# Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi

2 Sheldon Drive Delhi, NY 13753

# MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

Date: March 20, 2017

Members Present: Glenn Nealis, Tammy Neumann, Jay Wilson, Seth Haight, Elizabeth Huneke, and Lucy Kelly

Absent: Dr. Thomas Flanders

Others Present: Jason D. Thomson, Superintendent, Bruce McKeegan, School Attorney, and several members of the community and staff.

President, Glenn Nealis called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi to order at 6:00 p.m.

On a motion made by Vice President, Tammy Neumann, seconded by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, the Board entered Executive Session to discuss a legal matter, with no action to be taken, at 6:02 p.m.

On a motion made by Trustee, Jay Wilson, seconded by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, the Board left Executive Session at 7:00 p.m.

President, Glenn Nealis called the Open Session of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 7:07 p.m.

# Presentations -

Ms. Erin Haight, Class of 2018 Class Advisor, introduced Teddy Vickers, Class President of the Class of 2018, and members of the prom committee. Mr. Vickers gave a brief verbal presentation of the Junior Prom plans for May 20, 2017. The prom will be hosted at Delaware Academy in the middle school gym. Funding will be exclusively by the class. The theme this year is a remake of a Zen Garden and that entails having water decorations, light fixtures, cherry blossoms, and rock gardens. All plans are currently under development.

The class voted to make a few changes to the prom. The changes include 1) abolishing the prom court. The class feels this is a popularity contest and it ends up dividing the class and detracts from the element. 2) Include invitations to sophomores; this will create a larger crowd and generate more revenue and more fun. Freshman can attend, but only with the invite from an upper classman. 3) Eliminate serving dinner - past experience shows there isn't a lot of attendance so the class doesn't want to spend their resources on a dinner. In previous years attendees stated they would rather go to a restaurant for dinner before the prom. The class asked the Board for permission to hold the prom at Delaware Academy on May 20, 2017 from 7:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m.

On a motion made by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, seconded by Vice President, Tammy Neumann, the Board of Education approved a request from the Class of 2018 to hold the Junior Prom on May 20, 2017, in the middle school gymnasium from 7:30 p.m. to 12:00 a.m. There were no questions, comments, or discussion, and the motion carried

Call to Order

Enter Executive Session

Leave Executive Session

Call to Order with Pledge of Allegiance

# Presentations -

Class of 2018 - Jr. Prom

Approve Jr. Prom

unanimously.

Mr. Jason D. Thomson, Superintendent, announced the Board of Education is investigating open enrollment at Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi. Before the Board of Education makes a final decision about open enrollment, they will hold a series of discussions at the Board meetings, from March 2017 through May 2017, to hear from the administration, department heads, and the business manager about the pros and cons of open enrollment. During these meetings, the public will have an opportunity to voice their opinions. Mr. Thomson handed the floor over to Mr. Jeffrey Ferrara. Athletic Director.

Open Enrollment Discussion

Mr. Jeffrey Ferrara, Athletic Director reported:

Athletic Director on Open Enrollment

Benefits of open enrollment -

- An opportunity for increased numbers in our athletics programs
- Could the district gain enough to form JV teams?

Concerns about open enrollment-

- Possibility of growing our numbers to a class C enrollment (169 grades 9-11)
- Most of our sports already have strong numbers, but there are exceptions
- Class C vs. Class D discussion.
  - 30 year success rate?
  - Who it affects (soccer, basketball, baseball, softball)
- Home sectional games, State rankings

Athletic Department Concerns about open enrollment-

- Can we institute a Cap/Limit? Some of the coaches are concerned about this.
  - Prior open enrollment era garnered 100 students to our district.
  - Smaller Delaware County today so we may not get as many students
- Monitor transfer rule. Who is eligible immediately? Who is not? There are transfer rules in New York State that must be followed corresponding change in address comes into play.

