

NO: XIII
Minutes of the
Board of School Directors
DERRY TOWNSHIP SCHOOL DISTRICT
Hershey, PA 17033

January 24, 2011

OPENING ITEMS

1.01 Call to Order

A meeting of the Board of School Directors, Derry Township School District was held on Monday, January 24, 2011, in the District Office Board Room. Dr. Henry Donahue, Board President, called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

1.02 Roll Call

Directors Present: Mrs. Beulah Chabal
Dr. Donna Cronin
Dr. Henry Donahue
Dr. Mary Beth Hagan
Mr. Christopher Morelli
Dr. William Parrish
Mrs. Ellen Sheffey
Mr. Charles Stover

Excused: Mr. John Gräb

Superintendent: Dr. Linda Brewer

Secretary: Mr. Stephen Rineer

Solicitor: Mr. Brian Jackson
Ms. Carol Steinour Young

Student Representative: Not Present

Press: Mr. Drew Weidman THE SUN
Mr. Nick Malawskey THE PATRIOT-NEWS

Representatives of the Administrative Staff: Mr. Dan Tredinnick, Dr. Bernie Kepler, Mr. Joseph McFarland, and Mr. Mike Murphy.

Representatives of the Staff and Community: Zak Davies, Maryellen Sheehan, Bruce Hancock, Bunny Hottenstein, Susan Foxx, Brian Shiflett, David E. Fisher, M. Corado, J. Neal, Megan G. Hulse, Michael Hulse, Kathy Gerullo-Frick, Sarah Frick, Neil Yahn, Elizabeth Kotz.

Dr. Donahue: Mr. Gräb has an excused absence for this meeting.

1.03 Flag Salute

Mr. Stover led those gathered in the Salute to the American Flag.

1.04 School Board Recognition

Dr. Donahue: Introduction of Stephanie Iozzia and presentation of gifts of appreciation.

Dr. Kepler: Thank you, President Donahue. I have a brief statement here of introduction and recognition for our School Board on Board of School Directors Recognition Month.

If someone asked you to take an unpaid position that required you to devote an average of 20 hours a month to focus on complex tasks and issues, like multi-million dollar budgets, textbooks, curriculum development, building projects, bus schedules, would you take the position? Few people would, but thankfully, here in Derry Township, we have 9 dedicated members of the community who would do just that, and that's our local School Board.

Too often as we proceed about the important tasks at hand in the District, we neglect to recognize the commitment and hard work of the men and women who serve as advocates for our schools. January, being School Board Recognition Month, the Administration, staff, and students of our District would like to take a moment and tell our School Board members thank you for caring. It's become a tradition here at Derry Township during the month of January that we invite talented students to share the gift of music with you the Board. Tonight, we carry on that tradition with our high school senior Stephanie Iozzia to entertain you for a brief time this evening. Put your Board books, your laptops, your pencils, your Board packets aside and enjoy. Mr. Tredinnick, thank you for your help in setting this up, we appreciate your doing this tonight.

Mr. Tredinnick: I believe the floor is all hers.

Dr. Donahue: Thank you Stephanie that was beautiful, and thank you Bernie for your kind comments.

Dr. Kepler: You're very welcome, thank you. Just to add to that, not reading from my prepared statement, but more heartfelt is, having been an administrator in more than one district, the amount of time that this [not audible] in a monthly basis is amazing compared to your respective colleagues in other districts – the committee structure we have, the work, it's fast and it's a lot of time and commitment. So, personally and from the administrative team and staff, we thank you very much.

Dr. Donahue: You're very welcome, Bernie.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2.01 Approval of the January 10, 2011 School Board Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Dr. Parrish and seconded by Mrs. Chabal to approve the minutes of January 10, 2011 School Board meeting. All Board members present signified by a Yes vote.

MOTION CARRIED

INFORMATION AND PROPOSALS

3.01 Announcement of Executive Session

Dr. Donahue: I'd like to announce that the School Board met in Executive Session prior to this meeting to discuss employment issues, as well as consultation with an attorney on professional matters and potential litigation.

3.02 Recognition of Citizens (Agenda Items)

None.

3.03 Student Representatives' Report

Miss Royer/Miss. Witwer: Good evening. Hopefully everyone is staying warm. The first thing on our list is actually the snow days. We were a little spoiled last week with the two hour delays and the week off. Some of us were a little groggy this morning, I think, coming into school knowing that we have a 5 day week.

On a more serious note, over the holiday season, we had three major projects that, mostly the senior class took on, but the whole high school was a part of. One was the Billy Hostee Fund, Student Council took that on. Billy Hostee is a freshman and I think he had a problem with his pancreas they found out, but his family was struggling

financially paying for all the medical bills. Student Council raised over \$2,500 to give to him. Then, Lauren Wilson, who is another senior through Sigma Gamma, she knows a family at the hospital, a single mom who has three children. One had cancer, another is currently diagnosed with cancer, the other has severe ADHD, just a slew of problems. So, Lauren along with Sigma Gamma, we raised over \$1,500 and we got them Christmas gifts that they could never have imagined. They just asked for food gift certificates and we got them DSs and cameras and iPods, so that was pretty neat. Also, Mr. Steelman, he's psychology teacher in the high school, and he had an auction. Kids brought in used stuff from their houses and he raised money to give to a family who needed financial assistance with medical problems too.

Miss Royer/Miss. Witwer: Also Billy's back in school as well, so he's been back since after Christmas break, so he's doing really well. Also, we were just going to talk about Seussical the Musical is the musical this year. Everyone's working on that right now, pit is rehearsing, stage crew, set design, the actors and actresses, so they are busy working on that, and that will be the beginning of March.

We had three girls go to District Choir a couple weeks ago and they all made regionals, so they will be going to that. Also, it's an exciting week for seniors. We ordered our caps and gowns today, so the end is near. We know the dates of prom and all the fun end of the year activities, so we're very excited about that.

One more thing that's going on at school, it's been going on all year, but it's called EEL. A group of high school seniors who are in psychology, they work once a month or a couple times a month they go to the elementary school and they just play and do activities with kids in emotional support, so that's something that's going on.

Miss Royer/Miss. Witwer: Just yesterday was it? Two boys that participate in indoor track and field qualified for states.

Miss Royer/Miss. Witwer: So it's an exciting time in the high school. Also from the high school, we'd like to say thank you to the School Board too. You guys do a lot for us and we're very thankful.

Dr. Donahue: You're very welcome. It's easy to forget that there are people in the community who are in dire straits sometimes. It's comforting to know that our high school students realize this and can do something about it that's significant. Billy Hostee is actually a friend of the family and he had a very tough time. I think he really appreciated everything that the high school's done. So, thank you.

3.04 Presentation - Capital Area Online Learning Association

Mr. McFarland: I'd just like to introduce Ms. Bryzcki to you. She is the administrator, the supervisor, for the CAOLA program through the IU. Over the last two years, we have been looking at online learning options and what might be available to us. We've

looked at several different online learning providers, one being VLN, which is known throughout the state and also CAOLA. Tonight, we asked Holly to be here to give an overview of the CAOLA program for a couple reasons. Number 1, it's local. It's housed, it's managed right through the IU, so the tech support and everything is local. Holly and the organization has been extremely receptive and quick to respond to questions and helping us get set up. There are many benefits to Derry Township in moving forward with this. We do offer several online courses now, mainly in the foreign language areas, but looking down the road at cyber students who are currently going to cyber programs outside of our school, which, as you know, those dollars go with them when they go to those programs, bringing those students back. The benefit there is first of all, it's a curriculum that we have a part in. Secondly, that there is the possibility of receiving a Derry Township diploma, which is something they cannot get if they leave to go to an outside cyber school. So, I don't want to steal Holly's thunder, so I will turn it over to her.

Ms. Bryzcki: Good evening. Thank you for having me here tonight. It's a real honor to bring this program to your consideration. Derry Township is known for its academic excellence, and we are honored to have this program be an option for you.

The Capital Area Online Learning Association is in year two of its operation. We have 19 school districts, Derry would be the 20th to join in this region and we also currently having partnerships with five other IUs, so that's also in the works. When we started this program last year in the fall, we had 154 students. We now have more than 1,300 students, so we had significant growth in one year. That speaks a lot for the quality of the program. The School Districts in this area wanted a program that had rigor and quality, because their school name was behind it. They didn't want some online learning classes that became an easy class that any student could pass. They wanted something that was of rigor. So with that and the growth of over 600%, it really speaks a lot for the program.

I have a little PowerPoint presentation to show you. It has music, but we had a little tech program tonight, so I don't think there's going to be music or there might be or for this slide. If there's that music, you can just watch it. It speaks a little bit about the program and online learning itself.

So that was very exciting even without the music. Thank you for being quiet. It's hard for me to sit still and read that without music, but one nice thing about this program and why I have pride in it is that it's very local. The whole program was designed and formatted or came together from local districts, superintendents came to the IU and said we need an online learning option, so it was developed with local control. Every district that joins has a say in how the program moves forward and has a stake in the growth of the program. That makes a big difference. We're an IU, we're not a company that's out of state trying to make profit, we're just trying to provide the best online learning option for school districts. We feel that in our year two with that growth, we really are doing a good job of that.

