DISCUSSION

Public Input

PROGRAM INFORMATION

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| Autoclave at STEM   | Matt Friedman / George Tucker  
The purchase of a new autoclave for STEM to replace the one that was damaged in the fire was discussed at the Committee of the Whole on 5/30/18. This equipment was undersized and over-used. This led to a discussion on replacing the autoclaves at DE & DW as well. The autoclave is expensive but it will last a long time. It would cost approximately $43,000 to purchase autoclaves for all three buildings. STEM uses the autoclave every day for AP Capstone students in grades 11-12. DE & DW could use the autoclave at STEM on a limited basis. The Board suggested that purchases be staggered for the other buildings. We can purchase a new, not used, autoclave for STEM only. Until the Keystones go away, the Board cannot see purchasing autoclaves for DE & DW. |
| Spider Learning Agreement | Troy Podell  
94% of the original 2017-22 Budget in the 5 Core Subject Areas is allocated to Capital purchases. Less than 1% of the original 2017-22 Budget in the 5 Core Subject Areas is allocated specifically for curriculum writing. Spider Learning will provide DASD with project management infrastructure, ongoing support and coaching. Spider Learning Proposal for 1 year is $54,300. This includes PD sessions for CLs and selected teachers to create and vet OER. Open Educational Resources (OER) are content that is created and vetted by professional educators, and is available to be kept, remade, reused, and redistributed. The Federal Department of Education, Pennsylvania Department of Education, PSEA, CCIU, and countless educational non-profits and philanthropic organizations support the ‘go open’ movement to adopt OER, saving the taxpayer money while providing more students greater access to high quality educational materials. Contemporary scholarship, both qualitative and quantitative, validate the use of OER in lieu of proprietary materials. |
| New Curriculum Development Process | Matt Friedman, Deb Kearney, Troy Podell, Janine Weiss, Elizabeth Austin  
Looking at the curriculum has been in the works for a year. We are expanding the growth of our students, to see how we can engage kids for rigorous learning to prepare them for their future. This is a four-phase process: research, professional development, writing and implementation. We plan to choose curriculum writers in the Fall 2018, so we can train those writers in UbD to begin writing in June 2019 and then purchase resources. UbD 2.0 has been vetted by other school districts. We looked at state standards. |
| ESL Showcase | Monica Luna  
8 ESL teachers instruct 198 students in DASD. The number of English learners in a building can range from 4-35 students. On average, elementary ELs have 30 minutes of daily ESL instruction. A secondary EL receives 1 or 2 periods of instruction per day, depending on his/her English language proficiency. Almost half English learners are Spanish speaking, with Chinese and Konkani in the next highest group. A Back to School Open House is hosted annually by ESL in September. An ESL Family Night is hosted at EW annually every spring. |
| Math Extravaganza | Ed Merk  
There are suggested summer Math practice problems on the DASD website for every grade level and every course including Calculus, so students can be prepared for next school year. The K-5 Math Extravaganza will be held 6/13/18 from 8:00 AM-3:30 PM at the STEM Academy for K-5 teachers. Up to 150 teachers will be developing fun activities. We will have 3 sessions focusing on instruction and support framework. |
| Math Summer Camp | Ed Merk  
Math Summer Camp will be held at LMS from July 9-13, and DW from July 16-20. There will be a K-5 parent night with Mr. Greg Tang on 8/22/18 from 7:00-8:00 PM at DW. |
| Danish Exchange Program | Troy Podell  
Our focus is for student to learn about other cultures. The application process is in Schoology. There are questions for student to answer. There will be meetings during the year. The Danes visit for 10 days in September/October. DASD students travel to Denmark in the spring. Six school days will be missed. They will attend classes that are taught in English. Students will engage in group projects. Students will take excursions to Copenhagen and Helsingr (Hamlet’s Castle). The cost is $1,800 inclusive. |
| Music Showcase | Janine Weiss  
The DASD Music Department involves over 10,000 students in Grades K-12. All students in Grades K-5 are enrolled in Elementary General Music, but students also have the opportunity to enroll in the Orchestra program (Grades 3-5) and in Band (Grades 4-5). One of the only activities that activates, stimulates, and uses the entire brain is Music. Students elect to be involved in music courses in middle school.  
Downingtown Area School District hosted 140 great young orchestra musicians from 33 different schools for a one-day festival and concert at West. Students who are involved in a school-based music program are more likely to graduate high school and attend college. Only a few years of musical training early in life improves how the brain processes sound. DASD has been recognized by The National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation as one of the best communities for music education. |
| World Language Showcase | Stacy Tukloff-Vansant  
A Spanish cookbook was created by IB students in Mrs. Monk’s class at DMS. It is for sale and the proceeds will go to purchase a van for the Johnson family who have two children with muscular dystrophy. Thanks to our principal, Dr. Nick Indeglio, for supporting our cookbook, as well as Mr. Smith for helping with all the technology.  
Judy Deppen’s French students at Marsh Creek used an App called HP Reveal to link video presentations about regions in France to pictures on a poster. Using the APP, the observer is able to hover over a picture which will trigger the video segment about that region to play. This project enabled students to share their knowledge via technology, rather than creating a traditional report or brochure. |
| Reading Showcase | Tracey Resto  
There are 635 students enrolled in Reading in various classes in Grades 6-12. There are teachers working with 218 students at MC, 155 students in DMS, 103 students in LMS, 70 students at DE, and 89 students at DW. There are 17 Reading Specialists in Grades 6-12 using the Wilson Reading Program. Lexile levels match reading levels to a book. Students are given an assessment that determines the lexile level they are reading. Students then choose books matching their reading level. |
| School Counselors Showcase | Carol Warren  
Ms. Rastetter of EW and Ms. Weidner of PV demonstrated Shark Tank Career lessons. They also discussed the character traits and steps it takes to become a successful entrepreneur. |
| Nurses Showcase | Jennifer Mikulich  
There are 12 certified school nurses and 9 health room nurses. There were 46,224 student visits for illnesses and injury, 513 staff visits, and 13 emergency 911 calls. In addition to dealing with health care needs of students and staff, nurses have other responsibilities including state reporting, mandated screenings, records management, IEP and other meetings and professional development requirements. |
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<th>Art Showcase</th>
<th>Karen Guidas-Sidorick</th>
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<td>Presentation included works from the Art shows held at all 16 schools, and from various other community projects such as the Tel Hai Art Show, Gala &amp; Art Auction, greeting cards winners from the three high schools, DW Art Madness, DW Hearts for Parkland and Memory Project, DW Downingtown Library Art Show, DE Wheel Throwing, DE Tri County Art Show and WB Artist Day.</td>
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<th>High School Library Vision Statement</th>
<th>Kelly Sibley</th>
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<td>The high school library provides a connection between content areas and grade levels. It provides a safe, inclusive, flexible, supportive and adaptable learning space that encourages growth, active learning, and responsible use of digital and physical resources. The Librarian actively collaborates with teachers in all content areas to co-teach curriculum. The Librarian curates resources, both physical and virtual.</td>
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