Final thought: are we better set up for success as a small C or a large D school from a strictly athletic standpoint? Over a 30 year time span, Delaware Academy has only played in five finals. We have been a class D school. It was noted that Delaware Academy has almost matched this in one year at this point this year. Also class C seeding points would not see as many home games. Our community and athletic department really enjoys being able to bring these games to our home playing field. Class C pool is a little deeper and it is possible that Delaware Academy would not rank as high. Delaware Academy has worked hard to get where we are now.

Mr. Ferrara took a poll from the coaches in the 42 varsity programs with the following results: 42% were not in favor of open enrollment, 16% in favor of open enrollment, and 42% gave no response as it would be no great impact their program.

The Board thanked Mr. Ferrara for his report on open enrollment.

Mr. Ferrara reported on the athletic department as follows:

Mr. Ferrara and Mrs. Haight have been looking at the modified tennis program and thinking of ideas to try to build a pipeline for our tennis program as it is really starting to take off. We have decent numbers. We want our students to be able to experience tennis without having to steal them from our track or baseball programs. Instead of having a middle school/modified tennis team, we are proposing a modified tennis club. By giving it a "club" title, it will allow our

Athletic Director continued.

students to be able to play baseball, but come to play tennis, give it a try and see if they are any good at it. The only way we can do this is to term it a club. Mr. Ferrara requested that the Board approve a modified tennis club with Mrs. Haight as the advisor, with no stipend. Mr. Ferrara informed the Board the club may ask for a bus on a handful of occasions to allow them to go to another school to play. There would be no other costs to the district for the club.

The Board thanked Mr. Ferrara for the athletic report.

On a motion made by Trustee, Jay Wilson, seconded by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, the Board approved the creation of a modified tennis club; and the Board appointed Mrs. Erin Haight as club advisor, with no stipend attached to this position. There were no questions, comments, or discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Laurie Alberti, 6-12 Principal reported as follows regarding open enrollment:

#### Benefits -

- An opportunity for a fresh start/flourish for incoming students. Delaware
  Academy has a lot to offer. Students don't have control over their destiny as far
  as where they live, so this would give them a fresh start.
- Increase in numbers would allow us to offer more electives and college classes
- Larger numbers for our sports teams, FFA, Speech and Debate, etc.
- Increase students in our CTEP programs, but they must meet the application and interview process for all students in and out of the district.

Mrs. Alberti commented that the following information is a result of a survey of the middle and high school teachers. The results and comments are in addition to her thoughts.

# Responses -

- Cost for incoming students
- Space we are able to accommodate extra students
- Student/teacher ratios will be capped per teacher contract
- Impact on our tax base (increase our enrollment, but families do not pay property tax) will receive foundation monies
- Behavior/contracts

Mrs. Alberti commented that from a Principal's standpoint she would want to insure that we have a policy for class ranking. School districts that do take in outside students have a policy where the student must be enrolled for two years before their ranking is counted because you can have somebody come and our valedictorian is "blown out of the water." She could envision that as a potential concern for parents. Ms. Alberti reported our special counsel suggested we consider this situation as we move forward.

One of the questions that came up during the survey was about scholarships - is it effective immediately? Is there a grace period or is it effective from the day of enrollment. A lot of our scholarships are given to Delaware Academy students by Delhi businesses strictly giving the scholarship to encourage them to stay in the Delhi community so this would have to be taken under consideration as well. It is unclear if this would be affected by the members donating scholarships.

Another consideration is extracurricular and clubs. Again, is there going to be a grace period or can they come in and just begin?

Process for admittance - an interview, discipline, background grades, etc. She has first-

Approve Modified Tennis Club Advisor - Haight

MS/HS Principal on Open Enrollment

MS/HS Principal on Open Enrollment continued. hand experience with a district where a contract has to be signed for her children to attend in their district. This works well for them. Mrs. Alberti and Mr. Thomson would insist on a behavior contract that would have to be signed by each individual student enrolling in Delaware Academy. Are we going to interview everyone? Will there be guidelines? Do we legally have control over this? Mr. McKeegan affirmed that the district does have control over our guidelines for enrollment. A sample agreement was provided to the Board for review.