Some of the interesting courses that are offered that students are enjoying are Chinese, Japanese, some Latin, a whole bunch of APs, some interesting science courses like genetics, there's also forensics, there's a CSI course that students can take. Then, just students that have trouble scheduling it into their regular course, maybe Vo-Tech students. Another thing we do is help schools recruit back full time cyber students and we provide them with the same equipment they would get if they went to a full time cyber school. That's to bring the money and quality and control back into District where the taxpayer's money is in the first place instead of having that money go to the cyber schools.

All of that in a nutshell is what we help school districts do. Anybody have any questions?

Dr. Donahue: Yes, I have a couple of questions.

Ms. Bryzcki: Sure.

Dr. Donahue: So, I guess the first one's for Joe. Our cyber students now can do it anywhere, right? They are doing their cyber schooling here or at home or here if they want to or the class or all at home?

Mr. McFarland: If they are cyber students, they are doing that outside of our District.

Dr. Donahue: If they do it with this system, they still can do it at home or do they have to do it within the District.

Mr. McFarland: No, they can do it at home just as they typically would if they went to an outside cyber school.

Dr. Donahue: We already have online classes like in Chinese and so forth.

Mr. McFarland: Chinese and Japanese.

Dr. Donahue: Japanese. Would that be part of this program then too? So it would cover those students that aren't cyber.

Mr. McFarland: Correct, yes. There's options. Holly talked about the full time cyber, there are single courses that students can take like they take the Japanese and Chinese now.

Dr. Donahue: So any course within your library would be available to any of our students whether they are cyber or not or would Curriculum have to approve it?

Mr. McFarland: Eventually. We're looking at starting out small, so that we can make sure we have everything in place and run well. For the full time cyber we would have someone on our end that would manage, make sure attendance, assignments are being

completed, because if they're going to be getting a Derry Township diploma, we want to make sure that they are also fulfilling all of their responsibilities.

Dr. Donahue: And then, sorry, I have one more question. Can it eventually be used for test preparation, SAT tests and that sort of thing?

Mr. McFarland: Yes. The other thing is with the coming of the Keystones and the graduation requirements and needing to provide remediation for students, you have to provide remediation. This would offer an opportunity over the summers for students who didn't pass the Keystones, meet their graduation requirements – there would be options there. There are options for home bound students, for credit recovery, there's a bunch of different . . .

Ms. Bryzcki: Summer school.

Mr. McFarland: Summer school options.

Dr. Kepler: Jumping in here – the main intent for 2011-2012 as Joe mentioned, starting off small. That would be a focus on our full time cyber students who have currently left us as well as a preventative nature to see if we can keep kids who have a desire to go to cyber setting and, ultimately, losing five figure dollar amounts every time we lose a student to cyber. I believe 74 students right now are attending cyber, 30 of which are current 8th through 11th grade. Our intent, should the Board give us approval to move in this direction, would be to host informational sessions with those 30 students, focusing solely on 9th through 12th grade next year, seeing if we can bring some of those students back and obviously recouping money when we do that. Those are the monies that will help fund this program. It would not be cost neutral at the onset. It might not be cost neutral in the long term, but we have a vision of it becoming very close to being cost neutral – at least on the full time cyber side. The biggest issue districts are seeing is they are able to prevent students to go to a full time cyber, because they can get a diploma that says Hershey High School. I think that is critical.

Mr. McFarland: If I can just add one other thing with the cost. As you're aware, whatever we spend on each pupil is what goes to the cyber school when they choose to leave us, regardless of what it costs that cyber school to educate a student. That's around \$8,000. With the CAOLA program, there is an annual membership fee which covers all the tech services, the hardware and everything, but the cost is about \$4,800 per student to take a full course load, so it's a little bit more than half of what we're sending out per student.

Mrs. Chabal: My question has to do with the hardware you mentioned in your presentation that when you are bringing a child who is in an online charter school that it would include providing them with. So, what is the 'with' that a child needs in order to have it home to be in a typical charter school environment?

Ms. Bryzcki: What they would receive is a laptop, a printer/scanner/fax machine, a headset, a digital mouse pad, a thumb drive, \$40 a month internet reimbursement (that's for 12 months – it's year round), and a microphone as well and a router. So, that's sets them up and it's the exact same equipment would get if they went to a full time cyber charter school. That way it's competitive. We didn't want the hardware to be the stumbling block or the internet to be the stumbling block, so we help with that and that's included in that price.

Mrs. Chabal: Right. And that's an IU expense that's then across the board or is that – there's a fee that Joe mentioned that all districts pay to the IU if they're utilizing this service.

Ms. Bryzcki: Correct.

Mrs. Chabal: And then on top of that are there additional, for lack of a better word, expenses that a district would see or is that an all encompassing fee structure or is it a ladder fee structure? As an example, if you bring back a student, there's a cost to that. You just mentioned the cost of the hardware, is there additional kinds of costs and what might they be?

Ms. Bryzcki: Okay. There is a membership fee that's annual and then the courses are per course, so there's a course fee. The full time cyber program model is one fee, the \$4,850. That includes the hardware, six courses, and one AP. There is no other additional fee besides that membership fee and course fees. That's it. All the training, anything extra is included, there are no hidden fees.

Mrs. Chabal: And that fee is a set fee or is that per student?

Ms. Bryzcki: The course fees are set.

Mrs. Chabal: No, the membership fee.

Ms. Bryzcki: The membership fee is set.

Mrs. Chabal: The membership fee is . . .

Mr. McFarland: The membership fee is based on your student population.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay. So that could come and go if you had "x" number of, you know, if you had maybe "x" minus 1 or 2 or whatever over time.

Mr. McFarland: Right. It's like the active enrollment for us is, I believe, in the 701-2,000 range, like it's a wide span, so that's all one fee. If you have 701 students or you have 2,000.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay. Okay.

Dr. Kepler: That's approximately a \$24,000 annual fee per year.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay.

Dr. Kepler: Then with the course fee \$4,800 for a full time cyber. Then, for years 2, 3, when we get there, for students taking individual courses there's a specific fee per course.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay.

Mr. McFarland: Right, and that's why Dr. Kepler said the first year, most likely, would not be cost neutral, because we're targeting and, after talking with other school districts that have done it, if we can look at bringing back five to ten of our cyber students. Again, we'd love to get all 30, but not right the first year.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay.

Dr. Cronin: Question: you said 74 current cyber students, out of the 30 are the rest seniors?

Dr. Kepler: No. They are, our target audience for the Year 1 was the current 8th through 11 graders who will be our high school students next year. Thirty of the 74 will be in high school next year. The remaining students are younger.

Mr. McFarland: Or were seniors that will graduate.

Dr. Cronin: How does a student qualify for cyber school? They just put in a request? Is it automatically approved?

Dr. Kepler: They enroll in the cyber . . .

Mr. McFarland: Are you saying the ones who go out from us?

Dr. Cronin: Students who leave us, they just find a school, they tell us and our money just goes to that cyber school.

Mr. McFarland: Correct.

Dr. Kepler: They don't even necessarily have to tell us. The cyber finds their home school district, bills us, which we don't pay, because then the state withholds our subsidy for that student.

Mr. McFarland: That's another nice thing that we've been talking with Holly about is that we can have almost an application process, and they have a screener that they can screen students with to see if they're suitable for online learners, not every student is a

good online learner. So, the District has a little bit of a say in that, because we want it to be a high quality program, so we want to make sure that the right students are in the right places.

Dr. Cronin: Do we have a list, do we know where our current 34 students are?

Mr. McFarland: Yes.

Dr. Cronin: Are they consolidated in one, all spread out?

Mr. McFarland: No.

Dr. Kepler: About 10 schools.

Mr. McFarland: It's spread out over.

Dr. Cronin: Do we know the basis of their selection? What I'm getting at is trying to find out what are they going for? Is it just random selection?

Mr. McFarland: Actually, that's a good question, Dr. Cronin. Once, if the Board approves the contract, my next step is to contact all 30 families and talk with them about why they chose cyber, why they chose the one they did, and would they have interest in learning more about coming back to Derry Township.

Dr. Cronin: Is there a way to find that information out first to make sure that what we're ascribing to will satisfy those students, because they might have reasons that they're going to those cyber schools that we're not capturing in this program? We want to make sure that what we're getting is going to be a fair replacement in their minds.

Mr. McFarland: We could. We chose, I chose not to, because I didn't want to put a carrot out there if the carrot wasn't going to be there.

Dr. Kepler: Our neighboring school districts' data is consistent across the board. For example, Lower Dauphin, rough numbers, I don't want to quote this, but in my conversations with Sherrie Smith, I want to say in Year 1, five students, Year 2, more than double that. That's the consistent pattern in each of the school districts you saw listed earlier. It does bring students back; Year 2 particularly.

Mr. McFarland: And I had contacted districts that were on that list up there and a couple of them had said every family has a story and every story's different.

Dr. Kepler: There's been recent media coverage on cyber charger schools. I don't know if any of you have read that where actually branches of our U.S. military are frowning upon students who have graduated from a cyber institution and are actually not accepting many of them into the military, even in a time when there is a need,

obviously, for active involvement in our military. It was probably 7 weeks ago, a month ago, there were some articles in the newspaper.

Mr. Morelli: Why is that?

Dr. Kepler: What I read, Mr. Morelli, was more the human interaction. I don't think anything can replace human interaction, direction, that we don't, clearly, I think, position this as a school choice. We're not opposed to that, but I think that for the typical learner, the human interaction is the most critical piece of learning. I think that's oftentimes what's missing there.

