

Study Session - MINUTES

August 19, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. Tenth Street Library

In Attendance:

Dr. McClure, Mrs. Ashbaugh, Mrs. Aughenbaugh, Mr. DiClaudio, Mr. DiPietro, Mr. Tillman, Mrs. Hurt-Robinson, Dr. Loeffler, Mrs. Schaaf, Dr. DiNinno, Ms. Good, Mr. Muscante

Mr. Hewitt, Mr. Rizzo, Mr. Zolkowski, Dr. English, Mr. Pater, Ms. Pallone, Ms. Miller, Mrs. Favo, Mrs. Orbin, Mr. Carlin, Mrs. Wilton, Mrs. Tomlinson, Mrs. Migely, Mrs. Hemingray, Mrs. Weinberg, Mr. Weinberg

Dr. DiNinno provided a review of the State of the District 2019 and encouraged everyone to take the time to visit the District webpage to read through the report in detail. She shared that she was happy to report that the District has been able to continue all programming even under the current economic circumstances. Dr. DiNinno indicated that a major focus going into the 2019-2020 school year will be the implementation of scheduled Professional Learning Community time as part of the teacher schedule. She shared that this provides staff with time to collaborate on a regular basis to review data, share strategies, discuss and plan for curricular needs, create plans for students, and ultimately will have a significant positive impact on students. Ms. Good then provided a summary of variables that have impacted District funding and school budgeting over the past years.

The following items were reviewed by Dr. DiNinno in preparation for board approval next week at the Regular Voting meeting:

Discussion Items /Review of Motions for Approval for Regular Voting Meeting

Personnel

- Resignations
- Teacher Hires
- Dr. DiNinno indicated that Mr. Garrison will be offered a recall as a result of a resignation at the high school.
- Long-term substitute teachers - to fill in for several teacher leaves
- Band Manager
- Supplementals: Volleyball Coach, Athletic Event Workers, Volunteer Coaches
- Sabbatical Leave Request
- Substitutes
- Student Teachers (Univ. of Pgh.)
- Bus Drivers

Agreements/Contracts:

- Oakmont Country club – cross country
- AIFS Foundation - Exchange Student
- Ratification of YMCA contract
- Microsoft – volume licensing
- Carrie DelRosso LLC
- Watson Institute Social Center for Academic Achievement (3 students)
- Western PA School for the Deaf
- Wesley Schools (ESY)
- UPMC Western Psychiatric Student Assistance Program
- Special Transportation (IEP)
- Phase 4 Learning Center Inc. (alternative option for disruptive youth)

- Affiliation Agreement (student teachers) – Carlow
- William McKinley (soccer field use)
- Citizens School of Nursing Affiliation Agreement (nurse interns)
- Mr. Hewitt provided an update on Dual Enrollment indicating that more students are interested in these opportunities, particularly at CCAC and Penn State New Kensington.

Other:

- Cross Country Trip – October 5th, no cost to District
- Auditorium Manager – some discussion regarding contracted service position and the need to post publicly on a regular schedule was held by the board. Mr. Muscante indicated there were no particular regulations regarding this and there is currently not a policy but one could be established. It was suggested details pertaining to the auditorium manager be provided to the board.
- Handbooks (Elementary, Athletic, Employee) – it was discussed that most of the handbooks for the upcoming school year have minimal changes.

Board Policies/Governance:

- Second Reading: (105) Comparability of Services (Title I)
- First Reading: 201 (Admission of Students) 208 (Withdrawal from School) 209 (Health Exams & Screenings)

Business/Finance:

- Capital Improvement Project status and change orders – Ms. Good indicated construction projects are on schedule for the most part and will have no impact on the District’s ability to start school on time. She shared that the architects will be in attendance at next week’s board meeting to provide an update and status on projects.
- Transportation Update – Transportation was discussed briefly. A call went out to all Forbes students. Mr. Hewitt will be mailing bus passes. Student should get on their specific bus for safety reasons. Calls to our students are going to occur in a day or two.
- Ala Carte Menu and pricing – Ms. Good states this is an annual requirement with the Department of Food and Nutrition. The District must approve the a la carte menu.
- PSBA CM Regent – Policies went into Force on July 1. Ms. Good signed them so the Board will need to ratify at the upcoming voting meeting.
- Dr. DiNinno shared that after the hearing she attended pertaining to the alcohol license at Speedway, the PLCB determined not to issue the license. Since then, Speedway has filed an appeal. The District will need to attend an additional hearing on this matter.

Education Committee - Update

Mrs. Ashbaugh congratulated Mrs. Poth on several awards including the Making IT Happen Award and her inclusion in the national curriculum planning and participating conversations regarding artificial intelligence in her upcoming sabbatical request.

Mr. Zolkowski provided a staffing update indicating that Tenth Street will have 3 kindergarten sections and Verner will have 2 kindergarten sections as a result of increased enrollments over the summer months. A 6-day special rotation will continue at the elementary schools.

Dr. DiNinno thanked the administration and teachers for being positive and supportive of several schedule changes that were made necessary due to changes in student numbers and other student needs over the summer.

Mrs. Ashbaugh shared back to school reminder dates.

Mr. Zolkowski and Dr. English discussed the continued assessment of the math curriculum by administration and teachers indicating that a change in assessment tools will take place this summer and that several math resources will be piloted by teachers to determine which resource best meets the needs of our students.

Mrs. Ashbaugh reiterated comments Dr. DiNinno shared pertaining to the new PLC time which will be a part of the teacher schedule this year.

Committee Updates

Student Life: Mr. DiClaudio reported that a Student Life meeting will be held September 9th. A new volleyball coach was hired and camps were underway. Band Pie Night will take place this Friday with a pie being served at 6:30 and the Preview Show starting at 7:30.

Finance: Ms. Good shared that the Audit has started.

Eastern Area Schools: Mrs. Aughenbaugh shared that a meeting will take place this Thursday.

Legislation and Forbes: Dr. Loeffler shared some information on Senate Bill 440 and charter schools encouraging everyone to contact legislators and send letters. Forbes begins classes this week.

Some discussion occurred regarding new bus routes and parent communications from the school and new bus company.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33.

An Executive Session was held to discuss personnel matters.