Mrs. Alberti provided a sample policy for the district to consider if open enrollment is put in place.

Ms. Alberti also noted that transportation will be something the district will need to investigate.

Mrs. Alberti commented that the overall feeling is a lot of concern; however, the district has a lot to offer and we should consider opening enrollment to those that are less fortunate than the Delaware Academy students, but also we need to look at the best interest of our students here.

Trustee, Lucy Kelly, inquired about student parking - does the district have room for students who are able to transport themselves? Mrs. Alberti replied she doesn't think that parking will be a problem. Currently we are pretty tight with our parking situation, but the numbers of students that will self transport is always changing. She will have to research this with our buildings and grounds supervisor.

Trustee, Jay Wilson inquired as to what the percentage of numbers is in our Math and ELA classes at this time. Mrs. Alberti replied that we are currently at around 75% capacity. Some classes have 22-23 students, some have 11. It all depends on scheduling.

Trustee, Jay Wilson asked for clarification of the responses. He commented that it sounds like the concerns are mostly about going over 100% in the classrooms, is that correct? Mrs. Alberti replied that is correct. Mrs. Alberti stated she isn't sure if the district can cap once we decide to proceed with open enrollment. It is something we will have to investigate with our legal counsel. Perhaps we can do a first come, first serve basis. All of this will have to be researched. It is her opinion that the district would have to have a cutoff date for the applications and then review the applications because not everybody is going to be accepted, and then from the pool, decide if we are going to have a lottery by taking the first 50 students, etc.

President, Glenn Nealis gave the following example as food for thought for consideration on the matter: the district has 10 spots for juniors, and they have to meet the academic criteria, there are 15 applications where all meet the criteria at different levels. The question that keeps coming up is can we rank those individuals? So we have 10 slots, 15 applications, rank 1-10 and take the top best applications? For example: 10 of the 15 applicants have a 99.9% average on all their regents exams, the other 5 hold lower averages in the 70% range, can the district accept the top ten applicants?

Mrs. Alberti replied there are a few ways to proceed with that scenario 1) we time stamp the applications as we receive them to determine the first come, first serve basis. 2) We could do a rubric as we do with everything else and rank them that way; Academics 1st, Attendance 2nd, discipline 3rd, whatever our criteria may be.

President, Glenn Nealis inquired if we can have a criteria set where the student must maintain a certain average, and if they don't maintain that average, they would no longer be welcome. Has Mrs. Alberti discussed this with other districts? Mrs. Alberti replied other

MS/HS Principal on Open Enrollment continued districts only revoke the enrollment if there is a discipline issue.

Mrs. Mable asked what if the discipline issue is a factor of a disability of the student. Mr. McKeegan replied the district would then consult legal counsel.

Trustee, Seth Haight asked if it is legal to insist on higher academic standards for these students. He would really question that because he doesn't really see how we can do that. Mrs. Alberti commented that it would be a policy that the student would maintain a certain average (passing grade). Once a student is in the district, they would be treated the same as an in-district student.

Mr. Thomson commented that in his previous district, he had some students that had to be excused and in all of those cases, it was due to behavior. Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke asked how difficult was it time-wise to remove the student? Mr. Thomson replied that it was a limited due process. It was fair and equitable as it was due to multiple infractions. Mrs. Alberti commented that all of this would be included in the behavior contract that the family and student would sign prior to being admitted to Delaware Academy. The student is still entitled to due process the same as other students.

Trustee, Seth Haight stated he is trying to think of other situations where the student would be appointed to or nominated at a school. For instance, I'm in 10<sup>th</sup> grade at Stamford and on honor society. Do I come to Delaware Academy and maintain that status? Mrs. Alberti stated, yes because the honor society is a national organization. You would just be in a different chapter.

Trustee, Seth Haight gave another example of being a student at Stamford and on the principal's list - does the student maintain the same status at Delaware Academy? Mrs. Alberti replied that may not carry over as our passing grade average may be higher than Stamford's, but you may be on honor roll. Trustee, Seth Haight commented that there was a time when you received certain privileges because you maintain a certain grade average and he thinks our policy should be more explicit as there will be a student that will come in and challenge it. He stated we don't have to answer all of this tonight.

