

**DANVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, October 4th, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
Danville School Library and Zoom Teleconference
[Video Recording Available](#)**

School Directors Present: Clayton Cargill, Melissa Conly (via Zoom), Molly Gleason. Planned absences: David Towle and Tim Sanborn.

School Administrators Present: Superintendent Mark Tucker and Elementary Principal Sarah Welch (via Zoom). Planned absence: Secondary Principal Larry Fliegelman

Student Representative Present: Thomas Edgar

Staff Present: Dave Schilling and via Zoom: Anne Landry, Jen Lemry, Des Hertz, Randy Rathburn and Lindsey Wheeler.

Building Advisory Group Representative Present: Eric Hewitt

Public Present:

Via Zoom: Chelsea Hewitt and Andrew McGregor

1. **Call meeting to order:** Clayton called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, and introductions were made around the room and on Zoom.
2. **Additions/Changes to the Agenda** (*Proposed additions or deletions/Possible agreement*):

Clayton added one new agenda item: An update from the Career, Technical and Experiential Learning (CTE) Director Dave Schilling, which was added to “4. Administrative Reports”.

MOTION: Molly moved to add the CTE update to the agenda, Melissa seconded. Dave S. suggested amending it to use Danville Works in place of CTE. All voted in favor.

Clayton recommended the following change to the agenda: Add “Act 72 Update” and remove “Potential Impact of School Renovation Project.” Mark stated he is pulling back the information he shared on the tax impact, and he is working on changes based on

recommendations he received, noting it will be more accurate information specific to a range of taxpayers in Danville.

MOTION: Molly moved to change the agenda item to “Act 72 Update,” Melissa seconded, all in favor.

Sarah asked if a residency update should be added to the agenda as the board had given two of the three families, who had previously requested extensions, a deadline of October 4th, 2022 to resolve residency issues. Clayton stated it would need to be discussed by the board in executive session due to confidentiality requirements according to the Vermont Statutes [1 V.S.A. § 313 \(7\)](#) .

MOTION: Molly moved to go into executive session to discuss and get an update on three residency issues according to [1 V.S.A. § 313 \(7\)](#), Melissa seconded. Clayton stated the executive session will be held after the agenda item: “Future Agenda Items.” All in favor.

3. Approve Minutes:

MOTION: Melissa moved to approve the September 6th, 2022 minutes as written, Molly seconded, all in favor.

4. Administrative Reports:

- [Superintendent](#): Mark reported the budget season is coming up and shared that the CCSU will be looking at remaining ESSER grant funding (COVID relief/student recovery funding). The projection was that intervention positions, which are funded by ESSER, could be funded through next school year. When all ESSER funding is expended, these positions and the after-school and summer programs will have to receive budget consideration. There are four grant-funded positions, and ESSER grants 1 and 2 have been expended. It is not an immediate concern, and he will keep the board updated. Sarah stated it doesn't impact elementary grades at Danville; it is literacy interventionists for 5-8 and 9-12 and 7-12 math interventionists. Danville Works is also grant funded through ESSER.

Mark reported the school is following COVID guidelines and recommendations.

- [Student Services](#): Director of Students Services Anne Landry submitted a report and will get information on how many students at Danville are on IEPs.
- [Principals](#): Sarah reported and highlighted the DREAM program, a mentoring

program at the school for elementary students, which has grown significantly with the help of school counselors Adrianna Watrobski and Danielle Scott.

She also gave an update on the gym project. It should take five days to complete and the deadline has been moved to October 20th. She reported the after-school program is the largest it has been since she has been at Danville with 30 students enrolled. Enrichment activities are provided for two separate age groups every day after school.

Dave added that students were actively engaged and interested in the recent solar ribbon cutting event.

- [Student Representative](#): Clayton and Thomas will connect about how the student representative position can be improved for new candidates.
- [Danville Works Update](#): Dave shared a comprehensive report on the new Danville Works program. Students have been busy and involved in hands-on learning, working on getting the yurt set up among other projects. The Danville Select Board offered funding for middle school students to build a garden at the school, which includes design work and milling their own lumber. The technology education position remains unfilled which has been challenging in terms of program development and outreach to businesses. There was discussion on the best way to communicate the information in these reports to the public, beyond the school board and school community. Dave mentioned Front Porch Forum and the school's Facebook page; he's also created a Facebook page for the project. Over Zoom chat, Chelsea Hewitt offered to share information on the Danville Chamber of Commerce's Facebook page.

5. Board Business: (find at 0:24:55 in video)

- Meet the New Administrators (Des Hertz, Jen Lemery, Anne Landry)

The following new administrators introduced themselves to the group over Zoom: Director of Student Services Anne Landry, Curriculum Director Des Hertz and Curriculum Integration Specialist Jen Lemery.

