

**MINUTES OF A  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF  
THE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
OF  
DWIGHT TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT #230**

**Held in the Dwight Township High School Board Room  
On April 13, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.**

Board President Tim Henson called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

**PRESENT: Tim Henson; Susan Legner; Joel Sandeno; Eric Scheuer; Max Sulzberger; Paul Warner**

**ABSENT: Kevin Berta**

**Also in attendance: Dr. Richard Jancek, Superintendent; Deb Conroy, Secretary; Andy Pittenger, Principal; Cathy Ferguson, AD**

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**NOTICES, COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

A note of recognition was received from the Sports Boosters for Carter Butterbrodt's and Jeremy Kapper's help during Booster Bash.

**REPORT OF BOARD COMMITTEES OR REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. Pittenger informed the Board that Prom will be held on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Station 343.

Ms. Ferguson requested Board support to have a sidewalk installed near the baseball field. A bull pen was also discussed for the Softball field. She noted that as soon as the weather permits, they will be moving the discus pit to the south of where it is currently located.

Dr. Jancek reported that A&R Mechanical Engineers will be here this Friday to start taking measurements and figuring specs for the HVAC project quote.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Dr. Jancek reported that the state owes the district \$12,186.48 in late mandated categorical payments for the 2021 school year, as well as \$17,168.68 for the 2022 school year.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Items for consideration on this month's Consent Agenda are as follows:

- 1) Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, March 9, 2022

- 2) Minutes of Special Joint Meeting, March 30, 2022
- 3) Approve Payment of Bills
- 4) Accept Resignation, Chuck Butterbrodt, Head Girls Varsity Basketball Coach
- 5) Accept Resignation, Chuck Butterbrodt, Assistant Football Coach
- 6) Approve FMLA Request, Anna Ruskin
- 7) Approve Carli Serpe, Senior Class Sponsor
- 8) Approve Chad Miller, Peer Advisor Sponsor
- 9) Approve Resignation, Bass Fishing Coach, David Brooke, Per Job Abandonment
- 10) Approve Resignation, Bass Fishing Coach, Frank Mackovitch, Per Job Abandonment

Items #4 and #5 were pulled from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Sulzberger, seconded by Sandeno, to approve the Consent Agenda without items #4 and #5, as amended. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Pittenger relayed his proposal to restructure the Guidance Office to be named the Student Services Office. He is proposing the employment of Jordan Christensen as a school counselor. She and Jessica Smith, our current Social Worker, both have the credentials for mental health counseling as well as school counseling. He proposes to have both ladies share the position 50/50, and also to change Chad Miller's title from Secretary to Registrar, which would also hold increased job responsibilities. Pittenger asked that the Board also increase Miller's salary to reflect those increased responsibilities. The Board was supportive of this concept.

Moved by Sandeno, seconded by Warner, to approve the restructured concept of the Guidance Office, as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Pittenger recommended Jordan Christensen as the new School Counselor for the 2022-23 school year.

Moved by Scheuer, seconded by Sulzberger, to approve the employment of Jordan Christensen as School Counselor for the 2022-23 school year, as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Dr. Jancek presented the Consolidated District Plan for the 2022-23 school year for Board approval.

Moved by Scheuer, seconded by Warner, to approve the Consolidated District Plan for the 2022-23 school year, as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Dr. Jancek presented the proposal from Arbor Management for renewal of our food service contract for the 2022-23 school year. Board members were not happy with our meal choices and would like to hold off on approving this contract until Arbor can come in to speak with them about a different contract with better meal choices for our students. Item C4 has been tabled until the May meeting.

Mr. Pittenger informed the Board that this year's Senior Class is offering to have the brick wall in front of the student cheering section at the stadium painted with a mural as their parting Senior gift. Steve Connor has offered to do this mural at a cost of \$300. The Board supports this idea as long as there is no physical harm done to the retaining wall.

Moved by Sandeno, seconded by Sulzberger, to approve the Senior gift of painting the stadium wall, as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Pittenger recommended to the Board that we go back to a student incentive that we had years ago. The incentive would be that students who have achieved A's, B's or C's may be allowed to skip homeroom 2 days per week and leave school an hour early. This concept worked well in the past and he believes it will drive more students toward academic success. The Board would like to try this concept for one school year and see how it goes. They also would like to see data on the affect of this change.

Moved by Scheuer, seconded by Sulzberger, to approve the early release for students in good standing, as presented, for a one-year trial. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Mr. Pittenger informed the Board that COVID has had a great affect on our students in Math courses. After placement tests for incoming Freshmen, they found that approximately 30% of incoming Freshmen are extremely deficient in Math content. Pittenger noted that 14 students were identified that he feels would benefit from having a Pre-Algebra course before taking Coordinate Math.

Moved by Sandeno, seconded by Sulzberger, to approve the new Pre-Algebra course for the 2022-23 school year, as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Dr. Jancek proposed a 5% salary increase for Mr. Pittenger. All other support staff received a 5% increase at last month's Special Joint Meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Jancek feels that Mr. Pittenger has done a very good job at trying to find new ways for student success and is deserving of a 5% increase.

Moved by Sulzberger, seconded by Sandeno, to approve a 5% salary increase for Andy Pittenger, as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

At the Special Joint Meeting on March 30<sup>th</sup>, discussion was held with the Board regarding continued medical insurance coverage for Dr. Jancek through the end of the 2022 calendar year, with the stipulation that he make himself available to the new Superintendent for mentoring if necessary at a cost equaling \$800 per day (or \$400 per half-day) until December 31<sup>st</sup>. Dr. Jancek also requested to once again cash out some of his vacation days, up to the 6% TRS salary cap, so that amount of money increases his creditable earnings for the 2021-22 school year. Those funds would then be donated into an Activity account for the purposes of a scholarship. Dr. Jancek won't be able to give them the final dollar amount of the vacation day buyback until later in the school year. The Board was supportive of both requests.

Moved by Sandeno, seconded by Legner, to approve the Superintendent's continued insurance coverage and vacation buy-back days, as presented. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

The Board did not hold Executive Session for Section IV, A.

Moved by Legner, seconded by Warner, to enter Executive Session at 7:05 p.m. to discuss litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent in which case the basis for the findings shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; According to Section 2, subsection c, #11 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Sulzberger, seconded by Scheuer, to exit Executive Session at 7:18 p.m. Roll call. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Moved by Sulzberger, seconded by Warner, to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 p.m. Voice vote. All voted aye. Motion carried.

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Debbie Conroy, Secretary, District #230

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Tim Henson, President, District #230