President, Glenn Nealis asked about a scenario where someone comes here from a different school and is interested in attending a BOCES program. Do they get to choose a program? If we have a non-resident student come to Delaware Academy who wants to attend a BOCES program that Delaware Academy is not currently sending any students to, and we do physically send students to BOCES, can we say no? Are we then limiting their academic choices if we choose not to send them? Mr. Thomson stated we would have to investigate this scenario. Mrs. Alberti commented she would think the student would only be able to attend a program that administration allows our students to attend. Mr. Thomson said that's to be determined at this point. President Nealis commented that BOCES is a high dollar item. Trustee, Seth Haight commented the question is can we make a policy if BOCES can be for anybody? It is not felt we could limit the choices if our students attend. Who makes the determination? The district will investigate further.

The Board thanked Mrs. Alberti for her report.

Ms. Julie Mable, K-5 Principal reported regarding open enrollment:

#### Benefits -

• Less chance of needing to downsize or merge

Thoughts for the Elementary -

Elementary Principal on Open Enrollment

- Class Size Cap
  - In the teacher's contract it is suggested K-3 not exceed 20 and will not exceed 25. 4-12 is recommended not to exceed 25. These recommendations are for the purpose of working towards a learning program that requires a great deal of individualization of instruction and group activities.
  - What would our cap be for adding out-of-district students?
  - Would we leave room for in-district students to move in?
- Behavior Agreement
  - Would we have one with each out-of-district student? Students tend to jump from district to district with behavior issues. Elementary is a little different. Mrs. Mable in reality doesn't get the full report when requesting information from schools students may be coming from. Definitely something to think about. Written steps on behavior issues.
- Cost to the District
  - Would there be a need for more providers to serve all the students in our district.

Mr. Thomson stated the district will be working closely with counsel to make sure there is a policy in place where children will receive their education without discrimination.

Trustee, Lucy Kelly commented that even if the district is under the cap, sometimes room sizes do not accommodate the number of students. All of the desks and paraphernalia that go with the new students would then require possible moves by teachers and the district needs to look at this as well.

Mr. Thomson replied a big consideration would have to be if we have a family wishing to come to the district with multiple students that would have to be considered so we wouldn't be splitting up a family. There may be times when the cap would be exceeded. These are all things the Board needs to think about.

The Board thanked Mrs. Mable for her report.

President, Glenn Nealis informed everyone that the discussion on open enrollment will continue next month (April 24, 2017) to hear from our department heads. Mr. Carey Shultz, Business Manager will present the fiscal side of open enrollment at the May Board of Education meeting.

#### Public Comments -

Mr. Henry Marino, Delhi resident, is trying to understand why the district is trying to go to open enrollment. He applauds everyone here for what they do, but he has some of the same concerns that the teachers do, that the unions do, and that the employees do. If we bring children in from the outside, through his past employment, we have to be extremely careful on how we do not discriminate against kids. Our own board policy clearly states, unless we are going to change it, that we cannot and will not discriminate against disabilities. So, we may have children here that, like Ms. Mable said other districts just want to get rid of them because it's a problem and a money issue to them. He understands kids coming from BOCES, and he was here last month and really enjoyed listening to the kids that take classes in automotive and culinary, things of that nature, and he never wants to see a child fail, but he understands, as a taxpayer - he reads the minutes, that BOCES is increasing their costs from 2% to 11% that we're trying to bring back kids from BOCES to prorate it to this school - so now if we're going to do that and have an influx of students outside the district that aren't exposed to what we have because we were diligent supporting the village and taxpayers, hiring good teachers, it

