

**DOWNINGTOWN AREA BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**Administrative Office James E. Watson Staff Development Room**  
**Wednesday, December 4, 2019**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**BOARD MEETING NOTES**

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

President Bertone called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. in the James E. Watson Staff Development Room.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**C. ROLL CALL**

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

**D. PUBLIC INPUT ON ACTION ITEMS** – 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 personal nature regarding an individual employee directly to the superintendent.

**E. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

1. Applause!! Applause!!
  - a. Holiday Gift
  - b. For the past thirty-four years, student artists in our high school art classes have created holiday greeting cards to commemorate the season. These cards are then voted on by district staff and the top three cards from each school are selected, printed and sold as a fundraiser for the Downingtown Community Education Foundation.

This program would not be possible if not for the dedication and hard work of a few people. I would like to thank our art teachers, from East: Becky Lister, Tara Burns, Terri-Lee Cook, and Michael Diesner; from West: Tim Sidorick, Lauren Reid and Anne Russell; and from STEM, Janette Romano. And finally, thank you to Art Curriculum Leader and coordinator of this competition, Karen A. Guidas-Sidorick.

We congratulate the winning artists of the 2019 DASD Holiday Greeting Card Competition.

<u>DHS East</u>	<u>DHS West</u>	<u>STEM Academy</u>
Emily Corporal	Maddie Ade	Julia Dentner
Melanie Lischuk	Ryan Giovanoni	Noah Jaouad
Annabelle Sun	Victoria Naftal	Lineesha Kamana

- c. Dr. Lonardi acknowledged retiring Director of Human Resources Sharon Standish on her many contributions to the district over approximately 19 years.

## **F. REPORTS**

1. Student Representatives  
Steven Egnaczyk  
Sneha Premchandran  
Bevan Watson
2. Student Life Report  
Dr. Troy Podell was guest speaker at the most recent meeting
3. Cultural Equity Report  
Meeting held December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dawna Hankins discuss district efforts toward more diverse hiring. Student Code of Conduct was reviewed. Committees members self-selected topics for discussion from five categories. Next meeting scheduled for January 13<sup>th</sup>.
4. DARC  
Director Kring  
Meeting held November 14<sup>th</sup>. Introduced new intern. Strategic Plan work reviewed. Future fundraising opportunities discussed: Golf outing, auction, casino night.
5. Legislative Committee  
Director Kring  
Recent meeting discussion included voucher program and education evaluation rating tool.
6. Governance Report  
Director Wisdom  
No report.
7. Education Foundation  
No report.
8. Intermediate Unit  
No report.
9. Communities That Care  
Director Britton  
Meeting held November 19<sup>th</sup>. Many new collective partners attended. There are now 6 HYPE clubs in the district and HYPE students at DHSE, DHSW, STEM and the middle schools will be partnering with the CARON foundation in a training called “Role Models for a change”. The three evidence based prevention programs professional development is now complete and ready to share with staff. Signs of

Suicide program is currently ongoing with the Marsh Creek 6 Grade Center students. The next meeting scheduled for January 21<sup>st</sup>.

- 10. Wellness Committee President Bertone  
Strategies for better communication with sub committees were discussed. Reporting to community scheduled for the spring.

**G. OLD BUSINESS**

**H. CONSENT AGENDA**

On a motion by Director Kring, seconded by Vice President Britton, the Board, on a voice vote, unanimously approved the consent agenda.

