

DANSVILLE SCHOOLS
Board Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2009

A regular meeting of the Dansville Schools Board of Education was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by President Mike Kapp.

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Participation

Barb Brevick, a treasurer of the Athletic Boosters, stated the Athletic Boosters would like to commit \$19,500 to fund JV sports for remainder of 2009-10 school year and reinstate Saturday transportation for athletics. Ms. Brevick stated the boosters will have fund raisers through remainder of year to help fund these activities.

Dansville Teacher Amanda Johnson stated two FFA members earned American Degrees and were honored in Indianapolis at the National FFA convention. The two students honored were Matt Homer and Eric Culham.

Steve Hagelberger stated he felt all day kindergarten was very beneficial and important to maintain.

Jason Griffith stated he was concerned with reducing kindergarten to half day session. He felt it should remain an all day class.

David St. John stated he felt kindergarten should remain all day sessions.

Scott Karkau stated kindergarten should remain at all day.

Jasmine Hollon stated she appreciated all teacher Michele Momberg has done for her children.

Patty Barker stated she supports sports and all day kindergarten at Dansville Schools. Ms. Barker is the varsity cheerleading coach and feels it is important have the program. Ms. Barker also stated she would be willing to coach varsity cheerleading for no fee.

Jennifer Hall stated kindergarten should remain all day.

Superintendent Stoneman stated the scheduled Special Education presentation would be postponed until a later meeting.

Jasmine Hollon inquired as to any funding reduction for Special Education. Superintendent Stoneman stated there were none at this time.

Special Presentations

None

Board Reports and Correspondence

Superintendent's Report:

- Superintendent Stoneman gave a PowerPoint presentation, which is available in the Superintendent's office for review during normal business hours. It will also be posted to the district website.

High School Report

- The High School report is available on the school website
- Trustee Carolyn Jones confirmed Dansville High School administered the ACT test. Principal Hodgson stated Dansville Schools was a national testing site but we do not get reimbursed for any costs incurred (approx \$100).

Middle School Report

- The Middle School report is available on the school website

Elementary School

Principal Faith Norman reported:

- The Elementary School report is available on the school website

Board Reports

Finance, Budget & Personnel committee – President Kapp stated this committee met with the DEA in November.

Facilities committee – None. A meeting with the committee and Kingscott will be scheduled.

Policy Review committee – None.

DESPA Negotiation committee – Vice President Clinton stated this committee met with DESPA in November.

Superintendent Evaluation committee – A meeting is scheduled November 23, 2009.

Transportation Committee – None

Carolyn Jones stated a bill is presently in the House regarding school safety zone limits in regards to registered sex offenders.

For Action

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Carolyn Jones to approve the Consent Calendar Items 1 - 8
- 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent
 - **Motion passed**
 - **Trustee Jones questioned overage charges paid to Ikon and whether or not monthly limits should be raised.**

The Board acknowledged they had given authorization to Superintendent Stoneman on November 2, 2009 to negotiate and settle Voluntary Severance Plan with eligible teachers.

The Board acknowledged they had given authorization to Superintendent Stoneman to negotiate and approve calendar amendments to eliminate ½ day professional development.

- Motion by Phil Minshall, seconded by Carolyn Jones to approve a \$50,000 (net 30,500) reduction in the transfer of funds from the general fund to the athletic fund, with consideration and investigation of laying off the athletic director.
 - 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent
 - **Motion passed**
 - This motion would eliminate the Board deciding on individual sports recommendations.
 - Because of the Athletic Boosters donation, Saturday Transportation and JV sports would be held harmless.
 - Athletic Booster President Scott Powers asked that if the Boosters could generate enough revenue to cover the athletic director salary would the Board reconsider this motion.
 - President Kapp stated the Boosters needed to communicate with Superintendent Stoneman regarding any funding generated regarding this.

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Dave Lilly to temporary elimination, pending any other funding available, of drama and positions related.
 - 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent
 - **Motion passed**

- The Board did not take action on the temporary elimination of Junior Varsity sports and related positions due to the pledge from the Athletic Boosters.
- The Board acknowledges Saturday transportation to be re-instated.

- The Board did not take action on the temporary elimination of cheerleading due to the offer by Mrs. Patty Barker, Varsity Cheerleading coach, to not accept pay for this position and to solicit funds from the community to cover funding requirements.

