

6:15 An Executive Session was held from 6:15 until 6:50 to discuss personnel and safety items.

In Attendance:

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

Mr. Hewitt, Mr. Rizzo, Mr. Zolkowski, Dr. English, Dr. Monroe, Mr. Pater, Ms. Beynon, Mr. Beynon, Ms. Chaparro, Ms. Wilton, Ms. Miller

Study Session

November 4, 2019 – 7:00 p.m. Tenth Street Library

Dr. DiNinno welcomed everyone and shared that the meeting agenda will include discussion of items being recommended for board approval at next week's voting meeting. She reminded everyone that the meeting was being held in the public.

Everyone congratulated the Cross Country Team for their second place finish in the State. This sets a school record. Several students also took individual places. Dr. DiNinno suggested that the team be invited to a future Board meeting to celebrate their accomplishments.

Dr. DiNinno shared that she, Mr. Pater and Mr. Zolkowski attended the Healthy Schools Summit last week and found it to be a very valuable source for information related to healthy learning environments. She congratulated Verner Elementary School for earning an Honorable Mention Award and Tenth Street Elementary for earning an Emerging award for their efforts to create a Healthy Learning Environment.

Dr. DiNinno shared and discussed the following items for potential approval at next week's meeting:

Personnel

- Paraprofessionals: A full-time computer lab paraprofessional position is being recommended to fill a need at both elementary schools. Several part-time paraprofessionals will be hired to meet student needs and ten part-time paraprofessionals will be designated as 5.5 hour per day employees in accordance with the new RESPA contract.
- Supplementals: Elementary & Secondary Chorus, Designer Club, Athletic Event workers
- Resignation: Verner Custodian, Gus Bell. The Board and Dr. DiNinno acknowledged, with gratitude the years of service Mr. Bell provided to the District. One part-time paraprofessional has also turned in a letter of resignation.
- Long-term Substitute for Mrs. Poth who will be out on sabbatical. A recommended candidate is forthcoming and information will be provided in board packets.
- Substitutes
- Bus Drivers
- Act 93 provision

Agreements/Contracts:

- Dr. DiNinno shared that Mrs. DelRosso provided a notice to the District, per her agreement, that she would be resigning from her contracted service position with the District as of December 31. The letter also indicated that Mrs. Del Rosso planned to provide volunteer hours to assist with any transition needed by the District. Dr. DiNinno stated that she has always very much appreciated Mrs. DelRosso's positive

attitude, energy, and the support she provided to the District with communication and outreach after she was hired to honor a Strategic Plan goal. Dr. DiNinno thanked Mrs. DelRosso for her time and support.

- Athletic Director – Mr. Rometo has proposed that some of his responsibilities be given to an Assistant Athletic Director with no additional costs to the District.
- Interim Agreement for nursing services (IEP student)
- Duquesne University Affiliation Agreement – Renewal (student teachers, practicums)
- Snow Removal agreement – no additional costs and will include the new section of road behind the JSHS.

Other:

- Conference Attendance: Ms. Good - NSBA Conference (National School Boards Association) Chicago, Illinois – April 4-6.
- A District Wellness Update was provided to the board with special acknowledgement of those on the school committees for their time and support of these important programs for our students and staff.

Board Policies/Governance:

- Board Calendar 2020 – Dr. DiNinno shared that the calendar will be similar to the current year with some adjustments based on holidays, school days, etc. The 2020 calendar is to be approved during reorganization meeting on December 2nd.
- Members of the Board and Administration thanked Mr. David DiPietro and Mr. Ernie Tillman for their service to the school district as school board members and for the talents they have shared related to school financing and engineering. They have truly made a difference and added value to the Board and the District.
- Student Clubs, Booster Budgetary Outline

Business/Finance:

- Tax Motion: Index Resolution: Ms. Good reviewed state timelines for creating the 2020-2021 Budget and held a discussion regarding passing a resolution indicating that the board would not raise taxes above the state index. The Board agreed that passing this resolution was in the best interest of the district and the budgeting process. The ability to apply for exceptions produces low revenue and the budgeting process under Act 1 is cumbersome and not meaningful which causes confusion with the public.
- Fund Balance Designation / Capital Reserve Transfer: Annually with the completion of the local audit the board is required to make some fund balance designations. Attached to the minutes highlighted in yellow is the suggested motion to make these designations. In addition, the board agreed to make a capital reserve transfer in the effort to pay for the upcoming TEN projects to begin in January.
- A Facility Update and details related to the energy savings review and recommendations by TEN was provided by the Finance Committee. The Board will approve a letter of intent in January in order to complete the projects over the summer.
- Pay Apps. and Change Orders
- Ms. Good reviewed Delinquent Tax and Writ of Executions items with the Board, these are requests our delinquent collector makes every few months. The taxpayer will be responsible to pay these fees for the board to recoup these upfront costs.
- The Eastern Area Budget was provided to the Board. Dr. DiNinno reminded the board that one motion will be on the agenda next week to approve the budget and another to approve the budget through the mail. This school is owned by several school districts and provides special education services.
- Ms. Good shared a PSBA article with the board regarding the commission's suggestions and discussions on changing the formula used by the State in order to fund special education subsidy back to the districts.

Committee Updates

Finance:

Additional thanks to Ernie Tillman and David DiPietro was shared. This is their last month on the school board.

Education:

Mrs. Ashbaugh shared that we have come to the end of the first grading period, Parent Teacher Conferences were held on November 4th, a Professional Development Day will take place on November 5th, which is also Election Day and that the next Superintendent Parent Workshop is scheduled to take place on November 11th from 5:30 until 6:30 in the Tenth Street Library. Additional congratulations was given to the Cross Country team.

Mr. Hewitt also announced that he just received word that our Model UN students just received additional awards.

Mrs. Ashbaugh shared that the Junior High web page is a valuable resource for parents and students and she is pleased with the efforts the District has made with providing quality middle school transition and a space for our middle school students.

Dr. DiNinno added that the middle school town hall meetings are also an added resource and she was impressed with the town hall meeting she attended last week.

Student Life:

Mr. DiClaudio shared that the Powder Puff Football event went well with about 200+ attendees.

Our Cross Country team placed second in the state.

Model UN continues to do well.

This year's musical, "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" is in the planning and preparation process and the students seem excited.

Forbes/Legislation

Dr. Loeffler shared that legislators continue to work on education issues and there are about 720 students at Forbes with several events coming up this week.

Eastern Area

Mrs. Aughenbaugh shared that the District currently has 4 students and that a tour is scheduled for superintendents and board members.

Dr. McClure then asked the public if they had any questions or comments on anything.

One person discussed the Cross Country team's accomplishments and another person shared that if funding is needed for an additional junior high school basketball coach and that he would see that the district received it.

The meeting ended at 8:14 pm.