- 1. Approval of Minutes
  - a. Board Meeting – November 13, 2019
  - b. Special Board Meeting – November 25, 2019
- 2. Approval of Disbursements
- 3. Approval of Financial Reports
  - a. Treasurers Reports
  - b. Tax Reports
  - c. Budget Reports
  - d. Activity Reports
  - e. Investment Accounts
- 4. Personnel
  - a. Approval of the Personnel items
  
  - b. Approval of renewal of services with PAREAP for professional staffing recruitment postings  
Total Cost: \$1,049  
Contract Dates/Length: 1/1/20 – 12/31/20, 1 year  
Funding Source: Human Resources  
Budget Year: 2019 – 2020
- 5. Curriculum
  - a. Approval of the following one-time field trips:  
Curricular:
    - a. DE, (DW, STEM) – Grades 11, select students – Albert H. Small Normandy Institute, Washington, DC and France – June 20 to July 2, 2020 – No class days missed
    - b. DE, (DW, STEM) – Grades 9–12, FBLA – FBLA State Leadership Conference & Competition, Hershey, PA – April 5 to April 8, 2020 – 2 class days missed
    - c. DE, (DW, STEM) – Grades 9–12, Theater Arts – PA State Thespian Conference, York, PA – January 2 to January 4, 2020 – 1.5 class days missed
- 6. Policy
  - a. Approval of the following policies

1. 304 Employment of District Staff
2. 333 Professional Development
3. AG Administrative Guidelines: 333 Professional Development
4. AG Administrative Guidelines: 331 Job-Related Expenses
5. AG Administrative Guidelines: 138 Language Instruction Educational Program for English Learners
6. AG Administrative Guidelines: 246 School Wellness

7. Finance

- a. Approval for the disposal, sale or donation of items on the attached list
- b. Approval of the following Student Activity clubs:
  1. STEM Cradles to Crayons Club – This club will be raising funds and collecting materials for children in low-income areas. They will raise money hosting events such as trivia nights. The funds will be sent to the Cradles to Crayons organization.
  2. DWHS Technology Student Association (TSA) – This club will enhance personal development leadership and career opportunities in STEM. They will raise funds with after-school events, and engravings. The funds will go towards event fees, transportation, and materials.
  3. STEM C.H.A.N.G.E. – This club will help raise awareness of and contribute to various charitable organizations worldwide while providing an outlet for students to express their creativity. They will raise funds by hosting charity events, selling items and collecting donations. The funds will be donated to various charitable organizations that students feel strongly about.

8. Technology

- a. Approval for custom web design to add a global icon for the current, relevant district initiatives  
 Total Cost: \$300  
 Contract Dates/Length: 11/15/19 – 11/14/20, 1 year  
 Funding Source: Public Relations  
 Budget Year: 2019 – 2020

**I. ACTION AGENDA**

**Finance Report** – Director Kring

The committee has reviewed and recommends Board approval of the following item by roll call vote:

1. On a motion by Director Kring, seconded by Director MacNeal, the Board, on a roll call vote, unanimously approved the Act 1 Budget Resolution certifying the School Board will not increase the rate of the District’s real estate tax, or any other tax for the support of public education, for the 2020 – 2021 fiscal year, by an amount that exceeds the Act 1 index of 2.6%.

**J. ANY OTHER ITEMS THAT REQUIRE THE ATTENTION OF THE BOARD**

On a motion by Vice President Britton, seconded by Director Gibson, the Board, on a voice vote, unanimously approved Director Kring as the CCIU Representative and the district representative for the Chester County School Authority.

**K. VISITORS** – 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 personal nature regarding an individual employee directly to the superintendent.

**L. INFORMATION**

1. Hand-carried listing of attendance at overnight professional conferences.
2. School Board Meetings

In accordance with Act 93 of 1998 (Sunshine Law), the Board of School Directors met on the following dates in executive session to discuss items in one or more of the following areas: personnel, litigation, legal matters confidential information, labor relations, school security, real estate or land acquisition.

December 4, 2019

The next Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2020, starting at 6:30 p.m. in the James E. Watson Staff Development Room of the Administrative Office.

The next regular School Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 15, 2020 starting at 6:30 p.m. in the James E. Watson Staff Development Room of the Administrative Office.

4. Enrollment Report

The attached enrollment report has been submitted from the district database as of December 1, 2019.

**M. ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Vice President Britton, seconded by Director Kring, the Board, on a voice vote, agreed to adjourn at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia B. Warihay  
School Board Secretary