- Official School Enrollment Numbers (*Discussion*)

Sarah reported the total number of tuition students is down; there was a large senior class with more tuition students last year. The majority of students in Danville Works are tuition students, and Larry and Simon Fisher are actively recruiting local middle schools students. They were at the Kingdom East Fair recently, and Larry is meeting with schools. Clayton added that there were enrollment caps a few years ago due to limited building space, COVID, and

ventilation issues. Sarah shared that several students attend throughout the year, and she anticipates this happening again this year. She expects tuition student numbers to grow. Dave S. added that having more than 35 high school students in class/grade is challenging due to the size of the classrooms. Currently, there are 26 students in 9th grade, 33 in 10th, 28 in 11th, and 40 in 12th. Connect and SOAR, programs that are part of Danville Works, are capped at 10 students at this time, and he'll have more information on Epic Journeys at the next meeting. It's important to note students enrolled in Danville Works are also in the traditional classes at the school.

- Building Advisory Update (*Discussion*)

Eric Hewitt, the spokesperson for the group, reported that two meetings had been held to date. The group reviewed the facility report by TruexCullins and agreed it was accurate, except for 10 windows that don't need to be replaced. Mark attended the last meeting and presented on financing. Cam and Richard from TruexCullins were also there to discuss the report and building options. There is a meeting tomorrow, Wednesday, at 6pm and they will be taking a poll, discussing options, and determining questions to bring to the community.

- Act 72 Update (*Discussion / Added agenda item*):

Mark shared information on [Act 72](#). It passed in 2021, requiring the VT Agency of Education to conduct an inventory of school buildings, adopt a capital outlay financing formula and update facility standards which haven't been updated since 2007. The state created a [facility inventory dashboard](#) which is available to show the status of schools throughout Vermont (a score of 0 is good, 100% means the systems at the school are at the end of useful life). Major systems at Danville School are approaching 100%. The financing formula would be useful if there is funding, but there's no funding available yet. The date for the state to create a financing formula and update facility standards will likely be pushed back because the work hasn't been completed yet. These changes could be relevant in terms of a project design for Danville School. Any state aid that is available in the future will only be based on recommendations and facility standards coming from the state; for instance, if Danville builds a school with classrooms that are larger than the state's standards for classroom space, Danville will be responsible for funding the additional costs. If state funding becomes available to Danville after construction has started, or during the life of the bond, it can be applied to pay down the debt.

- [Sevigny Fund Request](#) (*Discussion / Possible Action*)

Sarah shared a document outlining a request for funding from the Sevigny Fund for \$8,760 to support the Little League field, fencing, cedar hedge trimming and

to repair different field areas and materials for the fields and field parking lot. The Seigny Fund is, “A fund established with the interest only to be used for the maintenance and improvement of the school athletic fields and facilities.”

MOTION: Melissa moved to approve an amount not to exceed \$8,760 for the fields from the Seigny Fund, Molly seconded. All in favor.

- Retirement Incentive for Teachers, per CBA
(*Discussion/Recommendation/Possible Action*)

Mark informed the board that in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) it “may” offer teachers an early retirement package. Mark added that this incentive is expensive to the district, offering health care coverage for the first year, and 66% of the final year’s salary paid out over three years (22% each year for three consecutive years). Due to uncertainty regarding ESSER funding and the impact on the budget, Mark is recommending against offering an early retirement package at this time. This benefit is only available to teachers who have reached a combined time of 70 years, based on age and the number of years at the school (for instance, a 50-year-old teacher who has worked for a minimum of 20 years). Mark added that only one person took advantage of the offer three years ago. The board accepted the superintendent’s recommendation, and no motion was required.

6. Other Business

- Student Representative Search (*Discussion / Possible Action*): Clayton stated that according to the [Student Representation Policy](#), the board needs another student representative in addition to Thomas. Sarah shared that Larry has reached out to students several times. A sophomore expressed interest and submitted a letter to the board for consideration. The board would need to make an exception for a sophomore to join as the policy states it must be a member of the junior or senior class. The student was unable to join the meeting and the discussion was tabled.

7. Public Input: None

8. Future Agenda Items / Next Meeting Date

- Student Representative (*possible change to policy*)
- Advisory Group Update
- Next Meeting Date: November 1, 2022

9. Executive Session (*Discuss residency issues in accordance with 1 V.S.A. § 313(7)*)

MOTION: Molly moved to go into executive session at 7:14pm, Melissa seconded, all in

favor.

MOTION: Melissa moved to come out of executive session at 7:24pm, Molly seconded, all in favor.

MOTION: Molly moved to approve a 14-day residency extension to family #2, Melissa seconded, all in favor.

9. Adjourn

MOTION: Melissa moved to adjourn at 7:26pm, Molly seconded, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Molly Gleason, Clerk, October 7, 2022.