Public Comments -

Marino

Marino continued

trickles down to superintendent, and to the buildings and grounds. Everything looks great - it looks as it should - if we had it in the past, what caused us to eliminate it? There had to be a trigger that said we're not getting the students that we thought we were going to get and it has turned out to be a headache. He doesn't want to see an additional burden to taxpayers that are barely keeping a roof over their heads in this area. We're not attracting people coming here - he's from out-of-state - he came here because he had an income that allowed him to do that. If he didn't have an income that allowed him to do that, he wouldn't come here, he would go somewhere else. If Stamford has a good school system and they have open enrollment, the people in the area can go there. He thinks Franklin has open enrollment as well. He's trying to read and understand as much as he can, but he needs the Board's help, as a taxpayer, to understand why we're doing this and what the cost factor is going to be. He knows the Board does a great job doing it, but we really need to go through every single door to make sure we're doing what's best for the students and the taxpayers in this district. Thank you very much for your time.

The Board thanked Mr. Marino for his comments.

Mr. Henry Marino, Delhi resident commented that Mrs. Kelly, two meetings ago, mentioned that she would be interested in televising open enrollment. He thinks the people of the community don't know what is occurring, they have busy lives, they have children just like all of us do, and jobs, and it's difficult for them to sit down in front of a computer like he's done for the last month, and try to read and understand what is occurring. He's not in the education process and never was, but he thinks the Board needs to do due diligence to let the public know what they would like to do or how they would like to proceed and get some more input from others instead of just him sitting here for input - the more thinkers there are, the better it is. He hopes the Board makes some extra effort to let the public know via newspapers, newsletter, he's never seen anything in the newsletter, the first time he heard of it was when Mr. Thomson said the Board was looking at it. The second meeting Mr. Thomson said the Board was looking into it, and the third time there was no discussion on it and this is the fourth time. People need to know when to come or how to voice their concerns over the program and what occurred over the past. History repeats itself so if we don't learn from it, we're going to do it again. Thank you.

Marino

The Board thanked Mr. Marino for his comments.

#### Routine Matters -

On a motion made by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, seconded by Vice President, Tammy Neumann, the Board of Education approved the Minutes of the Regular Board of Education Meeting held on February 27, 2017 and the Minutes of the Special Board of Education Meeting held on March 9, 2017 as submitted. There were no questions, comments or discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

On a motion made by Vice President, Tammy Neumann, seconded by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, the Board of Education accepted the AL Kellogg, Morgan Stanley Report dated January 1-31, 2017 and the January 2017 Treasurer's Report as submitted. There were no questions, comments or discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

On a motion made by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, seconded by Trustee, Lucy Kelly, the Board of Education approved the following personnel recommendations by the Superintendent with noted revisions pending fingerprint clearance:

#### Routine Matters -

Approval of Minutes

Approval of Minutes continued

Accept Financial Reports

Personnel Appointments

Retirements:

#### Retirements:

- Krick, Diane, Music Teacher, Effective, December 31, 2017
- Mastrandrea, Nicholas, School Bus Driver, Effective, March 15, 2017
- Walker, Laurie, Library Media Specialist, Effective June 30, 2017

Krick Mastrandrea Walker

#### Resignations:

No resignations for March 2017

#### Provisional Appointments Awaiting Civil Service Exam:

No provisional appointments for March 2017

#### **Probationary Appointments:**

• Silano, Kristin, School Nurse RN, New York State Registered Professional Nurse, FT 10-month, Middle School/High School, Probationary effective, April 3, 2017 through December 4, 2017, Salary as per DESSA Agreement.

# Probationary: Silano

#### Leave Request:

No leave requests for March 2017

# Permanent Appointments:

No permanent appointments for March 2017

#### Change in Position:

No change in position for March 2017

# Substitute Appointments Pending Fingerprint Clearance - March 21, 2017 through June 30, 2017:

No Substitutes for March 2017

#### Long Term Substitute:

No long term substitutes for March 2017

#### Extracurricular Activity Appointments 2016-2017, Salary as per DAFA:

No extracurricular appointments for March 2017

# Athletic Appointments 2016-2017, Salary as per DAFA Agreement Unless Otherwise Specified:

No athletic appointments for March 2017

#### Correction to Athletic Appointments 2016-2017:

• Albright, Matthew, Varsity Track & Field Coach, spring 2017, Step IIA. Correction: "Step IB"

# Correction to Athletic Albright

### Volunteer Appointments:

Bedient, Kevin, Baseball program

• Brewster, Cody, Baseball program

• Gullow, Austin, Baseball program

### Volunteer

Bedient Brewster Gullow

# Other:

Verspoor, Amy Instructional - Tutor, Effective March 10, 2017, "salary to mirror daffarate - rate in motion," and After School Detention LTA, effective March 21, 2017, "at a rate to be determined."

