

Initials: KDC

DAVISON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Board of Education

Monday, May 4, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Virtual Zoom Meeting

MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT: Karen Conover
John Hair
Mark McGlashen
Diane Rhines
Matthew Smith
Granger Stefanko
Kathleen Sudia

ADMINISTRATION: Kevin Brown, Superintendent
Matt Lobban, Assistant Superintendent
Phil Thom, Executive Director of Operations
Leslie Young, Director of Business Services

STAFF: Sara Howes, Chris Lesko

OTHER GUESTS: Jessica Abraham, Tim Bishop, Gary Gould, Jade Mills,
Stephanie Thomas

ORDER OF BUSINESS:

CALL TO ORDER: The regular meeting of the Davison Board of Education was called to order by President Kathleen Sudia at 7:02 pm. The Zoom meeting was held virtually.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Tonight's Pledge of Allegiance was led by Board President Kathleen Sudia.

ROLL CALL: Robin Ricca read the roll. Members present: Karen Conover, John Hair, Mark McGlashen, Diane Rhines, Matthew Smith, Granger Stefanko and Kathleen Sudia.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Moved by Karen Conover, supported by Matthew Smith, to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was carried with a roll call vote of 7-yes, 0-no.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Moved by John Hair, supported by Granger Stefanko, to approve the consent agenda which included items 1-5 below:

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SUSPENSION OF BOARD POLICIES: Due to the Governor's Executive Orders closing schools for the remainder of the school year and the District's recent move to distance learning, both Thrun Law Firm and Neola are recommending the Board consider adopting a resolution to suspend policies pertaining to attendance, grading, promotion, evaluation, etc. and grant the Superintendent broad discretionary authority to make decisions regarding these matters during this unprecedented time. Moved by Matthew Smith, supported by Granger Stefanko, to approve the suspension of Board policies. The motion was carried with a roll call vote of 7-yes, 0-no.

APPROVAL OF FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT WITH CHARTWELLS: Every year we have to make a decision on whether we are going to continue with a food service company to manage the District's food service program or return to self-operation, in house management. Earlier this school year the Board decided to continue using Chartwells as our food service manager. Both the Board and the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) must approve our agreement with Chartwells. On April 14, Superintendent Brown received notification from MDE that they have approved our food service contract with Chartwells for the 2020/2021 school year. Moved by Granger Stefanko, supported by John Hair, to approve the Chartwells' food service contract agreement. The motion was carried with a roll call vote of 7-yes, 0-no.

GISD BUDGET APPROVAL: MCL 380.624 requires local school boards to review and either support or disapprove of the annual intermediate school district's proposed budget. Board Representative Granger Stefanko attended the annual GISD budget hearing on April 29, and Superintendent Kevin Brown has taken part in meetings where the proposed 2020/2021 GISD budgets have been reviewed by Genesee County superintendents. Pertinent information about the proposed budgets along with a resolution supporting the 2020/2021 GISD budgets were attached for review. Moved by Granger Stefanko, supported by John Hair, to approve the 2020/2021 GISD proposed budget. The motion was carried with a roll call vote of 7-yes, 0-no.

TEACHER APPRECIATION: This week, May 4-8 has been identified as teacher appreciation week. We are asking that the Board identify the entire month of May as teacher appreciation month in Davison. Our teachers are working hard to continue to educate kids through distance learning during this unprecedented time. Our administrative team will find innovative ways to recognize teachers for their hard work and dedication to their students. Moved by Matthew Smith, supported by Mark McGlashen, to identify May 4-8 as Teacher Appreciation Week. The motion was carried with a roll call vote of 7-yes, 0-no.

ACCEPTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS: Moved by Karen Conover, supported by Matthew Smith, to gratefully accept the following contribution and to direct the superintendent to express the Board's gratitude in writing:

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- The Davison Education Foundation (DEA) made a \$500 donation to purchase books that will be given to incoming students during kindergarten roundup.

The motion was carried with a roll call vote of 7-yes, 0-no.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

From our Superintendent:

- More than 73% of our students are participating in the district's virtual learning program which means that at least 3 out of 4 students are taking part in distance learning. This is a powerful testament to our kids, community and teachers. In the midst of a global crisis our teachers moved from a classroom setting to virtual learning in a matter of days.
- Siple Elementary Principal Christy Flowers forwarded a Facebook post written by Ken Buck to Superintendent Brown. Mr. Brown read the following words and thanked teachers for their dedication to our students:

"We gave educators almost no notice. We asked them to completely redesign what school looks like and in about 24 hours local administrators and teachers "Apollo 13'ed" the problem and fixed it. Kids learning, children being fed, needs being met in the midst of a global crisis.

No state agency did this, no so-called national experts on curriculum. The local educators fixed it in hours. HOURS.

In fact, existing state and federal policies actually created multiple roadblocks. Local schools figured out how to do it around those too. No complaining and no handwringing - just solutions and amazingly clever plans.

Remember that the next time someone tries to convince you that schools are better run by mandates from non-educators. Remember that the next time someone tells you that teachers have it easy or try to persuade you that educators are not among the smartest, most ingenious people in society. And please never say to me again, "Those who can't do anything else just go into teaching."

Get out of the way of a teacher and watch with amazement at what really happens."

- On another positive note, Athletic Director Dave Beamer notified Superintendent Brown that our Girls' Basketball Team was awarded #1 All-Academic Team in the state with a cumulative grade point average of 3.95 for the second year in a row. This is another big championship for Davison. Very impressive!

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Other Matters Which May Properly Come Before the Board (From Board members):

- Board Secretary Karen Conover gave a hat tip to our teachers as they continue to educate our students from home. She thanked them for doing a truly amazing job.
- Trustee Matthew Smith praised teachers and administrators for their hard work, but also wanted to thank parents for doing their part in schooling the children.

Future Meeting Dates:

Regular Board Meeting:
Monday, June 1, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Regular Board Meeting:
Monday, June 22, 2020
7:00 pm

ADJOURNMENT: Moved by Karen Conover, supported by Matthew Smith, to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 pm. The motion was carried with a roll call vote of 7-yes, 0-no.

Respectfully submitted:



Karen D. Conover, Secretary
Davison Board of Education