

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MONDAY, JANUARY 23, 2006

The Board of Directors of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met on Monday, January 23, 2006 in Exempt Session for Negotiation Strategy at 6:15 PM, pursuant to law and the rules of said Board. The Exempt Session was held in the Executive Conference Room, followed by the Regular Meeting at 7:00 PM held in the Jim Hester Board Room at the Davenport Schools Administration Service Center, 1606 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa, in said district.

On roll call for the Regular Meeting the following members were present: President Patt Zamora; Directors Richard Clewell, Nikki DeFauw, Alan Guard, Ralph Johanson, Larry Roberson, and Tim Tupper. Student board members present for the Regular Board Meeting were Hannah Campbell (Central High); John Kalantari (North High); and Mairin Burke, Bryce Ricketts, and Heather Waitman (West High).

EXEMPT SESSION

6:15 PM EXEMPT SESSION: Negotiation Strategy

The Board held an exempt session at 6:15 PM to conduct a strategy meeting of a public employer for employees covered by a bargaining agreement, as provided in Chapter 20.17(3), or for employees not covered by a bargaining agreement, as provided in Section 21.9, Code of Iowa.

RECESSED

Board members recessed at 6:50 PM and returned to their seats in Open Session at the board table in the Jim Hester Board Room at 7:05 PM for the start of the Regular Meeting.

RECOGNITIONS

I. RECOGNITIONS

A. **WILLIAMS INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL** * *Scott McKissick, Principal*

Principal **Scott McKissick** and Facilitator **Susie Burkhart** represented Williams Intermediate and talked about the implementation of select **Making Middle Grades Work** initiatives to assist in raising student achievement levels throughout the building. Building Focus Committees have been formed to assist in translating new processes into aligned action across all grade levels. Additional academic activities are also being utilized to provide students with support in areas of identified need. The Board heard about the details on a variety of new efforts currently taking shape at Williams Intermediate School. They learned how the team went to Nashville last summer and came back with ideas from the conference to use at Williams. Areas such as reading a million words, developing a pacing guide, capitalizing on team opportunities, quality work, and higher expectations were reviewed. Ms. Burkhart emphasized the research used and reading across the curriculum. Literacy levels will be impacted by the strategies being used. There were a number of events that had already taken place or are on the schedule for this spring dealing with reading. There were numerous ways to get students interested and they are setting goals

for personal improvement. The team from Williams has visited other intermediate schools and they are looking at new textbooks for math adoption. Mr. McKissick explained the team focus and continual professional development efforts. They are working at providing quality opportunities for students. The Board also heard about the bubble students and how the teachers are working with these children to help them achieve at higher levels on the ITBS. The staff is continuing with their learning next summer and will be attending a conference and other training sessions. Williams is restructuring the building to continue to make improvements and develop a positive vision for achievement.

B. WASHINGTON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL * *Diana Allen, Principal*

Diana Allen, Principal at Washington Elementary School, shared the cyclical nature of how the staff at Washington used assessment to guide instruction and professional development. The professional development has been led by the Reading First Building Leadership Team that emphasized fluency activities. Instructional strategies have included flexible groups, focus lessons, and read naturally training. The dynamic nature of the cycle of improvement has caused staff to learn more strategies, students to acquire more skills and for all at Washington to embody their theme for the year, “**Learners for Life... Learning for a Lifetime!**” Mrs. Allen commented the Reading First Assessment was a wake-up call and the staff understands the need for addressing programs to improve student achievement. She went through a variety of assessment tools being used to evaluate the progress being made by the students at Washington. The staff was working on initiatives that focus on professional development activities with fidelity and integrity. Mrs. Allen outlined the structure and topics used for staff development and then talked about instruction and realities. She saluted the staff for their efforts to do the best they could to educate the children at Washington. There were many opportunities for direct experiences, re-enforcement, questioning, and encouragement.

COMMUNICATIONS

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Tuesday, January 24, 12:00 Noon, Legislative Advocacy Committee, Administration Service Center, First Floor Conference Room East
- B. Wednesday, January 25, 5:30 PM, Special Call Board Meeting, Closed Session for Candidate Search, Law Office of Patt Zamora
- C. Monday, February 6, 5:30 PM, Committee of the Whole @ McKinley Elementary
- D. Tuesday, February 8, IASB Lobby Day in Des Moines (all day)
- E. Monday, February 13, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Jim Hester Board Room, Administration Service Center
- F. Monday, February 20, Presidents’ Day – No School
- G. Monday, February 27, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Jim Hester Board Room, Administration Service Center
- H. Open Forum
 1. Peter Roderbush, 2250 East 48th Street, Davenport, explained how he had been a school board member from 1981-84 and was now teaching in the district. He asked to speak about boundary recommendations coming to the Board. He understood being in the seat of a board member and remembered controversies the Board faced dealing with the establishment of North High. He talked about having comprehensive and quality high schools for the district and believed every school should offer opportunities to students. Mr. Roderbush expressed his belief that the principal agreements did not serve the purpose they originally had. He was concerned about what he had read and wanted to voice his opinion. Some people thought Central would disappear when North was built but all three high schools should have equal footing.

