

DOWNINGTOWN AREA BOARD OF EDUCATION
Administrative Office James E. Watson Staff Development Room
Wednesday, August 4, 2021
6:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
NOTES

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Bertone called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. in the James E. Watson Staff Development Room.

President Bertone
Director Blust
Director Ghrayeb
Director Gibson
Director Houghton
Director Kring
Director MacNeal
Director Wisdom

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 2, 2021

On a motion by Director MacNeal, seconded by Director Kring, the Board, on a roll call vote, unanimously approved the minutes of the June 2, 2021 Committee of the Whole.

D. SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE – Dr. Lonardi

Dr. Lonardi presented a PowerPoint School Update. Items updated included: PDE, PADOH and CCDH all recommend following CDC, CDC recommends full in person instruction is the priority, full time DCA is an option for K-12 students, CDC recommends masking when indoors, DASD currently recommends masking when indoors, masking is still mandated on all buses by TSA, and current quarantine guidelines.

E. PRESENTATION

1. DEI Year in Review – Mr. Brown

Mr. Brown presented a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Year in Review. Highlighted were the makeup of our students, student, staff and community wellness, DEI mission, cultural equity task force, Level Up program, and observable message. Three students highlighted programs and events held last school year. These included HYPE, kindness week, day without hate, making connections program, and stop Asian hate listening session.

F. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Personnel Committee Report – *Chairperson: Director Ghrayeb; Vice-Chair: Director Gibson; Administrative Liaison: Kim Gardner*

Consent Agenda Items

1. Request approval of the Personnel Items

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

2. Request approval for renewal of LinkedIn agreement for recruiting for 2021 - 2022 school year. This was previously approved in June 2021 for \$1625, which was for a 6 month period

Total Cost: \$3250

Contract Dates/Length: 7/1/21 – 6/30/22

Funding Source: Human Resources

Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

Action Agenda Items

1. Request approval of Resolution of Dismissal of employee #23288

This will be an action item for full board approval on August 11, 2021.

Curriculum Committee Report – *Chairperson: Director Blust; Vice-Chair: Director MacNeal; Administrative Liaison: Lou Chance*

Consent Agenda Items

1. Request approval of an agreement with the CCIU for curriculum writing professional development

Total Cost: \$9,000

Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 6/30/22

Funding Source: Curriculum

Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

2. Request approval of an audit of the District's pupil services department, including but not limited to school counseling, mental health services and social emotional learning (SEL) services and resources

Total Cost: NTE \$10,125

Funding Source: ARP ESSER grant

Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

3. Request approval of a renewal agreement with Savvas for Algebra 2 online licenses

Total Cost: NTE \$16,000

Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 6/30/22
Funding Source: Curriculum
Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

4. **Request approval of a renewal settlement agreement and release with the parents of a DASD student (#2976378185)**
Total Cost: \$4,500
Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 6/30/22
Funding Source: Special Education
Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

5. **Request approval of Review 360 renewal licenses for universal behavior screening**
Total Cost: \$7,900
Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 6/30/22
Funding Source: Pupil Services
Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

6. **Request approval of a renewal contract with Gateway Medical Associates for school and athletic physicals**
Total Cost: \$20 for school physicals and \$25 for athletic physicals
Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 6/30/22
Funding Source: Pupil Services
Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

7. **Request approval of a settlement agreement and release with the parent of a DASD student (#8364786075)**
Total Cost: \$23,500
Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 11/17/26
Funding Source: Special Education
Budget Year: 2021 – 2022; 2022 – 2023; 2023 – 2024; 2024 – 2025; 2025 – 2026

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

8. **Request approval of the following Family Consumer Science Curriculum Documents:**
 - a. Grade 7 FCS
 - b. Grade 8 FCS
 - c. Everyday Foods
 - d. Global Foods
 - e. Child Development