Dr. Parrish: If these kids graduate from our high school, would their diploma be any different? Would it designate them as being a cyber school graduate of Hershey High School?

Dr. Kepler: That's a good question, Dr. Parrish. I'll jump at this opportunity and Joe and Holly you can speak to it as well. That has been the discussions internally that we would like to differentiate that to have it say Hershey High School, however with online academy differentiation. We believe our students that process through our rigorous curriculum here and have that Hershey High School tag on their diploma, not that the rigor is not there in the online piece, but we felt it's a difference. It's a different course, particularly in the case where a student is a full time cyber. Our legal review to date has said that we have that ability to differentiate.

Mr. McFarland: I actually have a call in to the state just to verify that for sure. I have not heard back yet. Before Holly says anything, no other districts do that. They term theirs, like we might call ours Derry Township Online Academy, but no other district that is in that list differentiates.

Ms. Bryzcki: As a school district, you have local control and decision of how you're going to implement this program. I provide guidance, so however you want to do it is your choice. I sometimes provide opinions, but . . .

Dr. Donahue: Any other questions for Holly?

Mr. Morelli: Real quick: Our cyber students that leave Derry Township, why are they leaving Derry Township?

Ms. Bryzcki: It's a good thing you asked me. I used to work at a cyber school before working at the IU, and a lot of students leave for three major reasons: bullying, they don't feel that their special education, their IEP is being honored or giving the services they need, or they need flexibility in their schedule – whether it's that they need to work during the day, they have family obligations, or they are a professional athlete, actress, model, actor, so they need flexibility. Those are the three main reasons. Until you offer that choice of staying here, but giving them an online option, they are going to continue

to leave. Cyber school enrollment is just growing and growing, because local districts haven't been giving that choice, and that's why this program is now in place.

Mr. Morelli: So if they return you expect they'll spend 100% of their time online? This isn't going to be a program where you can take some of your classes in the District and others online. Is that true?

Ms. Bryzcki: I'm going to let them answer that one.

Mr. McFarland: Right. We're not looking at that right now. CAOLA offers a hybrid option.

Mr. Morelli: So, you got 10 or I think there's 12 cyber schools out there today. You guys are 13 or number 12 or whatever, so what differentiates you guys from the others other than we get the money?

Ms. Bryzcki: Well students would be able to, for one, participate in activities: prom, athletics, the extracurricular after school activities. Cyber schools cannot offer that. They just aren't able to. Cyber schools are state-wide, so for them to offer those types of activities, they're just not able to. They offer some socialization, but it's not the same and having that local diploma carries a lot of weight in the community and in colleges. To have the Derry Township diploma instead of such and such cyber school makes a big difference to families.

Mr. Morelli: I thought we talked about this in regards of the Tech School. Our tech students do not get a Derry Township diploma and we think that's what holding some of them back from going to Vo-Tech. This may not be a question for you Holly, but why haven't we visited that over the years? Because, I believe back in the day, when I was in school before we had onlines, the Vo-Tech students got a Vo-Tech diploma and a Derry Township diploma. We don't now.

Dr. Kepler: Mr. Morelli, I can't speak to some of that change, I can speak to a difference in how, across the Commonwealth, Vo-Techs or technical schools are patterned differently. In Dauphin County, we have a comprehensive school. Students are making a selection early on at the onset of their high school years and they take their entire coursework there, at least traditionally. Most recently, there's been some changes that allow seniors to take partial day at the Vo-Tech. Those students are still getting their home district diplomas. Lebanon County, for example, their technical school is half day junior, half day senior, and the other half of the day those two years are spent in the home school, or they have some programs that are full year your senior year you're at the technical school and you do, regardless of those, get a diploma from the home school. So, I do know they are differentiated among how the structure is, but, as I said, I can't speak to why there was a change.

Mr. Morelli: Sorry to get a little bit off track, but Section 4.2 in this agreement says something about cost for services and courses are not identified in the pricing guide.

What does that mean other than the \$50,000 price tag for two years and the courses. Are there other costs to this agreement?

Dr. Kepler: The only costs associated to the agreement are the \$24,000 annual fee, a \$4,850 tag for each full time cyber and then should we choose to open individual courses up to students, there are individual price tags for a course.

Mr. Morelli: Why do we have to do it for two years? Why are we locked into a two year initiation period?

Ms. Bryzcki: When the program was started, we asked for a two year commitment so that the program could be up and running, and now the school districts have a choice of a two year or a four year. The four year will bring cost reduction on the courses. You also have the option of the two year or four year. It's been recommended to do two year so that you can get an idea of the program without having to be locked into it for four years and then you decide that this isn't working for you.

Mr. McFarland: We actually talked that back and forth. The cost savings is in the individual courses. We felt that we really wanted to get a chance to get our feet into it and we've heard, everybody we've talked to said the courses are rigorous. In fact, in some cases they are more rigorous than what the other schools have to offer, but we wanted to see that for ourselves, so that's why chose to only recommend a two year versus going with a four year.

Mr. Morelli: Who owns this system that folks would be using online?

Ms. Bryzcki: Edison Learning provides the curriculum and the platform. We also use APEX for the APs and Inventive Learning for middle school, but the platform that you saw pictures of is Edison Learning.

Mr. Morelli: And those are for profit entities, right?

Ms. Bryzcki: They are. Correct.

Mr. Morelli: Okay. Now, what if we need something changed system-wise. How does that work. Do you guys pick up the tab or do the districts?

Ms. Bryzcki: We would take care of that. We would pick up the tab.

Mr. McFarland: And that, if I'm correct, that's covered in that membership fee that we pay.

Ms. Bryzcki: We did not want to have any hidden fees or down the road, oh by the way now there's an extra fee for this. That's not our goal.

Dr. Parrish: Chris, can I make a comment?

Mr. Morelli: Sure.

Dr. Parrish: I think a lot of us have a lot of questions and this is the first time we've heard this and it's on the agenda tonight. I might make the recommendation that we table this as a vote later and that we put this on as a work session topic, because I think it's something that a lot of us have questions about and we just want to understand better.

Mr. Morelli: Thanks, because I was going to do that too.

Dr. Donahue: So, maybe an appropriate way to do that is to wait until that point in the agenda item, the administration will make an recommendation, I'll ask for a motion, and then you can make a motion to table it.

Mr. Morelli: Thanks, Bill. It's clear we have a lot of questions.

Mrs. Chabal: Just a little bit of a point of order. If you table that means the next Board meeting, we have to make action, so we may need to do something other than table that.

Dr. Parrish: We can table it again.

Dr. Donahue: Yeah, you can just keep tabeling it.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay, well as long as you understand that if you table it . .

Dr. Donahue: It's on the agenda again, which is probably a good idea.

Mrs. Chabal: It rolls over to the next time, but if you want to have some sort of public dialogue about this as well or just have it in a work session, time will be needed to have a work session. Of course, the public can come to it as the Board discusses this publicly; I'm just mentioning the time table. I think we need to discuss this further as well, but proper order would be to table it and we just bring it back.

Mr. Rineer: One of the things you also might want to do is, it could die for a lack of a second, for example.

Dr. Donahue: And then we can bring it up anytime?

Mr. Rineer: Correct.

Mrs. Chabal: Okay, thank you Steve.

Dr. Donahue: We'll do that then. Thank you.

Dr. Kepler: Hank that is fine, we have time to do that. The intention of bringing it forward tonight as a motion was – during the budget presentation a few weeks ago, we just indicated we need some direction, because a lot of work has to occur between now and June. We certainly do understand that you have questions and we're happy to take our time and answer those.

Dr. Donahue: My understanding from Ellen is that this is in the preliminary budget, so we've got some time.

Dr. Kepler: That's correct.

Dr. Cronin: Just a final comment. Can we just submit our questions directly to you to save time?

Mr. McFarland: That would actually be very helpful. Some of our teachers have done that and Holly was very responsive at getting answers back, so that may actually help if you can send those to me, I'll compile them and I'll send them on to Holly and get some of your questions answered.

Mr. Morelli: Just one last question, Holly, while you're here and you might not be back for our work session, it talked in here about terminating service if we didn't pay our bill, are you guys a collection agency?

Ms. Bryzcki: We've never done that. We've never had to do that and we would not foresee needing to do that. I would think that we would have discussion. If there's a major problem, we would be discussing and assisting and if at some point you needed to terminate your contract, then you terminate it.

Mr. Morelli: Well that verbiage didn't sound real favorable for our side either. Thank you.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks, Chris. Thanks Holly.

Ms. Bryzcki: You're welcome.

3.05 Presentation - 2011-2012 District Calendar

Dr. Kepler: Thank you, Dr. Donahue. At your seats is a draft, you should see Draft C of the proposed 2011-2012 District calendar. It's important that you have Draft C, because there was the original one out that had January 2012 having 37 days, so that was obviously an error. That one was nice. We couldn't figure out why we were getting out of school May 30. Stand corrected, nobody's getting out of school May 30.

Again, when we present the District calendar annually, the biggest point to make is there are very few targets or dates that can be manipulated. When you look at all of the

factors, when you take in to holidays, you take into account inservice days, which we have 9 – 190 day teacher contract, 180-181 student day depending upon elementary secondary. There are very limited factors, particularly when you look at the testing window, which changes every year, but you see that highlighted in blue. PSSAs – March 12-16, March 19-23, April 16-20, April 23-27, and that doesn't speak to the makeup windows that are also in there on those off weeks of the 26-30th of March that students that miss a PSSA have to make those up, which has a compounding effect that if a student misses a PSSA, that means they are out of school during that week and then they are out of class to make it up in that make up week. So, the spring is really chewed up with PSSA testing window, which we have absolutely no control of.

