include comments after each section.
 - b. The Board will adopt this revised form at the January meeting to use in February at a special meeting to evaluate the superintendent.
 - c. The Board will receive draft goals from Mr. Stoneman to help set his 2009 goals and will adopt in February.
 - i. Possible new evaluation tool to incorporate goals
 - ii. Quarterly meeting scheduled in March to evaluate tool
 - iii. Align goals with Strategic plan

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Pheils, Secretary