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

9. Request approval for the donation, disposal or sale of the following items:

BC (14) Old Texts & Program Materials (2 Old HM Science Texts; 5 containers of old System44 & Read 180 materials/manuals; 2 boxes of old System44 & Read 180 CDs, Old Wilson Workbooks; 3 boxes of Old SRA Rdg Lab; Box of Rdg Milestones Level 1
BC (100) Various outdated library books
BC (1) Overhead projector and cart
BC (1) green vinyl side chair
DW (1) Ryobi 2800 Offset Press and supplies
DW (1) Delta Radial Arm Saw
DW (1) Delta Spindle Sander
DW (1) Delta Belt/Disc Sander
EW (4) 3 -4 drawers metal cabinets, 1 old metal teachers desk, 1 old VCR.
STEM (199) Out of date french textbooks and workbooks. See attached for textbook list
STEM (207) Out of date Math textbooks. See attached for textbook list
SM (6) Boxes of Literacy Materials - Reading Safari, Soar to Success, Flying Start to Literacy learning systems

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

10. Request approval of the following one-time field trips:

Curricular

- a. DMS, (LMS) – Grades 7-8, Ecology Club – Cape Cod Environmental Trip, Cape Cod, MA – May 20, 2022 to May 22, 2022 – 1 class day missed
- b. DHSE, DHSW, STEM - Grades 9-12, French and German students – Euromix 2022, Austria, Germany, and France – June 15, 2022 to June 25, 2022 – no class days missed
- c. LMS, (DMS) – Grades 7-8, French students – Quebec 2022, Quebec City, Quebec – June 13, 2022 to June 17, 2022 – no class days missed

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

Action Agenda Items

1. Request approval of a renewal contract with Education Consulting for Medical Assistance management services

Total Cost: \$75 per hour NTE \$45,000

Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 8/30/22

Funding Source: Special Education

Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

This will be an action item for full board approval on August 11, 2021.

2. **Request approval of a settlement agreement addendum with the parent of a DASD student (#4589245213)**

Total Cost: \$112,000

Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 8/30/22

Funding Source: Special Education

Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

This will be an action item for full board approval on August 11, 2021.

Public Comment on Curriculum Committee Report

(Public comment shall be limited to 5 minutes' duration per Board Policy #903-Public Participation in Board Meetings.)

Policy Committee Report – *Chairperson: Director Houghton; Vice-Chair: Director Gibson; Administrative Liaison: Robert Reed*

New Business:

1. AG Administrative Guideline: 200 Enrollment of Students
2. AG Administrative Guideline: 202 Eligibility of Nonresident Students
3. 702 Gifts, Grants, Donations
4. 712 Cooperative Playgrounds
5. AG Administrative Guideline: 712 Cooperative Playgrounds
6. 800.1 Electronic Signatures
7. AG Administrative Guideline: 800.1 Electronic Signatures
8. AG Administrative Guideline: 915 Home and School Associations
9. 236.1 Threat Assessment

The above policies will be out for 30 days

Suggested edits to Policy 702:

Page 37: word “equipment” is missing from the paragraph in red last sentence.

Page 38: suggested board approve all written agreements referenced in the last paragraph.

Page 43: suggest the last portion of #8 “must meet the national playground safety standards” be a standalone guideline.

Suggestion for Policy 236.1 Threat Assessment:

Suggested that Mr. Justin Brown be included on threat assessment team as needed.

Discussion Items:

1. 903 Public Participation in Board Meetings
2. 006 Meetings

Recommendation to lengthen the comment period prior to action items to one hour and shorten time period for each speaker to two minutes. In addition, lengthen comment period at the end of the meeting to one hour and shorten time period for each speaker to two minutes. Discussion of time period of two minutes, three minutes or two and half minutes. Discussion of who is allowed to

speaking so that policy 903 and 006 are aligned. Resident, tax payers, and staff suggested. Policy committee to make recommendations for consideration.

The above policies will be out for 30 days.

Public Comment on Policy Committee Report

(Public comment shall be limited to 5 minutes' duration per Board Policy #903-Public Participation in Board Meetings.)

Ila Negi (Upper Uwchlan) – Wants to ensure students would be able to speak during public comments.

Gina Murray (Uwchlan) – Why is there a time limit at all if the board can make adjustment at each meeting? Community members should be able to address the board for at least five minutes and there should not be a time limit for comments.