2. Ms. Kyle Moe, 4412 Spring Street, Davenport, addressed the Board with concerns about the high school enrollment policy. She had children at Sudlow and her overwhelming commitment is the children are happy about attending high school. She would like the Board to leave things alone and the recommendations being considered should not be taken for granted. Families develop relationships and they make choices to support certain schools. Her children have a strong commitment to Central High and changes shouldn't be made in what is currently offered. She thought her children would be lost if the policy on boundaries changed; and hoped the implementation would go slowly over 3 to 5 years so the children can be more prepared for the transition. The high school years are critical and children shouldn't have the rug pulled out from under them. Students need to have a successful experience with high school and her children felt a sense of accomplishment and pride associated with Central High.

CONSENT AGENDA

III. CONSENT AGENDA

To conserve time and focus attention on non-routine matters on the agenda, the Board considered a number of items grouped together as a Consent Agenda, all items to be approved in one motion.

A. Reading of the Minutes of the Last Regular and Intervening Meetings

The minutes from the last regular meeting and intervening meetings were presented for approval as follows: Special Call Closed Session on Real Estate January 9, 2006 at 6:30 PM; & Regular Board Meeting January 9, 2006 at 7:00 PM.

B. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Etc.

RETIREMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Roberson, Christine	Effective: April 30, 2006
Grade 3	Years of Service: 40 yrs
Adams Elementary	

Sparbel, James	Effective: January 31, 2006
Special Education – BD	Years of Service: 14 yrs 5 mos
Sudlow Intermediate	

RESIGNATIONS: CERTIFICATED (ADDENDUM TO THE AGENDA 1/23/06)

Alderman, Douglass	Effective: January 20, 2006
Vocal Music	Years of Service: 5 mos
Young Intermediate	

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Myers, Peggy	Effective: January 26, 2006 – April 26, 2006
Grade 3	
Lincoln Fundamental	

Sparbel, James	Effective: September 20, 2005—January 31, 2006
Special Education	
Sudlow	

RESIGNATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS (ADDENDUM 1/23/06)

Alderman, Douglass	5%
Vocal Music	\$1,250.00 prorated to \$648.65 for
Young Intermediate	96 days of the 2005-2006 school year

RESIGNATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Belmonte, Mary Beth	7%
SH All School Plays	\$1,749.00
Central High	

Porter, James	7%
7 th Grade Girls' Basketball, 2 nd Team	\$1,749.00
Sudlow Intermediate	

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Argo, William	7%
7 th Grade Wrestling, Additional	\$1,749.00
Smart Intermediate	

Berning, Ryan	8%
Freshman Wrestling	\$1,999.00
Central High	

Broughton, Tonya	7%
7 th Grade Girls' Basketball, 2 nd Team	\$1,749.00
Smart Intermediate	

Chapman, Larry	7%
7 th Grade Girls' Basketball, 2 nd Team	\$1,749.00
Sudlow Intermediate	

Farley, Michael	7%
7 th Grade Wrestling, Additional	\$1,749.00
Walcott Intermediate	

Jones, Mark	8%
Grade 9 Boys' Basketball	\$1,999.00
North High	

Kietzman, Jeffrey	8%
Grade 9 Boys' Basketball	\$1,499.00
West High (Started Late)	

Petersen, Karl	8%
Grade 9 Boys' Basketball	\$1,599.00
Central High (Started Late)	

Porter, James	7%
7 th Grade Girls' Basketball	\$1,749.00
Sudlow Intermediate	

Ripslinger, John	7%
7 th Grade Girls' Basketball, 2 nd Team	\$1,749.00

Walcott Intermediate	
Thomas, Joseph	7%
SH All School Plays	\$1,749.00
Central High	

RETIREMENT: CLASSIFIED (Corrected 2/13/06) Moved from Resignation Section

Frericks, Donald E	Effective: January 18, 2006
Custodian	Years of Service: 8 yrs 6 mos
Sudlow Intermediate	