# Other Verspoor

Budget Vote Workers, May 16, 2017, Salary: \$130.00 Each for Poll Workers Per Day as per Delaware County Contract:

Budget Workers

- Barriger, June, Chairperson (non-paid position)
- Bush, Rose, Poll Worker
- Francisco, Roberta (Catherine), Poll Worker
- Kaufman, Katherine, Alternate Poll Worker
- Noble, Vicki, Poll Worker
- Priest, Susan, Poll Worker Chief Election Inspector
- Thomson, Jason D., Alternate Chairperson (non-paid position)

There were no questions, comments, or discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

On a motion made by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, seconded by Trustee, Jay Wilson, the Board of Education approved the CSE Recommendations for March 2017 as submitted. There were no questions, comments, or discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### Departmental Reports -

Ms. Julie Mable, K-5 Principal reported:

Between all the snow days and the half-days there have really only been 10 school days since we last met with you. In that time:

- She served on the interview committee for the new MS/HS nurse
- iready 317 students of 329 have all been assessed in reading and mathematics
- There are 12 students in each reading and math that still need to finish. We will accomplish that this week. Ms. Mable gave accolades to Mr. Potrzeba and Mr. DiBartolomeo for their assistance with the technology.
- ZSpace presentation all three fourth grade teachers, one third grade teacher, and one second grade teacher took their classes to see the presentation. She received some great feedback from teachers who are brainstorming for ways to use it in their classrooms. There are lots of topics readily available.
- Dr. Fox Presentation Visual therapy professional development. Twelve people attended from other districts. The presentation was informational and it was apparent that there are often times more difficulties that trigger learning issues.
- She attended the Utica Mutual Insurance Group Meeting on behalf of Mr. Thomson. Delaware Academy is a Platinum Plus Member (10<sup>th</sup> year). Our district was presented with a plaque and a check in the amount of \$500.00. This year's meeting topic was Mental Health Promotion and Youth Violence Prevention.

Mr. Thomson thanked Mrs. Temple for compiling the necessary information and submitting it to Utica National Insurance Company on behalf of our district.

The Board thanked Ms. Mable for her report.

Ms. Laurie Alberti, 6-12 Principal reported:

- Delaware Academy was ranked 7 of 30 local Binghamton area school districts for the SAT scores.
- German Exams These are national exams and Delaware Academy had the following student standings: one student received a gold award, three received the silver award, and two received bronze award. Kudos to all of those students.
- Professional Development Some teachers lead the professional development on indicator 13 - they want to continue.
- Global Regents In 2017, Global Regents is a two-year exam, next year it will be a one-year exam covering 1750 to the present. Only one goes on the student transcript. The district has sent Mr. Gray for training.
- Delaware Academy has been chosen for field testing again this year. This will take place in May 2017.
- Guidance counselors and Mr. Petrilli are reviewing IEP's for placement next year.

Barriger
Bush
Francisco
Kaufmann
Noble
Priest
Thomson

Approve CSE
Recommendations

Departmental Reports Elementary Principal

Thomson

6-12 Principal Report

There are some good matches for programs and classrooms.

- Musical was amazing! Delaware Academy has a lot of great talent.
- Opt out letters are coming in from parents for the exams. She expects to receive more in the near future.
- The teachers are doing a fantastic job focusing on their jobs to make sure all subjects are covered by the end of the year.

The Board thanked Ms. Alberti for her report.