Some of the highlights as you see is an August 29 start, very traditional for us as of late with a four day student week prior to Labor Day. Labor Day Friday, Monday off; followed by traditional October inservice days –we are actually placing two there so a four day weekend in October.

Like we do this year a 6th grade conference followed by the Thanksgiving break, which you can see that 23rd is an early dismissal, historically for students. The traditional days off over Thanksgiving. In December, again, conferences there for elementary students, kindergarten having two days based on trimesters again. Then the winter recess is about as short as it can be. It's the shortest one that was possible, however, we did look at adding the Monday, January 2 off. That's a tough day for folks to come back. Our student body hasn't recovered from New Year's Eve yet, staying up late and watching football all day. You see there, again, Martin Luther King day off for students and a teacher work day between semesters. In February, we have another one of our early dismissal days set there for a long weekend around President's Day, which, when was the last time we've had that off. We seem to never get that, unfortunately, we won't this year either. Then in March, the madness starts with testing. You can see what that does – pretty traditional schedule throughout. Then around the spring break in April a five day weekend there. I want to draw your attention to the snow makeup days. We are recommending to you that that January 2, that Monday, become a snow makeup day should we have any inclement weather prior to the New Year, which if we do does continue to save that President's Day, at least for one snow day, and then the makeup days from that point forth are what we've traditionally used.

That is what we propose to you. We've worked with district in the IU, because that is a factor, particularly in county when we look at Dauphin County Technical School and the IU schedule trying to align those as closely as possible that those calendars for our students are consistent. I am happy to take any questions you may have.

Dr. Donahue: Questions for Bernie, Donna?

Dr. Cronin: I have a question. I, personally, and I've heard this in the community a lot, find the snow makeup days that are built in that we then lose to be very problematic for parents, because it's kind of like a teaser. You have this day off, parents want to plan, travel, some parents do and then they lose it. It's very frustrating. I know a lot of

schools just tack them on the end. If you have snow days, you go a couple days extra, if you don't have snow days, fine, but you're not losing days which is a philosophy that you cannot have. It's not a right or a wrong and I just ask that we question that policy and possibly try something different for this coming year. We've had a couple years where we've lost days that people are expecting to have off and I would just make that suggestion. We consider doing it the alternative way.

Dr. Kepler: One of the factors we consider, Donna, it's a valid that it is hard to plan from the personal life side of things. We hear that from our staff as well. The difficulty is one of finances. If we tack on the end of the year, we have a commitment for a graduation date and all schools face this. If you push back days beyond graduation, schools typically will graduate their seniors on the designated date and then we lose subsidy each day that we go after that date, because they are not in attendance. So, that's one of the factors that we have some days made up to avoid losing that subsidy, because our seniors wouldn't like us graduating them and asking them to come back for two days, I don't think we would see them.

Dr. Cronin: Do they graduate on the last day of school?

Dr. Kepler: Yes, historically we've done that.

Dr. Cronin: And does it have to be that way? Can you schedule graduation two days later? I don't know what other schools do. I don't remember when I graduated.

Dr. Kepler: There are schools that do that – that do have graduation beyond the last day of school. That has not been our tradition here, but it's certainly possible.

Mr. Morelli: Donna, is the only reason for this request so folks can take vacations?

Dr. Cronin: No, it's so people can plan ahead. You give them a calendar, then you change it, so what's the point? When you look at the calendar, you look at it, if school when on the 8th . . .

Mr. Morelli: This is academic calendar, right?

Dr. Cronin: Right, the academic calendar, right.

Mr. Morelli: It's not a social calendar.

Dr. Cronin: Correct, but then why even have the days off, just keep them, don't have them off just say you're coming to school extra days and end school early. It's just a philosophy that's all. Like I said, there's no right or wrong, it's just what do you want to present. Some schools will have those days automatically built in extra and then they go less days, so it's just a different way of looking at it and maybe we can look at something different.

Dr. Donahue: It seems pretty simple. Either we have a graduation day several days after school ends, which would be acceptable to some people, I guess or we have school after graduation would not be acceptable except for our two students.

Dr. Cronin: Is it possible to look at some of what the neighboring districts do? Or just some other school districts just to get some other ideas, because, like I said, it's not a right or wrong, it's just a way of looking at it.

Dr. Kepler: Sure.

Dr. Cronin: And I've just heard over the past couple of years when we've lost days, you just hear a myriad of complaints of 'uh, now we lost a day.'

Dr. Kepler: The districts, Donna, that we've reviewed in preparing this proposed calendar all have built in snow days along the way.

Dr. Cronin: Which schools were they?

Dr. Kepler: I know we have Steelton/Highspire, we have Dauphin County Technical School. There is the Lower Dauphin, there is, I'll say Mechanicsburg, Central Dauphin. We have seen Camp Hill. There is a number of those districts.

Dr. Donahue: I'm sorry, when do we vote on the calendar?

Dr. Kepler: There are districts who have already approved their calendar. The recommendation was . . . it's not tonight. No. Our recommendation is that we would approve this at our next meeting on February 7.

Mrs. Sheffey: I'd like to hear more about building in the snow days at the end of the year. That's the model I grew up with and we always lost the days, so we always going out, I grew up in Chicago though, so we always used our snow days so it didn't really make a difference, but it is very inconvenient what Donna said. Our family is a family that we schedule Easter holiday down in Florida with my parents and every year my kids lose those days. It's very inconvenient, so I'd like for us to think about it. I'm not saying to do it, but to think about it.

I wanted to talk a little bit about the start of school. Last year, we pushed it back to the last week of August because of construction purposes, but prior to that we always started the week prior, like around the 24th, 25th. So, why are we continuing with this late start this year?

Dr. Cronin: Actually, if I can jump in, we've been starting the Monday before Labor Day and where there was one year when Labor Day was early and it pushed us back really early in August, but it was still the Monday before Labor Day.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay.

Dr. Cronin: It was like the 25th and it was crazy, but it was still . . .

Dr. Kepler: That was my understanding as well.

Mrs. Sheffey: Okay.

Dr. Donahue: Has the graduation been set for 2012 yet? I mean the date's been arranged, but is that unchangeable because of prior arrangements and stuff like that?

Dr. Kepler: I do not believe. It is not my understanding that we've signed a contract for commencement. I know when we had a calendar that looked like we were getting done May 30, we did check to see if the facility was available, and it was.

Dr. Donahue: So, my question is, how are we going to, once again, it seems simple to me, how are we going to decide, because there are probably some people that would like it one way and some people that would like it the other way.

Mrs. Sheffey: I think we present two calendars and we vote. Can we do that?

Dr. Donahue: I didn't mean amongst ourselves, I mean as a School District. I'm sure there are some families that like it the way it is. I'm sure there are some families that would like it changed.

Dr. Cronin: For the last six years, we've always heard although everyone will have a different opinion, and that is exactly right, but my feeling is that we've done it the exact same way every year, why not try something else? Because, whoever liked it the way it is, it's always been that way; I don't think it's right or wrong, so why not try something else?

Dr. Donahue: So you're recommending change for the sake of change then.

Dr. Cronin: No, because, I recommend change for the sake of the problems that this affords and I want to comment on what Ellen said. Yes, there are some social reasons and also to comment to what Chris said, but it's also planning reasons – parents who work or don't work, they have a schedule and when things change it's inconvenient. It's hard, we have to adapt when a snow day occurs, but that's very inconvenient for a lot of families who work. We adapt to that, but when you give us a calendar and then change it not for weather reasons, that's frustrating, because it's a built in change that we don't have to have.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks, Donna.

Dr. Parrish: It seems like the option to schedule graduation on June 7 instead of June 5 and hold the 6th and 7th in reserve for potential snow days and free up two other days. I think that would be the option we have to think about before we vote on this.

Dr. Kepler: So what I hear you saying – the two days centered around Easter locking them in as days off and push graduation back.

Dr. Parrish: To the 7th.

Dr. Kepler: And June 6 and 7 be makeup days.

Mr. McFarland: But you're saying leave January 2 and February 20 as snow makeup days or take all four out? I'm just looking for direction as we . . .

Dr. Parrish: I agree.

Dr. Cronin: Frankly, I think January 2 is a great extended holiday, but it's not a necessity if you were worried about going too far in June.

Mrs. Chabal: I'm also very happy to have this discussion. I agree both with Donna and with Ellen. For those of us, unfortunately, we don't travel much, but I do believe that it is a hardship for the reasons for planning and for the reasons whether you're traveling or whether or not you're concerned about being available to your children before and after school. One question that I think that we need to look at, it looks like an easy look see through to June and I think we should consider that. Talking about your start date in August, the word athletics comes up, because you have all your pre-seasons, so if you're going to look at, if one of the options is looking at the start date as well as the end date, I don't see that there could be too many problems inherent in the end date, but I could see that there may be some problems in the start date as it may relate District wide with our athletic programs. So, that's my only comment there. I, like my two colleagues and maybe even more of them, to see it perhaps at the end would perhaps make some sense of, if we graduate and we go after that we lose money. If our students, it doesn't snow all year, okay, and it's [not audible] and so as an example, June 7th would be graduation, but we don't need 5 and 6. What happens then?

