

DURHAM INTERMEDIATE GENERAL BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FROM AUGUST 10, 2009

Tina Wasserman, President of DIS PTO, called the meeting to order at eight thirty a.m.

Present for the meeting were Gary Brake, Kathy Phillips, Stacy Sexton, Tammy Kane, Angela Schwartz, Ann Breeding, Michele Packard, Lisa Fenley, Anjie Gordon, Cindy Walker, Paige Buck, Pam Davies, Maggi Long, Sharon Duquemin, Jennifer Stallings, Linda Snyder and Pug Landrum.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

Mr. Brake gave an overview of his mission, ethics and policies as an administrator. He gave an overview of the administration's background, Mrs. Phillips as a counselor and his as a correctional officer. Gary wanted the audience to know that coming to the principal's office is not a "bad thing". He made it clear that everyone at DIS is part of the educational process. They are there to help the children with the educational process. He said they are going to love them and help them correct their mistakes. Very few consequences that DIS gives are discipline in nature.

Mr. Brake gave an overview of the staff changes in the front office. Paige has left to pursue her collegiate degree. They are currently interviewing for her replacement. Kim Nuenke resigned at the end of the year to stay at home. Karen Oldenberg was hired to replace Kin.

DIS is still interviewing for a band director. Luckily, they have several good applicants.

A new choir director was hired, Amanda Gillum. Central Jr. High in HEB loss is DIS's gain with Amanda.

Krista Gant is leaving in December because of her impending motherhood and she will not return. DIS is currently looking for a registered teacher to work as an aide with her and then be her replacement.

The additional Language Arts teacher that was hired in fifth grade is Christy Farthing. She transferred here from the great state of Oklahoma.

Mr. Brake commented on the new carpet throughout the school. Unfortunately, due to the overcrowding band will have three classes in the training room outside the office area.

The theme for DIS this year is “Where in the World is DIS”. Next year’s theme will be “Where in the U.S. is DIS”. Each teacher took a country and colors to work with the DIS theme. Every teacher’s class t-shirt will go along with the theme and the specific country’s colors.

He reminded the parents of a couple of upcoming dates.

Sixth grade camp is this Friday in the morning. The sixth graders will get lockers and textbooks.

Fifth grade camp is over two days, next Monday, August 17th and Tuesday August 18th. Your child should have received a postcard through the mail to let you know what time your child should be at DIS.

DIS “Meet the Teacher” is scheduled for Thursday, August 21st from 5:30 until 7:00 p.m.

September 8th, Commandoes U.S.A. will present a program in the evening at six thirty for DIS parents.

Mr. Brake is looking forward to a great year.

VICE-PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Kathy Phillips, assistant principal, gave her mission as an administrator at DIS and that she loves kids. She draws a lot from her years as a counselor and that experience leads to a much more positive experience for the children.

Mrs. Phillips was thrilled to give an overview of “Capturing Kids Hearts” workshop that most of the DIS staff members attended in Roundtop, Texas. She felt like the teachers embraced the program’s philosophies and bought into the value system for DIS. She wanted the parents to know it is a process not a program. The process is if you capture a heart then you can

capture a child's head. The retreat was not just about using the process in the school setting, but they could take it home to their homes. She felt they are closer as a staff because of the retreat. She thanked the PTO for sponsoring such an awesome event.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tina asked the audience to read over the last general board meeting minutes and asked if anyone had questions. Anjie Gordon made a motion to approve the minutes as recorded. Lisa Fenley seconded the motion to approve the minutes. Motion passed.

Tina announced that Sabrina Modi has resigned as treasurer of DIS PTO. Unfortunately, Sabrina's father is ill and she will not be able to fulfill her term. Julie Varriale, has agreed to be the new DIS treasurer. Tina thanked Julie for stepping up in this role.

Tina presented the new budget for the coming year to the audience. She went line by line to explain each item.

The audience agreed to do "Boosterthon" again for a fund raiser. We can not do "FIESTA" again because of the large student population. Security reasons are the main concerns of the administration and the board in not repeating FIESTA. The PTO is going to offer only incoming fourth graders a fun night in the spring.

Tina also discussed the expenditures associated with fifth and sixth grade fun nights which will be more this coming school year. The board did increase Hospitality's budget by \$500.00. Also, a new line item is the Secretary's budget, which will be used for flowers for deaths, babies, and office appreciation week.

We will not have a Spirit Shop this year. We will sell "Green Out" shirts for DIS.

Tina asked if there were any questions concerning the proposed budget. Ann Breeding made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Angela Schwartz seconded the motion to approve the budget. Motion passed.

Disbursements

1. Tina passed out an itemized list of the outdoor expenses. The sheet is in the Secretary's binder for the school year 2009-2010.

She commented that the outdoor covered area will be presented to the City Council next week for approval. If passed, the PTO will get started on the implementation of a covered area to hold up to 100 children. The covered area will be accessible from the cafeteria. The covered area will be 30 x 40. Also, PTO would like to add basketball hoops outside and paint the basketball play with new striping and hopscotch areas. This paint will last approximately six to seven years.

Also, we will have to purchase picnic tables for under the covered area. The PTO is also buying ADA accessible picnic tables. The total cost will be \$23, 586.

Anjie Gordon made a motion to approve the expenditures for the outdoors improvements. Ann Breeding seconded the motion. Motion passed.

2. Another disbursement request comes from Mrs. Lehrer, the DIS counselor. She needs \$850 more dollars for the class t shirts. We have a larger than expected enrollment. Also, with DIS theme's the shirts are more expensive because of the art work involved with the design. The shirts are very specific for each classroom. Cindy Walker made a motion to approve the extra expenditure for the class t shirts. Ann Breeding seconded the motion. Motion passed.

3. CEF is asking for a donation to be auctioned for their October event. Last year DIS auctioned off four front row seats to sixth grade graduation and a front parking pass. The motion was approved to do that auction item again this year.

OTHER ITEMS

_PKD will again have a walk on Sept. 22nd and they would like to have a group from DIS. If anyone knows of someone that would like to head up a group of walkers please let Tina know.

Membership, Art Docent, Cookie Dough, Volunteer Coordinator will all have flyers for the first day packets.

Also, it was announced that for \$2.00 you can advertise on the Durham TV website for one day. This is a great way to wish your child “happy birthday” or to announce upcoming games, etc.

Hospitality announced they need volunteers to bring a few items for the teacher luncheon on August 21st. The bulk of the lunch will come from Jason’s deli.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

These minutes were respectively submitted by Maureen Cramer.

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Tina announced that first day packets will just be for PTO. We will stuff packets on Thursday, August 20th