Finance Committee Report – *Chairperson: Director MacNeal; Vice-Chair: Director Houghton; Administrative Liaison: David Matyas*

Consent Agenda Items

1. Request approval of the following Student Activity Club:

- a. **DHSW National Spanish Honor Society** – This is a national organization. Students earn credits to be inducted at the end of the year. They are a service organization and will contribute to the school community and Latino organizations both locally and internationally. They will also provide free tutoring to West students. They may raise funds selling Pulsera bracelets at lunches and students will also pay club dues of \$10. The funds will be used to cover the price the organization charges for induction. They will also use the funds for West staff appreciation (ex: breakfast for secretaries).

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

- 2. Request approval to exonerate the 2017-2020 tax lien balance of \$229.60 on parcel 31-04E-0032.0700. Effective the 2017 school tax year the County created the .5 acre parcel for the purpose of mapping a right of way for a road. Due to an oversight the assessment was never changed to 0 by the County**

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

- 3. Request approval to file 8 property assessment appeals with the Chester County Assessment Office. In accordance with Board Policy 605.1 – District Initiated Real Estate Assessment the properties were identified as under-assessed from the 7/1/21-6/30/22 real estate sales data provided by the Chester County Assessment Office**
Total Cost: \$350
Funding Source: Business Office
Budget Year: 2021 – 2022

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

Public Comment on Finance Committee Report

(Public comment shall be limited to 5 minutes' duration per Board Policy #903-Public Participation in Board Meetings.)

Facilities Committee Report – *Chairperson: Vice President Britton; Vice-Chair: Director Kring; Administrative Liaison: Dale Lauver*

Consent Agenda Items

1. **Request approval of an agreement with the Downingtown Community Education Foundation for the conveyance of stadium sponsorship oversight. This agreement will automatically renew at the conclusion of 5 years unless terminated by either party**
Total Cost: No Cost
Contract Dates/Length: 8/12/21 – 6/30/26

Moved forward to the Consent Agenda for full board approval.

Public Comment on Facilities Committee Report

(Public comment shall be limited to 5 minutes' duration per Board Policy #903-Public Participation in Board Meetings.)

G. ADDITIONAL ACTION OR DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **Request approval of the 2021-2022 ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan**

This will be an action item for full board approval on August 11, 2021.

H. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD – The Downingtown Board of Directors encourages public comment from its citizens. Each community member may speak for a period of no longer than 5 minutes (per BP# 903). Please understand that this is not a time for dialogue with the board; rather the board will listen to all comments and consider them in further deliberations. Our individual e-mail addresses are on the website if you'd like to contact your individual board representative. We ask that you please direct complaints of a personnel nature regarding an individual employee directly to the superintendent.

Stef Rosinski (Uwchlan) – Expressed support for the DEI initiative and Mr. Brown. Expressed support for the wearing of masks to protect students and keep them in school.

Lakshmi Iyer (Uwchlan) – Expressed support for the DEI program and initiatives.

Danielle Otten (Uwchlan) – Expressed support for the wearing of masks. The Board as elected officials is the governing body for the district and should set policy for the district.

Tara Haarlander (Upper Uwchlan) – Expressed support for the wearing of masks. Closures effect kids more than the wearing of a mask.

Rachel Krainer (West Pikeland) – Expressed support for DEI initiatives. Asked the board to speak up for Mr. Brown and educate constituents.

Brandon Campbell (Uwchlan) – Expressed support for DEI initiatives. It is hard work and the district should not yield to the loud voices.

Kate Thomas (West Bradford) – Expressed support for curriculum updates and age appropriate DEI in DASD schools. Endorses mask wearing for all to keep schools open with healthy kids.

Kate Kearney (West Bradford) – Expressed support for DEI initiatives and programs. DEI does not equal CRT.

Mindy Ross (West Bradford) – Expressed support for DEI and Mr. Brown. Our children are a priority and should feel included.

Kathleen Lindsay (Uwchlan) – Requested the board place school start times on the agenda for discussion. Later start times benefit mental health.

I. INFORMATION

The School Board Meeting is scheduled for:

Wednesday, August 11, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the James E. Watson Staff Development Room of the Administrative Office.

A Special Board Meeting is scheduled for:

Thursday, August 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. in the James E. Watson Staff Development Room of the Administrative Office.

The next Committee of the Whole Meeting is scheduled for:

Wednesday, September 1, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the James E. Watson Staff Development Room of the Administrative Office.

J. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Director Blust, the Board, agreed to adjourn at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia B. Warihay
School Board Secretary