- Motion by Charlie O'Rourke, seconded by Mary Clinton, to eliminate Middle School art.
 - 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Phil Minshall, seconded by Dan Pheils to eliminate the half-time Middle School Spanish teacher (substitute).
 - 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Phil Minshall to self-contain 6th grade into two classes.
 - 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Phil Minshall to reduce current three 1st grade section into two classes.
 - 5 yes, 2 no, 0 absent
 - Carolyn Jones and Charlie O'Rourke voted no
 - **Motion passed**
 - **Treasurer Phil Minshall stated he would like the minutes to reflect that this program be the first reinstated if funding is available.**

- Motion by Phil Minshall, seconded by Mary Clinton to reduce three sections of all-day kindergarten into half-day sections.
 - 0 yes, 7 no, 0 absent
 - **Motion failed**

- Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Dan Pheils to eliminate an administrative position.
 - 5 yes, 2 no, 0 absent
 - Mike Kapp and Dave Lilly voted no
 - **Motion passed**
 - The eliminated position is based on seniority.

- Motion by Phil Minshall, seconded by Mary Clinton to temporary elimination of Board salary, or the most allowable by state law.
 - 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent
 - **Motion passed**

- Motion by Dan Pheils, seconded by Dave Lilly to eliminate a special education bus run.
 - 7 yes, 0 no, 0 absent
 - Secretary Dan Pheils clarified that no special education students would be affected by the elimination of this bus route and the district could reinstate this service if needed.
 - **Motion passed**

Discussion

1. Equine Club
 - a. A group has requested to be affiliated with Dansville Schools.
 - b. The Superintendent's office will contact the district insurance carrier to verify any increase in cost for this group to be covered under the policy.
 - c. This item will be brought to action in December.

2. Senior Trip
 - a. Senior class advisor Amanda Johnson stated there will not be a senior trip for the 2009-10 school year.

3. 8th Grade Trip to Washington DC
 - a. There is great financial concern for the 2009-10 trip. Options being given to parents to help fund other students, reduce the current trip and extras, or eliminate the trip. The group is approximately \$9,000 short on funds.

4. Treasurer Phil Minshall stated the district needs to explore and find more reductions, possibly electives in High School.

5. Vice President Mary Clinton stated she would like to have further discussion with the DEA regarding step increases. Superintendent Stoneman will schedule meeting between the Negotiation Committee and DEA for discussion.

6. President Mike Kapp requested Superintendent Stoneman receive reduction options from the public and investigate those recommendations.

Public Participation

Teacher Gloria Robbins asked if the 6th grade decision be a high priority for reinstatement if funding becomes available.

Julie Sworden inquired that with early teacher buyouts, would the district hire back laid off teachers first. Superintendent Stoneman stated the laid off teachers will have contractual recall rights.

Chris Lentz stated community members need to contact legislatures to help support small school systems like Dansville Schools. Superintendent Stoneman stated the district would add links on the district website to contact our representatives.

Teacher Michele Momberg stated the DEA had great respect for the Board and Superintendent Stoneman and acknowledged the difficult decisions that need to be made. She stated the DEA will work with the district to help resolve the funding deficit.

Nate Sworden asked if there was a dollar amount per student calculated before losing students affected the budget. Superintendent Stoneman stated the effect was immediate.

Scott Powers stated that other booster organizations should help generate funds for target areas.

Laura Moser stated the Dansville Education Foundation accepts donations and can distribute those donations to specific schools/accounts within the district.

Dave Dillivan stated the community needs to be organized and have a future plan to help with funding.

Jennifer Hall proposed all families to donate \$200 to the school district.

Barb Brevick stated "Meet the Aggies" was scheduled for November 30th and community members could donate funds that evening. The Athletic Boosters meet the 2nd Monday of each month and all are welcome.

Fred Stoker stated his concern with district consolidation and Dansville Schools' future.

Mary Clinton stated Dansville district has been very successful.

Superintendent Stoneman stated the Facility committee has been meeting to plan for the future. The committee needs the community to become more involved

Kim Smith stated the Elementary PTO annual craft show is November 21, 2009.

Ronnie Laux asked if Middle School volleyball was definitely eliminated. Superintendent Stoneman stated the decision would be made at a later date.

Dave Laux asked about teacher salaries. The Board responded salaries were part of a contract and would be discussed with the DEA Negotiation committee.

Dan Price stated the teachers wanted to see solid budget figures from the district before discussing any concession.

President Mike Kapp stated he appreciated all of the community input.

Board adjourned for a break at 9:50 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 10:02 p.m.

Motion by Mary Clinton, seconded by Dave Lilly to enter into closed session to discuss DEA and DESPA negotiations.

Roll Call Vote

Phil Minshall - yes

Carolyn Jones - yes

Mary Clinton - yes

Mike Kapp - yes

Dave Lilly - yes

Dan Pheils - yes

Charlie O'Rourke - yes

The Board reconvened to open session at 10:33 p.m.

Other Matters

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Pheils, Secretary