Mr. Carey Shultz, Business Manager reported:

- Mr. Shultz gave recognition to Mr. Bartlett, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor
  and his crew for the great job they did to make sure snow was cleared during the
  recent snow storm. Mr. Shultz spoke to Mr. Bartlett's employees and they
  mentioned they are grateful that the Board of Education approved the purchase
  of extra equipment in the past few years. They noted it made cleanup so much
  more efficient for them.
- Budget preparation is almost complete. The tax cap this year is .3% not much bump in aide. He hasn't heard much chatter from Albany. Currently we need to reduce our budget by \$51,000.00, but it is felt this can easily be accomplished. The next budget workshop meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 27<sup>th</sup>.

The Board thanked Mr. Shultz for his report.

Ms. Christine Miller, Food Service Supervisor reported:

- February totals with 15 serving days: 1,845 Breakfast, and 5,974 Lunches served
- Numbers for senior dinners with the musical were the lowest we've had. 67 dinners were served this is about half of the numbers that are usually served.

The Board thanked Ms. Miller for her report.

Mr. Bill Petrilli, CSE Chairperson reported:

- Several CSE meetings were postponed due to the weather they have about 20 to reschedule, but will get back on track
- Annual Reviews will be completed by June
- He's looking for placement in a neighboring district for a difficult child. A
  neighboring district is looking to Delaware Academy to possibly take two of their
  children in our programs.

The Board thanked Mr. Petrilli for his report.

Mr. Luke Potrzeba, Technology Supervisor reported:

- The technology department is super busy in the elementary building right now.
  He thanked the elementary teachers for the respect they give to his department as
  they've worked well together and efficiently. His department is glad to do what
  they do.
- He's working through open enrollment costs for Delaware Academy with respect to technology needs. If the Board has any questions, please send them to Mr. Thomson who will send them to Mr. Potrzeba. He's currently working to cover the possibilities of students coming in, leaving, tracking devices, etc.

The Board thanked Mr. Potrzeba for his report.

Mr. Jason D. Thomson, Superintendent reported:

March 5<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup>, he attended the NYSCOSS Winter Institute in Albany, New York.
 He had the opportunity to meet with Senator Ashkar and Assemblyman Crouch

Business Manager

Food Services

**CSE** Chairperson

CSE Chairperson continued

Technology

Superintendent

- while he was there. It was another opportunity for him to share the great accomplishments of Delaware Academy.
- March 13<sup>th</sup> Mr. Perry Dewey, District Superintendent at DCMO BOCES attended the Budget Workshop to present the BOCES administrative budget to our Board of Education. The Board will vote on the DCMO BOCES budget at the April 24th Board meeting.
- ZSpace vehicle was awesome! He had the opportunity to visit the program and it was a great opportunity for our students.
- He continues to meet with the Board of Education to work on building project items. The contract with Highland Agency is nearing completion.
- The musical this year was outstanding!
- He attended the basketball State Championships as MAC League President. It was good to see them happen in our region.
- Kudos to Mr. Bartlett and his staff for clearing the grounds after the storm.
- We received a letter from Senator Bonacic congratulating the district on the SAT rankings.
- He is continuing to perform informal observations on non-tenured teachers.

The Board thanked Mr. Thomson for his report.

#### New Business -

On a motion made by Trustee, Jay Wilson, seconded by Trustee, Seth Haight, the Board of Education approved an Agreement between the County of Delaware and Delaware Academy Central School District at Delhi for the County to provide the creation of the ballot, programming and testing of the voting machine and permit Delaware Academy to use two voting machines, four privacy voting booths, twenty privacy sleeves, and pens that are necessary to conduct the annual budget vote and Board of Education election on May 16, 2017, in the amount of \$200.00 plus an additional \$50.00 for delivery of the voting machines. There were no questions, comments, or discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

On a motion made by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, seconded by Vice President, Tammy Neumann, the Board of Education approved the following resolution on Foundation Aid:

Whereas, Foundation Aid was established in 2007 in order to help provide a sound basic education to all students; and