Dr. Kepler: We wouldn't need 6 and 7. Seniors would be out of school for all intents and purposes, the last day would be the 5th, they would be home on the 6th, 7th, and come to commencement that night.

Mrs. Chabal: Right.

Dr. Donahue: So, Bernie or Joe would it be problematic to come to the Board with two calendars, one of which reflects Donna, Ellen's and Beulah's and one that's more like this or is that problematic?

Dr. Kepler: We can certainly do that. I think it's more how you want to process the two.

[Multiple people are speaking at once.]

Mr. McFarland: One of the thoughts was, and I absolutely hear what you're saying, because when you, especially around the holiday if you're planning something it does create some challenges. We were asked to look at, possibly, the spring break or things like that in the past. I will say from 9 years in the elementary school, it doesn't matter what month, what week, people are going to take vacations any time. I have the data from all the years I was there that show by month. I think we've shared that before. I'd encourage us not to necessarily make decisions based on that, but certainly understanding those snow days build in, when you lose them that is challenging.

Dr. Parrish: I think next year's unique in that we're not looking at an end of school day on Thursday or Friday. It's an opportunity to try this. What I might suggest is that we look at an end of school date on the 5th with the 6th and 7th being snow days, graduation the 7th, leave the 2nd and the 20th in for this year. The odds of us using the 2nd are very slim. It's not often that we're off. If you look historically, it's January and February we get in trouble and maybe as a compromise between the two calendars, look at that type of a calendar.

Dr. Kepler: To clarify, Dr. Parrish, you said April 5 and 9?

Mr. McFarland: Yes.

Dr. Parrish: Remove those as snow days and put the 6th and 7th in and see what happens, because next year's calendar is unique in that we've graduation dates on Friday the last few years and Thursdays. We really don't want to be finishing school on Thursday and graduating Saturday night.

Dr. Kepler: One other factor to consider is the inservice days that follow that in terms of their effectiveness. If that's the case, and I know that ultimately when we look at who stakeholders are it's a factor. Our community, our kids are our first and highest importance. Staff would have to come back on a Monday inservice day after a weekend, and the effectiveness would dip, but we're professionals and we can handle that.

Dr. Donahue: So, what I'm hearing is that the Board's suggestion is that you'll come back with another calendar that reflects Bill's suggestions and Donna's suggestions?

Mr. McFarland: You want us to bring both, correct or not?

Dr. Donahue: I'm kind of reluctant to vote on two different ones. Why don't you come with or send us the one we just talked about and we can look at that and have this discussion again on the night. We want to vote on it probably in two weeks, right?

Dr. Kepler: That is, yes, that is our recommendation so the Dauphin County Technical School and IU can plan and we can communicate to families as well.

Dr. Donahue: I know you don't need this suggestion, Joe, but you would look at it and determine whether it has some problems that we're not seeing.

Mr. McFarland: Mmmm hmmm.

Dr. Donahue: Okay. Alright. Thanks.

Dr. Cronin: Thank you.

Dr. Kepler: Thank you.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

4.01 Unfinished Business

NEW BUSINESS

5.01 Approval of Finance Report for December 2010

1.	The Treasurer's Report for the month ending December 31, 2010 was summarized as follows:	
	• General Fund Revenues	\$2,555,017
	• General Fund Expenditures	4,459,065
	• Balance of Cash Plus Investments (Includes \$4,551,438 Capital Reserve)	28,362,186
2.	The listed schedule of investment transactions for the period beginning December 1, 2010 through December 31, 2010 had total interest earnings of \$7,558 comprised of the following:	
	• General Fund	\$43
	• Money Market	5,948
	• Capital Reserve	1,173
	• PA Local Government Investment	394

	Trust	
	The average interest rate for December 2010 was 0.29%	
3.	The December 2010 expenditures for the paid bills for all funds totaled \$2,302,007 excluding net payroll, retirement contributions, and debt service.	
4.	The January 2010 expenditures for the unpaid bills for all funds totaled \$480,295.	
5.	The estimated expenditures of the General Fund for the month of January 2010 were in the following amounts:	
	• Operating Expenses	\$1,000,000
	• Utilities	126,900
	• Net Payroll (2 Pays)	1,291,000
	• Employer Provided Insurance	386,100
	• Payroll Deductions	627,000
	• Employer Payroll Taxes (FICA/RET)	147,000
	• Debt Service	<u>0</u>
	Total Estimated Expenditures	\$3,578,000

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the Finance Report and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes
 Cronin – Yes
 Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Absent
 Hagan – Yes
 Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes
 Sheffey – Yes
 Stover - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.02 Budget Transfers

Section 687 (d) of the Public School Code provides: The Board of School Directors shall have the power to authorize the transfer of any unencumbered balance, or any portion

thereof, from one class of expenditures or item, to another, but such action shall be taken only during the last nine (9) months of the Fiscal Year."

The Administration recommended the Board authorize the January 2011 budget transfers.

Mrs. Chabal moved the Board approve the budget transfers and was seconded by Dr. Parrish.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes	Gräb – Absent	Parrish – Yes
Cronin – Yes	Hagan – Yes	Sheffey – Yes
Donahue – Yes	Morelli – Yes	Stover - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.03 Requests for Payment - Construction Projects

The Administration recommended the approval of the following invoices for construction as reviewed and approved by Mr. Consalo:

	Multi-Purpose Practice/Playing Fields:	
1.	Township of Derry Invoice No: 74879-7	\$235.50
	Parking Lot Improvements:	
2.	R & S Fence Invoice No: 10411	\$6,071.00
3.	Hayes Large Architect LLP Bill No: 1012-046	2,741.88
4.	Lincoln Pavement Services (Pavement Striping) Invoice No: 4819	4,500.00
5.	Township of Derry Invoice No: 74879-8	198.00
	Elementary School/LGI:	
6.	East Coast Contracting (General Contractor) Application No: 9477-06	173,665.04
7.	H & R Mechanical (HVAC) Application No: 3	51,073.83
8.	Leo Kob Co., Inc. Application No: 3	5,534.82

9.	PSQ, Inc. (Electrical) Certificate No: 6	15,990.30
10.	Hayes Large Architect LLP Bill No: 1012-042	2,025.94
Middle School Expansion:		
11.	eci Construction LLC (General Contractor) Application No: 8	262,176.72
12.	A.H. Moyer (HVAC) Application No: 7	29,624.55
13.	Guy M. Cooper, Inc. (Fire Systems) Application No: 06	369.00
14.	Leer Electric (Electrical) Application No: 7	186,053.56
15.	SchraderGroup Architecture, LLC Invoice No: 851 2,296.36 Invoice No: 866 <u>1,968.39</u>	4,264.66
16.	Advantage Engineers Invoice No: 100236701-4	1,063.00

Dr. Parrish moved the Board approve the payments and was seconded by Mr. Stover.

Dr. Parrish: Just a matter of discussion – these are all part of bids that we’ve previously accepted, correct?

Mr. Rineer: That’s correct.

Dr. Parrish: There’s no changes here?

Mr. Rineer: Yes. That’s correct.

Dr. Parrish: Okay.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Absent

Hagan – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.04 Approval of Derry Township Tax Collection Association Appointment

The Administration recommended Mr. David E. Feidt, Esquire be appointed to the Township of Derry Tax Collection Association as an At-Large Member replacing James Albrite until December 31, 2013.

Dr. Parrish moved the Board approve the appointment and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Mr. Stover: I'd just like to thank Mr. Albrite for, Steve, how many years did he serve? Do you have a guess?

Mr. Rineer: Six or nine years. It's been a while.

Mr. Stover: Six or nine years. He was our At-Large delegate on the board and the board usually meets once a month, and it was a pleasure to have him on the board and I appreciate his service.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks, Chuck. Is there other discussion?

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Absent

Hagan – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.05 Approval of 2011 Township of Derry Tax Collection Association Budget

The Administration recommended the approval of the Township of Derry Tax Collection Association Budget for 2011. The proposed budget totals \$431,471 and represents a 13.03% decrease over the current budget of \$496,128. The school district's contribution toward this budget will be \$181,800.

Dr. Hagan moved the Board approve the request and was seconded by Mr. Stover.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Gräb – Absent

Hagan – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Parrish – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Stover - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.06 Approval of Agreement for Services with Capital Area Online Learning Association

The Administration recommended the District enter an agreement with the Capital Area Intermediate Unit to participate in the Capital Area Online Learning Association (CAOLA) from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2013 at a cost of \$24,000 annually plus course fees.

Dr. Donahue: May I have a motion to approve this recommendation?

Mrs. Chabal: So moved.

Dr. Donahue: May I have a second?

No response.

Dr. Donahue: There's no second, so we will bring this up at another meeting and we won't have a vote.

