

**DRAFT**

Damiansville Elementary  
School Board Meeting Minutes  
November 28, 2007

Present at this meeting:

Kelly Arentsen	-Board Member	Jenny Heimann	Guest
Susan Lynch	-Board Member	Lynn Williamson	Guest
Jill Kassen	-Board Member		
Donna Goebel	-Board Member		
Phyllis Kassen	-Board Member		
Mike Caraker	-Board Member		
Kevin Arentsen	-Board Member		
Michael Toeben	-Superintendent		

Meeting called to order at 6:32PM.

Roll Call: all present

Pledge of Allegiance.

Accept/Amend Agenda: Add item 6.07 – Lighting Grant.

Guest Communications: The Peer team introduced themselves along with Caterie and ran through some of the many events that they'll be taking on this year including; Jingle Jamboree, Easter Extravaganza, Coat & Toy drive, game night and Character Ed for the lower grades. Denise Varil introduced herself as the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade substitute during Angela's maternity leave.

Consent Agenda:

3.01 – Approval of Minutes from Oct 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 Meeting

3.02 – Approval of Treasurer's Report – Our second check arrived today!

3.03 – Approve Payment of Bills

Phyllis made a motion to accept the consent agenda, Jill seconded. Vote 7-0.

### **Superintendent's Report**

- Mike is looking for a new writing curriculum that would flow through all of the grades.
- Clinton County AAU is looking to rent the gym, Mike referred them to the parish.
- After-school tutoring help starting every Tuesday and Thursday for a dozen of the junior high kids for an hour each day. It's not mandatory, but very strongly suggested.

### **Unfinished Business**

5.01 – Bus Issues, We have bids for new buses from Daimler Chrysler and are still waiting on bids from International. There was some concern whether we should be trading off the little bus or not. Will we find ourselves needing it more often than the trade-in value? Both people taking their bus test failed on the first attempt, apparently that's not uncommon.

5.02 – Facilities Management – Building Committee, The building committee has not had a formal meeting since last month. Some of us stopped by the booth Jim's Mobile Homes had at the state conference last weekend. They called the office following that visit trying to convince us to move quickly. We feel that patience is the best approach and will try to schedule a building committee meeting in December for goal setting.

5.03 – Board Conference information – this item was tabled until next meeting

5.04 – Parent/Teacher Conferences – student led junior high conferences went VERY well. Next year we should consider early dismissal on that day so that teachers are able to prepare.

5.05 – Tax Levy – Mike T presented three options based on a potential that the EAV will go up by as much as 20%. We had a lengthy discussion of the merits of asking for more or less county tax dollars. Kevin made a motion that we submit \$356,790 (option B), Mike C seconded. This motion failed 2-5 (Kevin and MikeC voting Yes. Donna, Jill, Phyllis, Susan and Kelly voting No.). Jill made a motion for \$369,533 (option C), Phyllis seconded. This motion passed 5-2 (Donna, Jill, Phyllis, Susan and Kelly voting Yes. Kevin and MikeC voting No).

**New Business**

- 6.01 – Sports Coop with Albers, we’ve had trouble keeping the few students we have eligible to play basketball. Regulations limit kids to playing six quarters per night. Mike T is looking into partnering with Albers as a temporary solution to keep from forfeiting games.
- 6.02 – 08-09 School Calendar, the only major change currently being considered is the early dismissal for parent/teacher conferences
- 6.03 – Policy Manual/Press On-Line, The policy manual needs some work. The original plan was to work on that over the summer but further discussion led us to think we may want to work on this sooner than that.
- 6.04 – Board Goals, the superintendent’s contract states that goals will be submitted to the board no later than April 1,2008
- 6.05 – School Construction Grant Entitlement, Mike C presented a form to get us on the school construction grant list. The idea is that the rules for distribution will probably change by the time money becomes available so it’s better to be on the list than not, especially since 100% of our students are technically un-housed.
- 6.06 – Technology Needs, Barb is working on putting together a list
- 6.07 – Lighting Grant, we got just under \$27,000 last year and we currently have a bid from Toennis Service to do the work (replacing lights with current energy saving models) – do we need 2 more bids?

Susan made a motion to move to Executive Session, Phyllis seconded, vote 7-0.  
 Kevin made a motion to leave Executive Session, Phyllis seconded, vote 7-0.

**The next meeting will be December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.**

Kevin motioned to adjourn the meeting. Donna seconded. Vote 7-0.  
 Meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

-----  
 Kelly Arentsen, President

-----  
 Mike Caraker, Secretary