Whereas, the Foundation Aid formula has not been fully-funded since 2009; and Whereas, New York State is underfunding Foundation Aid by more than \$4 billion; and Whereas, school districts have been left without a school funding system that accurately reflects changes in enrollment, student need and district wealth; and

Whereas, such a proposal would make permanent the underfunding of Foundation Aid that impacts hundreds of districts statewide; and

Whereas, school districts deserve a funding system that provides adequacy, equity, flexibility, predictability and clarity;

Therefore, be it resolved, that this Board of Education calls on the State Assembly and State Senate to reject the proposed repeal of the Foundation Aid formula and instead commit to full-funding of the formula over the next three years.

There were no questions, comments, or discussion, and the motion carried unanimously.

#### Public Comments -

Mr. Henry Marino, Delhi resident, asked is the district is expecting less money this year?

#### New Business -

Approval of Agreement Between Delaware County & DA - Budget Vote

Approve Resolution to Reject the Proposed Repeal of the Foundation Aid Formula

Public Comments -

Marino

President, Glenn Nealis, stated his concern is that Delaware Academy is considered a high wealth district. The foundation aid is affected by the district's wealth factor. He is Nealis concerned that upstate is, once again, getting the short end. Mr. Henry Marino stated this is an ongoing problem with the funding where the money is given to other districts. This brings him back to the open enrollment issue, but without Marino funding, we need to keep pressure on our legislatures. Mr. Thomson replied this is a common theme in Albany. Thomson Mr. Henry Marino, Delhi resident, stated he is concerned about cuts from the State as it adds additional pressure on the taxpayers. With special needs students, the cost is an issue Marino and he wants to see every student succeed. Mr. Thomson asked Mr. Marino to call Mr. Shultz or Mr. Thomson anytime with questions, or he can come in to the office and talk to either one of them. They are happy Thomson to answer any questions. Mr. Shultz commented that the Governor is always conservative with his first proposal. Last year the State abolished the Gap Elimination so we are not going to see an increase Shultz every year. The district won a lawsuit; however, the money has not yet been received. Mr. Marino asked if the district can use some of the Smart Schools money. Mr. Shultz replied we cannot, as the money is for technology only. Marino Other Discussion -Other Discussion -Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke asked Mrs. Alberti to convey to everyone who was a part of the musical that the musical was amazing! She said the whole thing was amazing and she Huneke thanked everyone for their participation. Trustee, Seth Haight congratulated administration and teachers on the SAT results; D.A. ranked 7 of 30 schools in the Southern Tier area - this is an amazing feat! The point Haight difference between school districts is significant. This is big and everyone should be proud. Trustee, Jay Wilson addressed Mr. Marino regarding his comments on the district's efforts to be transparent. The Board wanted the discussions on open enrollment to be out in the Wilson open and give everyone the opportunity to discuss it before a decision is made to roll it out. He wants people to come out to try to understand what the Board is doing. Delaware Academy offers lots of great things. Each month we have great presentations. This is one way the Board is being transparent. Upcoming Board of Education Meeting Dates: **Upcoming BOE Dates** Budget Workshop - Monday, March 27, 2017, 6:00 p.m., High School Media Library Center. March 27, 2017 Budget Workshop /Budget Adoption - Monday, April 3, 2017, 6:00 p.m., High School Media Library Center. April 3, 2017 Regular Board of Education Meeting - Monday, April 24, 2017, 6:00 p.m. High School Media Library Center. It is anticipated that the Board of Education will act upon a April 24, 2017 resolution to convene an executive session and will plan to return to open session at 7:00

The deadline for items to be placed on the Board agenda is the Tuesday prior to each

Board of Education meeting. If you have any questions, please contact the District Clerk.

On a motion made by Trustee, Seth Haight, seconded by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, the Board entered Executive Session to discuss a contractual item, with no action to be taken, at 8:42 p.m.

On a motion made by Trustee, Jay Wilson, seconded by Trustee, Elizabeth Huneke, the Board left Executive Session and Adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan J. Temple
District Clerk