MOTION FAILED

5.07 Requests for the Use of School Facilities

The Administration recommended the approval of the following Requests for the Use of School Facilities:

<i>Group:</i>	Hershey Little League
<i>Date/Time:</i>	March 1, 2011 through November 15, 2011 Monday - Friday 4:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.
	Saturday 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m.
	Sunday 1:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
<i>Requested Facility:</i>	Memorial Baseball Field, North & South Fields, JV Field, Batting Cages
<i>Event:</i>	Games, Practices, Tournaments
<i>Fee:</i>	None
<i>Group:</i>	Hershey Soccer Club

<i>Date/Time:</i>	March 21, April 18, May 10, June 20, August 15, September 19, October 17, and November 21, 2011 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
<i>Requested Facility:</i>	Middle School LGI
<i>Event:</i>	Board Meetings
<i>Fee:</i>	None
<i>Group:</i>	Hershey Field Hockey
<i>Date/Time:</i>	June 11, 2011 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
	June 12, 2011 (Rain Date) 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
<i>Requested Facility:</i>	2 Turf Fields
<i>Event:</i>	Field Hockey Spring Tournament
<i>Fee:</i>	As Per Lease Agreement

Dr. Parish moved the Board approve the requests and was seconded by Mrs. Sheffey.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Gräb – Absent

Parrish – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Stover - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.08 Personnel – Resignations

The Administration recommended the approval of the following resignations:

Classified:
Habecker, Dennis Bus Driver District-wide Reason: Personal Effective: 01/28/2011
Young, Jessica Custodian

High School Reason: Personal Effective: 01/21/2011
--

Mrs. Chabal moved the Board approve the resignations and was seconded by Dr. Cronin.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes	Gräb – Absent	Parrish – Yes
Cronin – Yes	Hagan – Yes	Sheffey – Yes
Donahue – Yes	Morelli – Yes	Stover - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

5.09 Personnel – General

1.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following appointments:
	Transfer of Act 93 Staff:
	McFarland, Joseph * From: Director of Curriculum and Instruction To: Assistant to the Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction Salary: \$115,000 Effective: 01/24/2011
	Professional:
	Alexander, Rebecca Psychology Intern (replacing Megan Michkofsky) District-wide Salary: \$10,000 (no benefits, funded through IDEA) Effective: 08/22/2011 through the end of the 2011-2012 school year
	Prestidge, Heidi * (for Dawn Yingling) Grade 4 Teacher Elementary School Long Term Substitute Bachelors, Step 1 Salary: \$40,281.25 (pro-rated) Effective: 01/14/2011 through the end of the 2010-2011 school year (retroactive)

	Classified:
	Habecker, Dennis * Substitute Bus Driver District-wide Salary: \$14.56 per hour Effective: 01/28/2011
	Vonada, Robert * (replacing Dennis Habecker) Bus Driver District-wide Level A: 5.0 hours per day Salary: \$14.56 per hour Effective: 01/25/2011
	Limited Service Contract:
	Butler, Nicole * MASH Coordinator Middle School Level II, Group E, Step 1 Salary: \$1,459 (pro-rated) Effective: 01/24/2011
2.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following requests in accordance with District Policy 438.1:
	Klos, Jennifer * Gifted Support Teacher Middle School Compensated Professional Development Leave Effective: 08/25/2011 through 06/08/2012
	Wallace, Timothy * Art Teacher Elementary School Compensated Professional Development Leave Effective: 08/25/2011 through 06/08/2012
3.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following request in accordance with District Policy 535:
	Bowers, Kristi * Cafeteria Aide Elementary School Paid/Unpaid Family Medical leave Effective: 01/26/2011 through 02/24/2011

4.	The Administration recommended the approval of the following additions to the 2010-2011 Substitute Teacher List:
	Krediet, Katie B.S. in Elementary Education from Lebanon Valley College (pending Emergency Certification)
	Kurtas, Amanda B.S. in Elementary Education from Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
	Rusnack, Jessica B.S. in Secondary Social Studies from the Pennsylvania State University
	Vishnesky, Samantha B.S. in Elementary Education from Millersville University of Pennsylvania
*	This individual is currently an employee and/or volunteer. Clearances are on file.

Mrs. Chabal moved the Board approve the personnel recommendations and was seconded by Mrs. Sheffey.

Roll Call Vote:

Chabal – Yes

Gräb – Absent

Parrish – Yes

Cronin – Yes

Hagan – Yes

Sheffey – Yes

Donahue – Yes

Morelli – Yes

Stover - Yes

8 Yes, 1 Absent

MOTION CARRIED

DELEGATES REPORTS

6.01 Dauphin County Technical School Report

Mr. Morelli: I forgot my folder and I didn't realize John wouldn't be here, so I owe you two next time.

6.02 Harrisburg Area Community College Report

Dr. Cronin: No report, I still have to attend the first meeting.

6.03 Capital Area Intermediate Unit Report

Mrs. Chabal: The meeting is next Thursday, so after that.

6.04 Derry Township Tax Collection Association Report

Mr. Stover: The Tax Association will be meeting this Thursday to reorganize. The Dauphin County Tax Collection Committee met last Wednesday. Most of the discussion was around working toward the approval of a contract, so we're still working out contract details.

There is one item that we need to make a decision on. As you know, the Dauphin County Tax Collection Association is being formed because the state is requiring that we collect that at a county level as opposed to our association level. There is an option where that county collector, Berkheimer, could collect a local services tax as well. They are asking us, each entity, to decide whether they want them to collect the LST for 2012 and Steve, jump in if I miss something, but there's really probably two reasons that I'm recommending to our Board that we allow our local association to collect that. One, from a financial perspective, it doesn't make sense. Two, because Berkheimer is going to be collecting the EIT, if we continue to collect the local services tax, we will be able to pick up on errors in the EIT collection, and everybody pretty much feels that this is going to be a little, probably difficult at best getting started the first year. We have a better chance of picking up EIT mistakes if we continue to collect at the local level. So, I asked the Solicitor does this need to be an agenda item for approval. He said no. It's my recommendation that we do it this way, it's Mr. Rineer's recommendation we do it this way, and it's my understanding that supervisors are also going to vote that way as well. So, I'm just asking if you are in agreement with us to continue to do that or if there's any opposition to that.

Dr. Donahue: Are there any questions for Chuck regarding this?

Dr. Parrish: Chuck, I think it's good to just clarify if the local tax association's collecting here is at no additional cost. If they collect it, it's a percentage of . . .

Mr. Stover: 1.75.

Dr. Parrish: So, we would lose 1.75, so that's reason in and of itself enough.

Mr. Stover: Correct.

Dr. Donahue: Other questions? So everybody's comfortable with this? Great. Thanks, Chuck.

SPECIAL REPORTS

7.01 Announcement of Staff Development Conference

Emily Katzaman

Pennsylvania Speech-Language-Hearing Association
Pittsburgh, PA
April 6-9, 2011
Expenses: \$980.00

7.02 School Community Information Report

Mr. Tredinnick: Thank you, Mr. President. This is the meeting where I bring before the names of our Students of the Month. We do have two Students of the Month for the month of January. The January Students of the Month from Hershey High School are Caitlyn Banducci and Ben Lengerich. Both were recognized for being both outstanding citizens as well as their academic achievements at the high school.

Ben is the captain of the high school Brain Busters team and he is Vice President of the Biology Club. He is a member of National Honor Society, Science Olympiad, and participates in the spring musical as a member of the Pit Orchestra. He has been recognized as a National Merit Scholar semifinalist and he is an AP Science Scholar with Distinction Award winner. In addition to his academic achievements, he participates in cross country and both indoor and outdoor track and field. He is the son of Eugene and Rebecca Lengerich of Hummelstown, and he plans to attend college and major in mathematics.

Caitlyn is a member of the National Honor Society as well. She is also a member of the National Spanish Honor Society and the Art Honor Society. She is a participant in Student Council, is a member of the Spanish Club, and is also involved in the schools musical program. She has received recognition for her academic achievements, such as winning the Rachel Carson Biology Award and Class Achievement Awards in algebra, trigonometry, and AP English language. In her free time, she likes to spend it singing to residents of Country Meadows as a volunteer there. She plans to attend Emory University where she will major in biology and her ultimate career plans are to become a veterinarian. She is the daughter of Dennis and Cindy Banducci of Hummelstown.

Thank you.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks, Dan.

7.03 Board Members' Report

Mrs. Sheffey: I just wanted to inform my colleagues that we were originally planning a Finance Committee meeting tonight, but it had to be rescheduled. But, in that meeting we were going to update everyone on the Hershey Foods Assessment Appeal for 19 East Chocolate Avenue, the old chocolate factory. If you all remember, the factory's original assessment was \$7 million dollars. They had appealed that, due to demolition

costs, it should be reassessed at \$1. Dauphin County Board of Assessments then heard the appeal and lowered the assessment to \$5 million dollars. Hershey Foods appealed that assessment, again arguing demolition costs, it should only be valued at \$1 and they appealed to the Court of Common Pleas. We just heard back from the Judge last week and he has valued the building at \$6.6 million. We will have to apply the common level ratio, so it will be somewhat less than that, but it's significantly more than \$1. Thank you, Steve, for all your efforts and thank you Phil Spare for all your efforts. It's really nice to protect our tax base.

Mr. Rineer: It reduces our revenue by, I think, about \$11,000 compared to the decision that could have been made, this is a victory. It may seem it, if we're going to a little bit of money, but this is a victory for us.

Mrs. Sheffey: So, well done for arguing our case.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks, Ellen and thanks Steve. Any other Board member reports?

