

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

# NASD School Board News

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◆ ◆ ◆ an E-report for all NASD employees

**The North Allegheny School District  
Board of School Directors  
met tonight at 7:30 PM for a Board Work Session  
in the CAO Board Room.**

- All Board members were in attendance, with the exception of Mr. Pagone and Ms. Peng. In addition, Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Patricia Green; District Solicitor, Mr. Maiello; the Superintendent's Executive Council; and Mr. Hamm, student representative, were present. Also in attendance were Mr. Craig Slaubaugh, principal of HES; Mr. Bill Young, assistant principal of NASH; and Mrs. Tammy Andreyko, principal of IMS.



## AGENDA

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| <b>7:00</b> | <b>DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS</b>          |
| <b>7:30</b> | <b>WORK SESSION</b>                              |
|             | <b>- Community Relations</b>                     |
|             | <b>- Social Studies Curriculum Review Report</b> |
|             | <b>- Review of Board Folder</b>                  |
|             | <b>- Speakers (Non-Agenda Items)</b>             |

**Prior to the Board meeting, the Board presented about 56 Distinguished Achievement Awards** to students and staff who recently won honors on a state or national level. These included winners of the fall Knowledge Master Open on a state and national level, students who won placement in the MENC all-Eastern Honors Choir and Honors Orchestra events, a national debate award winner, a student who was published in a national magazine, and our NA Marching Band that marched in the Presidential Inaugural Parade. For in-depth information about the entire event, please watch for details and photos to be posted on the NASD website and an NATV-Cable special to be aired soon.

**The meeting began with a brief review of the Board calendar.** At the February 25 meeting, the Board will hear an update of the Strategic Plan.

### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

There were no residents who came forward to speak.

### **SOCIAL STUDIES CURRICULUM REVIEW**

Mrs. Grosheider introduced this report by noting that this particular report has been a long time coming and is very important to the Board. The last Social Studies Curriculum Review was completed twelve years ago. She noted that, while the Board spends quite a bit of time devoted to budget and facilities issues, curriculum issues are the heart of what the School Board must be concerned about to ensure that the North Allegheny School District is able to offer outstanding educational experiences for children.

Dr. Green made mention that the individuals presenting tonight invested two and a half years of commitment to this project as a labor of love – holding up a mirror to what they do and thoroughly investigating what is being done in the world of education around them so that they could bring forward the very best thinking in regard to what our Social Studies curriculum should be. She also recognized that Dr. Alice Hirsch, who was in attendance, was responsible for redesigning the District's Curriculum Review Process six years ago when she was named the Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum. This review is one of several that have resulted from the establishment of this new process. Dr. Green commended Dr. Hirsch for choosing to be here tonight and for the work she did on this project prior to her retirement. She also acknowledged Dr. Brian Miller for stepping into the position of Assistant Superintendent of Curriculum and leading this review into its final stages.

Dr. Miller proceeded to introduce the presentation team of Gregory Funka, Joelle Keats, David Forsyth, Barbara Werner, Bill Young, and Craig Slaubaugh. He also thanked Dr. Hirsch for her contributions to the review and acknowledged his secretary, Mrs. Sally Scherling, for the tremendous amount of work she has done throughout the course of this review.

The team described the process they utilized for their review and the philosophy and vision put forth in their report. They also made recommendations in the areas of:

- Elementary Progressions
- United States History
- Globalization
- Curriculum – Courses

- Interdisciplinary Approach
- Assessment
- Textbooks, Materials, and Resources
- Technology

On behalf of the Board, Mrs. Grosheider expressed sincere appreciation for the work, passion, and intensity of this group and the resulting report.

A number of the Board members noted that they are excited about various recommendations and personally thanked the team for their work. There was considerable discussion about the specifics of the report.

The Board asked for further discussion about next steps.

### **REVIEW OF BOARD FOLDER**

The Board engaged in a review of the Board folder, which contains the items upon which they will take action during next week's Regular Voting Session.

Included among those items are the second reading of a revised Board Policy #4000 - Child Abuse and/or Neglect – and the first reading of revised Board Policy #3890 – Positive Behavioral Support Techniques.

Andy Hamm presented an update of recent and upcoming student activities. These included successes for the NASH Debate Team, NA students who attended the DECA Regional Career Development Conference, the NATV trip to NYC, and the PASC District #3 Conference hosted by NASH Student Council on February 16.

Dr. Green mentioned that Andy was the co-chair of the Student Council event and the master of ceremonies. She commended him on his performance in both roles.

She also reviewed her Good News Report, which will appear in its entirety in next week's E-Report.

### **SPEAKERS**

There were no residents who came forward to address the Board.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 PM.**

**The next meeting of the NA Board of School Directors  
is scheduled for February 25, 2009,  
and will be held in the Board Room at CAO.**

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*Display copies of Board Books are available at each building and department office. Copies of the complete Board Report folder are available through the Board secretary's office, as well as copies of the various reports presented.*

*For information about the Board meeting schedule, please refer to the NA website [www.northalleghey.org](http://www.northalleghey.org).*

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This update is provided by the Director of Communications and Public Relations immediately following the actual meeting.

For a copy of the Official Minutes of the meeting, please contact the North Allegheny School Board Secretary, Rose Mary Ryan, at 412/369-5437 or [rryan@northalleghey.org](mailto:rryan@northalleghey.org).