

**MINUTES OF A  
SPECIAL MEETING  
OF  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF  
DWIGHT COMMON SCHOOL DISTRICT #232**

**Held in the Dwight Common School District Cafeteria  
On February 24, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.**

Board President Bo Partney called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**PRESENT: Mark Christenson; Marc Ellis; Eric Scheuer; Nick Stipanovich; Bo Partney; Cathy Ferguson (Entered 6:14PM)**

**ABSENT: Michael Cornale**

**Also in attendance: Dr. Richard Jancek, Superintendent; Jill Haacke, Acting-Secretary; Julie Schultz, Principal; Jeremy Jenkins, Asst. Principal/AD**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Comments were received by the following:

Catie Wilkey  
Mike Gerber  
Sarah Turner

All comments received were regarding a possible return to all in-person learning.

**BUSINESS**

Moved by Scheuer, seconded by Stipanovich, to approve the employment of Bailey Conroy as 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Girls Basketball Coach. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Ellis, seconded by Scheuer, to affirm the employment of Dezi Leodard as a Classroom Aide. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Dr. Jancek informed the Board that last year TRS moved forward with offering a Supplemental Savings Plan (defined benefit contribution plan) that goes along with their new monthly reporting requirements. This plan is a 457(e) offered through Voya Financial and works in the same way as our 403(b) plans. TRS has required that school districts approve a resolution regarding an SSP Employer Participation Agreement so that our eligible employees may participate if they so choose.

Moved by Stipanovich, seconded by Christenson, to approve the resolution regarding a TRS Supplemental Savings Plan with Voya Financial, as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Ferguson entered at 6:14 p.m.

Principal Julie Schultz began the discussion by going over the survey results of both the parent and staff surveys that were sent out. Next, she went over the projections of what each class size would be according to the survey and concluded that students will average a 3 feet distance. She expressed that the lunch schedule will also be more demanding for students and staff having them split between the classrooms and the cafeteria. Schultz also went over current COVID numbers, pros and cons of each learning scenario and current test scores.

Angie Goley reported to the board that if school is to come back with all students, every bus will be full, with some having 3 students per seat. She also expressed concern on the lack of staff in the event of a bus driver being put into quarantine.

Partney shared with the board that Board Member Cornale was unable to be at the meeting but expressed to him privately that he would like to see the students come back full time to school for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. Partney then opened the topic up to the board for discussion.

Stipanovich agreed that he would also like to see the students come back full time for the last quarter of the year. He stated that since a majority of the parents want their students back full time, the board should be listening to them. He also inquired to the administration about IEP students.

Ferguson stated she would rather see our current schedule continue for the last quarter of the school year. She understands the parent's plea for returning to school, but we need to put our staff and students first in this matter. She is also concerned on the staffing issues in the transportation department and substitutes available to work. Ferguson stated she would rather see full attendance begin in the fall.

Scheuer stated he was wanting to begin all students in person starting 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter. This will give the staff time to work through the situation and then be up and running for school in the fall.

Ellis agreed with Ferguson and would rather finish the year out on the current schedule and then begin full back in the fall with all students.

Christenson stated he has a couple students in his own home and would rather see them come back full time beginning the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter.

Moved by Stipanovich, seconded by Christenson, to direct the superintendent to implement in person full time 5 days a week for the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the 2021SY and to make all necessary decisions to successfully complete the directive. Roll call. Stipanovich, aye; Christenson, aye; Scheuer, aye; Ellis, nay; Ferguson, nay; Partney, aye. Motion carries.

Moved by Ellis, seconded by Stipanovich, to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 p.m. Voice vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

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Jill Haacke, Acting-Secretary, District #232

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Bo Partney, President, District #232