7.04 Acting Superintendent's Report

Dr. Kepler: Thank you, Dr. Donahue. I have two items to update the Board on this evening. The first of which ties in actually with, at your seats tonight, you should have the new copy of the Auditor General's updated audit. It was concluded here this past fall. This audit is the turnaround on the final document was a matter of months where the previous audit, we didn't this document probably two years after the Auditors had left. In that previous audit, you saw a certification deficiency where the Auditor General's office was suggesting that \$22,000 of state subsidy be withheld due to an employee's lacking a certification. I am pleased to report that through our appeal process, we have reached agreement with PDE where there is no certification deficiency. PDE has reached an agreement with us indicating that no direction or certification exists in the field of mental health and there will be lost subsidy, so I'm very pleased to report that that basically we came out on top in that appeal process. The document in front of you still indicates that the Auditor General has to look at certifications and then it's PDE's decision what to do with that. This new audit was completed before this agreement, so we will simply reproduce the results of this agreement with PDE that will take care of that deficiency as well. That document was released to the public through the Auditor General's office as well. So that is item number 1.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks.

Dr. Kepler: Thank you. The second item, I do have a statement I'd like to share with you the Board this evening. Before I do, just a quick statement up front as to what I'm going to speak to. Basically what I want to talk tonight about is the administration recommending that the restructuring efforts associated with the high school schedule be

tabled until further notice. The background of this decision and recommendation to you the Board is lengthy, so please be patient with me.

Back in 2007 the School Board approved a six-year Strategic Plan that outlined the goals and objectives for making Derry Township an extraordinary learning environment that could serve as a model for public education in the country. We are now at the mid-point of the Strategic Plan. Much hard work by the staff, administration and the School Board has put us on the right track to achieve the lofty objectives we have assigned ourselves. During this time, we have implemented significant changes that have improved what we teach and how we teach it. This work began at the elementary level, moved through the middle school and most recently we have focused on the logical progression to the high school.

Over the course of the last 18 months or so, you have heard us refer to the process of high school restructuring as a three-legged stool comprised of examining the instructional core, implementing focused professional development for teachers and examining the school-day schedule to ensure the best use of our time resources. While much has been done, and continues to be implemented, in the first two areas, the last area – a critical examination of scheduling – has proven to be one of the most difficult elements. There is no one magic formula for crafting a perfect school schedule that serves all students equally. The needs and desires of students are as unique as the 1,200 individuals who make up the student body.

An unfortunate consequence of our aggressive, self-imposed drive for improvement in all three areas is that the amount of careful consideration and focus now required for refining the scheduling component creates the potential to detract from the other two even more critical items of curriculum and best instructional practice.

Therefore, our administrative team is recommending tabling the current emphasis on scheduling. In addition to helping ensure our progress in professional development and the instructional core continue, maintaining the current high school schedule also has budgetary implications. It has become clear to us that to really, truly make meaningful changes in scheduling will most likely require additional staff. The District's budget is already strained as are the local taxpayers who fund it. This is simply not the time to be substantially increasing personnel expenditures.

Likewise, we are currently in the process of leadership transition. While the Strategic Plan was deliberately designed to outline a long-term progression that would account for changes in Board membership and administrators, our team feels it is nonetheless important for an incoming Superintendent to be part of the discussion. The high school is the flagship for any public school district and it's appropriate for the top administrator to be actively engaged in any change of course.

I want to be clear, however, in bringing forward this recommendation that the administrative team is NOT suggesting we ignore scheduling or disregard the work that has already been done. The efforts of the high school administration and staff members

have provided a framework from which we intend to build upon once the new Superintendent is appointed. In fact, we would like to continue the series of focus group sessions that have served as a means for dialoguing with our interested constituency i.e, our roundtables. Rather than abandoning the issue, we are instead asking you allow us to rethink the timeline of adopting new scheduling practices for the 2012-2013 school year. We would like to come to the Board at a later date outline a revised timeline for consideration of the high school schedule.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks. Is there any Board member that is not, well would any Board member like to [not audible] and is any Board member not in support of this recommendation?

Dr. Cronin: I just want to say I think it's a great decision to put it on hold and in the end, it will give us a lot more time to research the actual points that need to be looked into before we put the cart ahead of the horse, so thank you.

Dr. Donahue: Thank you.

Mrs. Chabal: Thank you, Bernie. I think that one of the things that has been important and that has come across very clearly was that there was a confusion factor. I think that it is very clear that our community was extremely concerned about what this would look like. As a parent of students who have graduated from this District, I certainly also was very concerned. My students had an opportunity to really delve into a wide variety of programs, and we know that that's something that is near and dear to the hearts of our community, so I am very pleased to hear of the [not audible] I think is a better word and I would encourage that dialogue to maintain its transparency and at some point really really speak to what that actually will look like, because for those of us who do not spend our lives in education, in curricula, it's not always clear to us exactly what that looks like. Sometimes it sounds like gobbedly gook quite frankly, but I do believe that it's very important as you go forward to make sure that the dialogue is one of a lay person dialogue and one that does show very specific alternatives or a layout that you can really wrap your head around. So, thank you for listening. Thank you for understanding the concerns, not only of the Board but also the community, and I think it's the right thing to do allowing our new Superintendent whoever he or she may be, we will also have some Board changes during that time allowing that also to transpire and our community to continue their dialogue with us as a Board, so thank you very much.

Dr. Donahue: Thank you, Beulah, other comments?

Mr. Stover: Bernie, I wholeheartedly agree. I just want to give you the opportunity to, once again, communicate that when we do pick this up, that the direction that you are moving in will not be a cut in electives.

Dr. Kepler: That is correct. Students will be able to maintain an 8 period schedule.

Mr. Stover: Great.

Dr. Donahue: Any other comment?

Mr. Morelli: Thanks, Hank. Bernie, I support this too and I like it because number 1, it give a new Superintendent a chance to participate and put his or her flavor on it too. More importantly, I hope it will give us time to concentrate these next 6, 8 months on the budget, Superintendent search, and the budget. We have a good opportunity to set this aside a little bit, the roundtables will continue, but we have an incredible deficit, and I think if you remember in September, I asked you for a million dollars in reductions.

Dr. Donahue: How's that going?

Mr. Morelli: It's not going very well. We're not done yet. I promise you I'll be working hard to get them, and I hope as we have all this dialogue about lost income and reassessments, we're not distracted with the revenue we're not getting and also address the need. I don't want to see that slide anymore about taxing to the need until we also include addressing the need to the best of our ability. We have 64%, I think it's \$34-5 million dollars that is a big chunk of our budget that we need to address. This is a perfect year to do it, and if we're going to free up some dollars for needs elsewhere in the budget like this new initiative, like some other new initiatives I'm sure we'll learn about in the next couple of months when you do your presentations, have to do it. The District, this administration, this Board and the community and folks who think they are going to be on the Board in the next couple of years, they need to be ready to help address what our need is and make sure it's sized correctly. Thanks.

Dr. Kepler: Chris, if I can just speak to some of the points you make for the record. Agreed that there's a lot of work to do yet with budget. It is a starting point. When I looked at presenting the preliminary budget two weeks ago, I looked at where are we? You know, \$1.16 million dollar deficit, and at first glimpse, it is a heart stopper when you're looking at serving as Acting Superintendent and presenting a budget of that nature – it's a, wow, how are we going to pull this off. But, I reflected and I looked back a year and I looked back at January of 2010 and when we were in that budget calendar, we were at a \$1.4 million dollar deficit in January; came back in February had widdled that down to \$850,000 and ended up adopting a budget this year with a \$630,000 spending budget that, when we look at all factors of expenditures, we're tracking well or better than expected with revenues outside of interest income. We'll come out this year okay, won't we Steve?

Mr. Rineer: My crystal ball I left it in the Business Office. I think to be very conservative we have a dinner bet on this. Historically, we have come out better than we had budgeted. I certainly hope that trend continues. One of the concerns that I have and will always have in this uncertain economy with a new state government is: what is going to be the impact of those things on the budget? The budget is not just expenditures, it's revenues, so you need to take a look at both. We don't know at this point what our retirements are going to be, that's going to help. We just refinanced a bond issue, that's going to save us some money in the 2011-2012. In the budget that

was presented two weeks ago, we did not have that put in, so there are some savings that we're going to be able to realize. So, Dr. Kepler mentioned that we're at the very beginning of the process. We have another 5 ½ months to go, 4 ½ months to go. The budget is a journey. We started the budget process back in September, because we knew we were going to have to. We had no tax increase last year.

Dr. Kepler: To jump back in there, as Steve mentioned, typically, this is kind of like our Finance meeting we didn't have tonight, but the budget presentation we saw January 10 is typically done in April, so there's four months of work that because of the added approval step along the way and having three different approvals of our budget this year. All of those meetings that are going to take place over the next four months will widdle away at that budget. Just things that, because it's so early, that we already know that aren't factored in – retirements. We're expecting a \$160,000 savings there. We have a collective bargaining agreement coming up. We don't know what that is. We have a budgeted number, perhaps that comes down. Debt service, as Steve mentioned from the presentation last week to approval will come down. We did not have any of the revenues in there that I estimate could be upwards of \$50,000 when we're talking about parking, athletic fees for attendance, not participation, for drivers education; a lot of expenditures sides and revenue sides that will be in a better spot. In a budget where we're \$500,000 less in state and federal revenues that we're able to come out that good; \$300,000 of our budgetary reserve that we've never had to touch, but is there for those rainy days. You couple just those things we've already talked about and you're down, and we're already in a budget with, that is in a better shape than current year. However, because I'd be remiss if I didn't say it, that still factoring a 3.1 millage hike, so I'm very cognizant of that and would be remiss if I didn't say that; so, a lot of work to do. I agree with you on that.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks.

