

Central Dauphin School District Taskforce
Extra-Curricular Minutes 10/18/10

Attending:

Greg Goldthorp (District Chair), Stan Zimmerman (Community Chair), Donna DeGrandchamp, Amanda Wilson, Matthew Ceresini, Shelly Sneeringer, Kim Hissick, Jeanne Webster, Cindy Radich, Luann Cartwright, T.J. Osborne, Sam Cartwright, Jeff Thrush, David Hohenshelt, Ford Thompson (briefly)

Mission:

To look into areas to reduce expenses while taking into consideration the diversity of the school district, especially considering income, while trying to improve the opportunities to all those involved.

Agenda:

1. Every member received a summary sheet of the first meeting which included cost reduction ideas from most of the subcommittee members.
2. Finished last meeting's agenda for every subcommittee member to have a chance to voice their ideas on how to cut extra-curricular activity expenditures. Ideas were as follows:
 - Limit coaches in every sport.
 - Have more day games so there is less light usage at Landis Field.
 - Counterpoint- the lights do not burn as much energy as one might think. The coolers at the field that are on 24/7 use a tremendous amount of energy.
 - Are there more cost effective coolers that can be used?
3. Side note: Landis Field and the 2 large gyms are major points of interest and are usually the largest attractions that people first see when visit the school district.
4. School Board input- Ford Thompson spoke as a grandparent (not a school board member), stating that there is nothing we won't discuss. In his personal opinion, the extra-curricular activities are extremely important to our students. He would hate to lose them.
5. Received a breakdown on coaching salaries paid by the Central Dauphin School District. After a review of the salaries and staffing guidelines, we concluded the following:

- 6 middle school track and field assistant coaching positions had been cut already to save money and to align our sports team coaches the same as other surrounding districts.
 - The Central Dauphin School District is at the top of the pay scale for coaching salaries and athletic directors compared to the surrounding districts.
 - The Central Dauphin School District bases coaching salaries off last year to calculate their current salaries as well as coaching experience. There is a salary cap on all 10-year coaches.
 - Coaching salaries are negotiated as part of the teacher's contracts. Most of our coaches are teachers.
 - Coaches have a salary budget, but they can split the budget up so they can have more assistant coaches than allotted for by the school district.
6. Discussion was presented that the district's financial situation seemed so large and that small cuts to programs might not show a significant savings for the district. However, the subcommittee was encouraged to consider all ideas regardless of their impact to the budget in terms of savings. The West Chester study included many small dollar reductions along with large reductions.
7. Discussion led to thoughts of how to raise money for the school district. We discussed having a separate list of revenue raising ideas attached to extracurricular activities to present to the school board along with reduction findings. Perhaps these revenue ideas could save some program cuts.
8. Discussion led to asking how dollars are allocated and divided up among extracurricular activities and sports. A list of budgets for all extra-curricular activities was handed out (if a club or event is not listed than it is a volunteer position for that activity). Largest expense is sports, trainers and training equipment and supplies. Each member will review this list for comment at the next meeting.
9. Concerning uniforms, the replacement of uniforms is scheduled on a rotating basis (this has never been done before). If the Federation changes the rules for uniforms, this can cause an unbudgeted expenditure for our district.
10. Some members of the committee feel there should be a go-to person for **all** extra-curricular activities, a student activity director.

11. Discussions of taking the 4 (four) middle schools which each have a varsity and junior varsity basketball team and combine the middle school teams from 4 individual schools to 2 combined teams/schools. Example of the two teams: the Linglestown Middle/CD Middle team and the CD East Middle/Swatara Middle team. This had already been done for all the other sports. Exact cost savings and more detail will be presented at the next meeting.
12. Discussion led to questioning where we could use the Vo-tech students more to help for paid positions such as make up and hair expenses for the musicals.
13. Discussion led to the members being asked to start the findings form that will eventually be given to the school board for review in April, 2011. Prioritizing the reduction and revenue raising ideas will begin with the next meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Next meeting

November 8th, 2010.