

DRAFT

Damiansville Elementary
School Board Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2007

Present at this meeting:

Kelly Arentsen	-Board Member	Michelle Weiss	Guest
Susan Lynch	-Board Member		
Jill Kassen	-Absent		
Donna Goebel	-Board Member		
Phyllis Kassen	-Board Member		
Mike Caraker	-Board Member		
Kevin Arentsen	-Board Member		
Michael Toeben	-Superintendent		

Meeting called to order at 6:36PM.

Roll Call: Jill Kassen absent

Pledge of Allegiance. skipped

Accept/Amend Agenda: Add item 6.04 PTO/Playground Equipment.

Guest Communications: None

Consent Agenda:

3.01 – Approval of Minutes from Sept. 18th, 2007 Meeting – Donna pointed out 2 changes

3.02 – Approval of Treasurer’s Report - \$167,000 payment came in after the report was submitted. State has a Nov 1 deadline to approve the additional \$400/child, many districts would get less in state aid if this is not passed, including us.

3.03 – Approve Payment of Bills

Kevin made a motion to accept the consent agenda, Phyllis seconded. Vote 6-0.

Superintendent’s Report

- Mike T. attended Parish council meeting on Tuesday and got a positive reception regarding our building committee discussions.
- Next week is both Red Ribbon week (drug awareness) and ITBS (Iowa Test Basic Skills)
- Spirit Week is currently going on

Unfinished Business

5.01 – Bus Issues, We currently have 5 drivers available (some still in the process of getting paperwork back). Bus 3 has some worried that it won’t pass inspection next time and we have received a quote to buy our small bus and bus 3 in trade for a 2006 model at a cost of just under \$40,000. Mike T will gather information on the cost of a new one (which will have more safety regulations attached to it) as well as competitive bids for review at the next meeting.

5.02 – Facilities Management – Building Committee, The building committee met and discussed several options for our long-term plan. We agreed to get some solid information on the current “temporary” buildings to make sure they are safe for other potential uses (like computer lab, library, etc). We’re going to invite a few members of the Parish Council to join us at a Building Committee meeting in the future to review our 3 main options; build new (on-site), purchase mobile buildings like the ones we have a quote for, or use the rectory building for some functions.

New Business

6.01 – Tax Levy, Mike T distributed a spreadsheet of previous years EAV amounts and tax rates we collected. This is an “every fourth” year so the county will be re-assessing all property and we may have trouble getting an estimate from them to go by. Mike T is calling them persistently to get a ballpark estimate. Our current rate is 2.62 and we discussed having an open tax hearing every year whether we go over the 5% level or not. We can go as low as 2.30 without penalty from the state. Basically, whatever we don’t collect locally the state makes up, however the state money is not guaranteed but county tax money is.

6.02 – Parent/Teacher Conferences, Wednesday November 7th (evening of). We need to look into early dismissal on that day for next year so the teachers have time to prepare before the sessions start. It has to be on the calendar at the start of the year so we can’t do it this year. Mike T was asked to look into making the upper grades student-led sessions go a bit smoother and quicker than last year.

6.03 – Board Conference Information, our rooms are booked and everything is set for Nov 16-18.

6.04 – PTO Playground Equipment, we got a matching grant from GameTime which is due Nov 29th. the Chamber and Holy Name is willing to donate. Angela R is coordinating all issues related to this.

The next meeting will be November 20th, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.

Donna motioned to adjourn the meeting. Kevin seconded. Vote 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Kelly Arentsen, President

Mike Caraker, Secretary