Mr. Morelli: Absolutely, and I understand it's the beginning of the process and it's going to be an incredible challenge. I think we can do it. We play games to win. If I play my grandmother in wiffle ball, she's going down if she's standing in front of me, so we have some time, and, like you said, we're a couple months ahead of time, but nonetheless, I mean, salaries and benefits are salaries and benefits. They do impact PSERS, and that's how you can help your PSERS issue. So, I know the Finance Chair is probably getting ready to smack me over the head, so I'll stop.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks, Chris.

Dr. Kepler: I appreciate you indulging me, Chris. We had our brief meeting here since we weren't able to have Finance earlier.

Dr. Donahue: I've got, actually, a couple questions about restructuring. Are we going to have fewer class periods and are we losing electives?

Dr. Kepler: Since is the issue [not audible], we don't know? We are committed to students not losing their [not audible] electives to date.

Dr. Donahue: I want to get it into the record as many times as we can.

Dr. Kepler: We are going to have 8 periods.

Dr. Donahue: All kidding aside, I think it's a point to emphasize what Bernie said; that a lot of the restructuring has already been completed at the elementary and middle schools. So, we're not by any means whatsoever throwing out the whole restructuring idea. Indeed, it's already happened, and I think it's improved our curriculum already.

7.05 Board President's Report

Dr. Donahue: I just wanted to briefly mention that the Time Study Committee met. For those of you who don't remember, this is the committee that's looking at changing the start time of the high school in light of emerging evidence that later start times for adolescents lead to better adolescents. If Joe would just give a very brief update of what happened that that meeting.

Mr. McFarland: Sure, that's actually been our second meeting since we've been a full committee. The first meeting we spent reviewing the research. There is a seminal piece out of Rhode Island that, sort of, all the others have branched off of. We've looked at our surrounding counties and their bell schedules. We've reviewed districts outside of the area that have elementary first schedules and a lot of those are larger urban areas. We've identified the pros, the cons, and the unintended consequences of, basically, inverting a schedule which will be bringing in elementary first, secondary second. Some of the major things we need to continue to look at are the impact on athletics, coaches, and students, because if you bring in your secondary second and the conference doesn't change anything with competitions, you potentially pull your teachers out of class for more instructional time and the students that are athletes out of class. Looking at after school activities and impacts on that, childcare impacts for families that use older students for childcare, busing, food services, and so on.

We are going to solicit input from area superintendents, athletic directors, and boards to see what their take is; if there would be any interest in looking at this concept further, because one of the things we talked about is – it is something that would work best if you had large agreement from districts for various reasons. For example, one is we have some shared bussing, and we get subsidized, we get a reduced rate from the state because we share services there. We potentially would lose that if the other district would not switch like we did. There's a lot of factors to figure out yet, but that's a synopsis of what the committee's been looking at.

Dr. Donahue: Great. Thank you, Joe. Any questions for Joe? Once again, to emphasize, this is something that actually came from the community. Neither the Board

nor the Administration brought this forward, but rather several members of the community suggested this maybe a year or so ago and we started looking at it and created a committee. Going forward, this will be something we'll be looking at.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZENS (Non-Agenda Items)

8.01 Recognition of Citizens (Non-Agenda Items)

Brian Shiflett: A couple points: first of all, thank you, Dr. Kepler and Joe McFarland regarding where we stand on the high school restructuring. Thank you for your time on that issue. I do encourage you all to continue, maybe have a Board presentation sometime this spring if you're going to continue with the professional learning community's implementation at the high school level, because that's really interesting. It offers a lot of benefits, but I think the implementation is what everybody wants to hear about. If you continue down that track, it would be nice to get some updates on that initiative.

I'm going to break protocol and go back to the calendar, because one thing I didn't hear tonight was a consideration that when you backload days on the calendar, like you talked about tonight, you can steal a lot of days from the first semester; at the high school level, that can be an issue. If you look at, like, right now, all your snow day/make up days are in the second semester. If we have a big ice storm in the middle of December like we had three years ago and you lose a chunk of days out of the first semester, you may want to try to compensate for that by, maybe, one of two things. One is just overload second marking period by a day or two; just building the schedule or, and I think you may do that already.

Dr. Kepler: We do.

Mr. Shiflett: The other alternative would be to just set an alternate end of the second marking period date so that you can basically say, well, we have a date, but if we lose a few days in the second marking period to inclement weather, you can just set an alternate ending date so you don't rob the first semester of days, because that can mess up a lot of teachers, I think.

Mr. McFarland: Yeah, we actually looked at that, because we also have to factor in the testing weeks and so we want to add days in that marking period as well, so they are not equal 45 day . . .

Dr. Kepler: No. In fact, in the calendar presented tonight, the first semester is 87 days, the second semester 94.

Dr. Donahue: I'd like to keep the focus on non-agenda items if we could please.

Mr. Shiflett: Thank you, Dr. Donahue.

Dr. Donahue: Thanks, Brian. Anybody else?

John Sheehan: I was here at the last Board meeting, I don't know if that rings a bell with anybody. I spoke about an issue involving an incident with my son and the Administration's management of it. I'm not going to take a lot of time tonight, but just a couple of loose ends I wanted to tie up. At the end of that saga, my wife and I met with the Superintendent and the Solicitor and our attorney. At that time, we were told that the School Resource Officer had interviewed the kids – clearly and repeatedly told that. Last time I was here, the Solicitor jumped up, and in her words, she said, "Neither Dr. Brewer nor I remember saying anything at that meeting about Officer Kepple re-interviewing the children." Well, it was clear to me, and it was clear to my wife. What I have now is a letter from our attorney that I'll forward to you after the meeting tonight. This says, his name is Rich Druby from Nestico Druby & Hildabrand here in Hershey:

My recollection confirmed by my notes taken at the meeting was that the Superintendent stated that Officer Kepple interviewed several of the children after interviews had been conducted by Mrs. Dixon and Ms. Robino. According to the Superintendent, Officer Kepple interviewed selected children who did not have any investment in the issue or a "dog in the fight." Those interviews confirmed what was found during the initial interviews. After leaving that meeting, I had no doubt that Officer Kepple conducted interviews of selected children. You, meaning me, informed me that after speaking with Officer Kepple, those interviews never took place. I later spoke to Attorney Steinour Young who confirmed, I'm sorry, who informed me that any representation at our meeting that Officer Kepple interviewed any children was simply an honest mistake. I informed Attorney Steinour Young that the purpose of the meeting was to address not only the errors that occurred in the investigation of this matter, but also the miscommunication that existed between the District and the parents. For the District to not have its facts correct and/or to convey information which was apparently untrue did not help the situation, but merely exasperated the problem.

So, either there is a competence or integrity on the part of the Solicitor or my wife and myself and my attorney had the same dream about our meeting. I'll forward the letter to you when I leave.

Dr. Donahue: Thank you.

Mr. Sheehan: I'm not finished. Also at that meeting, Dr. Kepler read an e-mail in support of Mrs. Dixon. The e-mail referred to her management of an issue, an incident were the exact words. I just wanted to be clear that that e-mail was not talking about the incident about which I was speaking. I wasn't clear what the point of reading that e-mail was, because my message was not Mrs. Dixon has never done anything that a parent approved of, not even that Mrs. Dixon is not a good person, but rather, Mrs.

Dixon may have made a mistake here, and good people make mistakes. I thought it was irrelevant, inappropriate, and unprofessional to read that e-mail in this setting. I went through my e-mails today in my deleted mail folder. I have 37 e-mails in 2010 stating what a nice boy my son is from coaches, teachers, and friends. I didn't bring any of them. I think it's completely inappropriate to discuss those here.

Finally, the e-mail that Dr. Kepler read was sent to him by Holley Boslow. Holley found out that her e-mail was read here and was shocked and left a voicemail for us that said, "Really, with Mrs. Dixon, I think at one point I got so fearful that she could react to the daughter differently thinking I'm talking about things or whatever, I just panicked." So, the person whose e-mail we read to support Mrs. Dixon, again, I think inappropriately, was written by someone who claims they have written it because she was fearful and panicked. So, maybe we don't have a problem, but we may, and if we ignore it, it's not going to away.

Dr. Donahue: Thank you for your comments. Are there other citizens that have comments on non-agenda items?

ADJOURNMENT

9.01 Adjournment

Dr. Donahue: The next public School Board meeting will be held Monday, February 7, 2011 starting at 7:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room. May I have a motion for adjournment?

Dr. Cronin: Sorry, I was trying to get a chance, I just wanted to make a quick comment. I'm just speaking as one Board member . . .

Dr. Donahue: Do I have a second? Go ahead, Donna. It's not protocol, but go ahead.

Dr. Cronin: I was trying to get your attention, but you were focusing down. I just wanted to make a comment that, as one Board member, I want to make sure that we as a Board renew our commitment to make sure that citizens in the community feel like they are being responded to appropriately. If we have to look at our policy to make sure that it is all encompassing so that misunderstandings or community members not feeling that we are responding appropriately can be minimized, I would like to propose that we take a look at the policies that address this kind of issue, so it doesn't happen in the future.

Dr. Donahue: Thank you, Donna. Any other Board member that would like to make a comment? Can we have a motion to close the meeting, please?

Dr. Parrish moved to adjourn, with a second by Dr. Cronin and, approved by unanimous voice vote by all members. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen E. Rineer
Secretary to the Board
Approved at the February 7, 2011 meeting

Dr. Henry Donahue
President of the Board

LDM