

Study Session - MINUTES
January 6, 2020 – 7:00 p.m. Tenth Street Library

In Attendance:

Mrs. Ashbaugh, Mrs. Hurt-Robinson, Mrs. Chaparro, Mr. Hawk, Dr. Loeffler, Dr. McClure, Ms. Miller, Dr. Pallone, Mrs. Schaaf, Dr. DiNinno, Ms. Good, Ms. Lane

Mr. Hewitt, Dr. English, Mr. Zolkowski, Dr. Monroe, Mr. Rizzo, Mr. Pater, Mr. Krajca

Dr. DiNinno welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that the Study Session is held to assist with discussion of topics that will be considered for approval at the Regular Voting Meeting and for school district updates to be shared. It is also conducted in the public.

Dr. DiNinno offered gratitude and appreciation to Varsity Football Coach, Todd Massack, for his many years of service and mentorship with Riverview student athletes.

Dr. DiNinno shared that a day of reflection and planning, in recognition of Martin Luther King Day, will take place on January 17th across the District so that students and staff can consider and plan for projects and activities that will be implemented in May as part of the District's annual "Give Back Day".

Dr. DiNinno reminded everyone that an annual community outreach event will take place on January 30th. This year's event will focus on educating and assisting parents with ways to address vaping concerns. Dr. English shared some of the agenda and resources currently being planned. Discussion about sending a Save the Date and ways to get the word out to parents was held.

The following items were shared and discussed as potential motions for approval by the board at next week's Regular Voting Meeting.

Dr. DiNinno reviewed the following personnel items with the board and answered corresponding questions. She also reviewed the District's hiring process and its alignment with the Strategic Plan.

- Resignations: Paraprofessional
- Leave: Article XI(b)
- Hires: Custodian(replacement), Potential Paraprofessional/s (replacements)
- Supplementals and Athletic Event Workers: 7th Grade Basketball
- Substitutes
- Student Teacher/s: Duquesne – Social Studies
- Potential vocal coach recommendation for this year's musical

Mrs. Ashbaugh asked that all administrators introduce themselves and provide a summary of their District responsibilities since the District has many new board members. Each administrator provided the information.

Dr. DiNinno asked District administrators to share details related to the following curricular items:

- Special Education: Dr. Monroe
 - Child Find and Annual Public Notice updated in all Student Handbooks
 - Student Placement Agreement
- Critical Online Reading Study Approval – Mr. Hewitt
 - Mr. Hewitt also explained and answered several questions that board members had regarding the amount of time students would spend on the activity, academic value of the activity, and confidentiality.
- Dr. DiNinno shared that one of the District’s goals over the past few years has been to be able to send JSHS students home over the summer, at the end of the school year, with their upcoming class schedules so that they are able to start the year with their schedule in hand. She explained that we are pleased to have been able to accomplish this goal. As a result, we begin the process of making any revisions to the JSHS Program of Studies at this point in the year so that the Board can approve the 2020-2021 Program of Studies next week and the administration and counselors can move forward with scheduling. Mr. Hewitt reviewed several revisions to the Program of Studies walking through each course including several new middle school STEAM courses and several additional high school electives. He shared that several of the electives are the result of a sophomore student taking the time and initiative to research needs and student interest with teachers and ultimately make recommendations to the administration.
 - Mr. Hewitt reviewed recommendations for several new middle school STEAM courses
- Dr. DiNinno shared that as we move into budget season, the administration examines enrollment data in an effort to meet student needs at each grade level. She explained that the unknown challenge pertaining to enrollment data is always centered around kindergarten enrollment since it is not known how many kindergarten students will attend Riverview in the upcoming year and we can only make educated guesses. To address this, Dr. DiNinno indicated that the administration has taken on a focused effort over the past few years of moving kindergarten enrollment to January/February. She shared that Mr. Zolkowski will be sharing some information pertaining to kindergarten enrollment and also the important Math program pilot that the administrators and teachers have undertaken over the past year or so to address academic needs in the area of math.
- Mr. Zolkowski reviewed timelines and outreach to encourage parents of kindergarten students to enroll early. Mr. Zolkowski also shared steps taken to engage and include teachers in selecting a quality math program resource including the formation of a math committee, reviewing several programs, seeking teacher input, piloting the top two recommendations from teachers, providing training to support the pilot programs, making use of teacher surveys to obtain input, working with parents, and ultimately selecting the best program for our kids before the end of the school year. Mrs. Good reminded everyone to be sure to order the new program before the end of the year since money has been allotted in this year’s budget for the purchase. Kindergarten Registration – 2020-2021 – Mr. Zolkowski

Dr. DiNinno reminded everyone that we are in the process of creating the 2020-2021 budget and that several items on the Business item portion of tonight's agenda will be important as we plan the budget.

Ms. Good reviewed and answered questions pertaining to the following topics and items that will be on the agenda for board approval next week:

Business Items:

- Contract Renewals: Schindler Elevator; Western PA Electric Consortium; Western PA Gasoline/Diesel Fuel Consortium; Allegheny County Ride Sharing Initiative
- AIU Joint Purchase Agreement
- Tax Installment resolution
- Pay Apps and Change Orders
- Changes to SNAP program
- Roofing Preventive Maintenance
- Allegheny Intermediate Unit Board Election
- Local Audit Approval
- Food Service RFP – a review of requirements and the timeline was provided by Ms. Good

Dr. DiNinno explained that when changes are made to Board policies, the policy revisions are shared with the Board for three reviews before they are approved. She shared that school code and other laws impact changes to board policy and that the solicitor reviews changes being made as well. She explained that a change is being made to Policy 113.4, Confidentiality of Special Education Student Information as a result of a recommendation during a special education audit conducted this year.

Dr. DiNinno shared the following budgetary outline, along with some educational information regarding how the outlines move through a central office process before being shared with the board. These outlines are approved by the Board at Regular Voting Sessions.

- Budgetary Outlines – Student Clubs

Committee Updates

The following committee updates were provided:

Education: Mrs. Hurt-Robinson shared that topics related to education were addressed and shared throughout the meeting tonight. She thanked the administration for the information.

Finance: Dr. McClure shared that County Assessment data will be provided on January 15th and the Governor will present his budget on February 4th.

Forbes: Dr. Loeffler asked that letters be sent to legislators reminding them to support public schools and not route money to Charter Schools. She also shared enrollment numbers at Forbes Vo-Technical School.

Safety: Dr. Pallone shared that she took a safety tour of the District with Mr. Rizzo and was pleased with what she learned. Some discussion regarding an intersection and crossing guard support was held. Mr. Rizzo indicated he would contact Chief Ford to look into the matter.

Student Life: Mr. Hewitt shared details about several senior nights, History Day, and the musical production. Mrs. Schaaf indicated that she would be meeting soon with Mr. Hewitt to discuss Student Life.

Eastern Area: Ms. Miller indicate that Sunrise School was in need of several capital improvements, and the Districts that own the school will need to make some decisions regarding next steps with several maintenance items.

Legislation: Ms. Miller indicated that she had been in communication with Mr. Dermody's aide who informed her that Charter School legislation was currently being held up.

Marketing: Mrs. Chaperro indicated that she would be touring the district with Dr. DiNinno and they planned to discuss next steps for addressing a marketing plan for the remainder of the year as well as a more long-range plan. An update would be provided to the board.

Kevin Krajca approached the Board and presented the Board with a letter requesting that additional teachers be hired and that the hires be considered as the Board creates the 2020-2021 budget.

The meeting concluded at 9:54 pm.