

**Board Of Education
Finance Committee Meeting
September 14, 2009**

Committee: Mike Kapp, Phil Minshall, Dan Pheils

Other members present: Carolyn Jones, Charlie O'Rourke, Mary Clinton

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

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Kapp at 6:03 p.m.

Superintendent Stoneman distributed a handout from the State Aid Budget report. He discussed:

- the current student enrollment at Dansville Schools at 904 students, which is 5 students above the 898 estimate used for budgeting purposes
- the potential reduction of \$110 per student by the State of Michigan
- the current fund equity of approximately \$300,000, which is the lowest district in Ingham County. It is 5-6% below districts' recommended fund equity. Monthly expenses are on average \$450,000, which includes payroll.
- the 2010-11 potential per student reduction amount is $\$420 \times 900 \text{ students} = \$378,000$ additional.
- step increases for teaching staff = \$50,000
- insurance increase (if applicable) = \$40,000
- a new bus, which is greatly needed = \$75,000. The district's past practice was to purchase a new bus each year. The district has not purchased a bus in 2 years.
- the current sinking fund expiration at the end of this year.
- his recommendation to notify one administrator based on seniority of the potential for layoff IF it becomes necessary. The principal with the least seniority, Terry Jones, was informed prior to the meeting. The proposal was for discussion only and nothing was decided or specified. Rational for the discussion is to keep reductions as far away from students as possible, in which teachers are closest to the students.
- an independent audit requested by the district recommended a district of Dansville's size only have 2 principals.
- the district added all day kindergarten, which is felt valuable to the district and students. It will be mandated in 2010-11. Starting a year ahead of surrounding schools should help attract School of Choice kindergartners.
- the reduction of one principal is a worst case scenario. Superintendent Stoneman asked for other options and ideas to help reduce the deficit. Participants offered the following options:
 - Change in block schedule at the High School
 - Energy conservation in all buildings
 - Is the Spanish program needed in the Elementary - is there time available for help from the High School Spanish teachers?
 - Does the District need a full-time Athletic Director?
 - Shared Superintendent

- Assistant Coaching positions at non paid for 2009-10 school year.
- Higher charge for transportation fee
- Potential 5-8 teacher retirements
- Debt reductions
- The current district debt will be discussed in detail at the scheduled September 22 Facility meeting to be held at 6:00 pm in the Elementary Library.
- Elementary School teachers rotate time on the playground
- Combine half days
- Extended winter breaks

The committee will continue to gather information. No specific recommendation will be given to the Board from the Finance, Budget and Personnel committee at this time.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Dan Pheils, Secretary