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Barnes, Tracia	Effective: January 6, 2006
Para Educator	Years of Service: 5 yrs
Kimberly Center West	

Burkhardt, Susan J Sharon (corrected)	Effective: November 21, 2005
Custodian	Years of Service: 18 yrs 2 mos
Young Intermediate	

Dunlap, Eliza	Effective: January 3, 2006
Para Educator	Years of Service: 3 yrs
Wood Intermediate	

Finco, Mary	Effective: January 30, 2006
Food Service Worker	Years of Service: 2 yrs 3 mos
Wilson Elementary	

Frericks, Donald E	Effective: January 18, 2006
Custodian	Years of Service: 8 yrs 6 mos
Sudlow Intermediate	

Hernandez, Evenstar	Effective: January 9, 2006
Para Educator	Years of Service: 1 yr 11 mos
Children's Village West	

Kozma, Terrance	Effective: January 6, 2006
Lead Custodian	Years of Service: 11 yrs 7 mos
Wood Intermediate	

Lockmiller, Tricia	Effective: December 19, 2005
Para Educator	Years of Service: 1 yr 1 mo
Lincoln Elementary	

Wessling, Teresa	Effective: January 20, 2006
Grade III Clerical	Years of Service: 16 yrs
ASC	(Other District Employment)

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Wilson-Jenkins, Kim	Effective: January 21, 2006 – June 30, 2006
Custodian	
North High School	

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Aust, Joan	Effective: January 26, 2006
Para Educator	Salary: \$9.15/hr
Children's Village West	Hours: 5.5 hrs/day
Wessling, Teresa	Effective: January 23, 2006
Budget Specialist	Salary: \$16.51/hr
ASC	Hours: 8.0 hrs/day

* Not a Teacher

** Guest Teacher

*** Not a Replacement

MOTION: Director Roberson moved the Board accept the Consent Agenda with the addition of the addendum for the resignation of Douglas Alderman from his certificated contract at J. B. Young effective January 20, 2006 and his supplemental contract at Young Intermediate. Director Clewell seconded the motion.

Director Roberson asked for clarification of the position of Budget Specialist listed in the classified appointment section. Dr. Schuerman said they had analyzed what happens in the district and the leadership in special education. Because Title I programs and special education has a huge budget and the responsibility is so great for Betty Long, they believe a classified staff position needed to be approved to give her some help in tracking the accounting area expenses. There are flow-through dollars that will help with these financial expenses for the department. They will be using special education and title funding for the position.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Roberson, Clewell, DeFauw, Guard, Tupper, Johanson, and Zamora. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

A resolution was recommended by the Administration for adoption of the bills.

MOTION: Director Guard moved, "Resolved that all claims presented to the Board having been duly certified as correct by the Secretary, and reviewed by the administration and Board Treasurer, the same be and they are hereby audited and allowed as just claims and warrants drawn on the Treasury for the several amounts. Further Resolved, that the payment of claims and salaries be approved as presented." Director Tupper seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Guard, Tupper, Johanson, Clewell, DeFauw, Roberson, and Zamora. Motion carried unanimously.

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. Legislative Advocacy Standing Committee

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board approve the official formation of the Legislative Advocacy Committee as a standing committee of the Board to work on matters of legislation and advocacy for students in Iowa. Director Johanson seconded the motion.

Director Clewell talked about the formulation of the Legislative Advocacy Committee and the reasons for addressing core issues such as advocacy, vision, accountability, and structure. This committee will work on advocacy issues that affect the work of our students in Iowa and our District. The group has already had a number of ad hoc meetings and currently includes as members Ralph Johanson, Rich Clewell, Rachael Mullins, Karen

Farley, Janelle Weinstein, and Linda Smith Kortemeyer. We have had discussions with Representative Cindy Winckler and with a candidate Elesha Gayman who attended one of our meetings. We have visited with IASB representative Margaret Buckton and others. On February 8 there will be an UEN lobby day for advocates in Des Moines and we hope some people will attend this event. On March 28 we will have our annual trip to Des Moines and hope to have buses with people who will come with us to speak on behalf of the students in our district on a number of pressing issues. Mairin Burke was involved with this event last year and we hope others will join us for this meaningful event. If anyone is interested, they can contact the board secretary for additional information on the trip over spring break.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Clewell, Johanson, DeFauw, Roberson, Tupper, Guard, and Zamora. Motion carried unanimously.

B. BID #524 – Partial Roof Replacement at Garfield Elementary/Public Hearing

The administration recommended approval of the lowest responsible Bid #524 received from Geisler Brothers, Dubuque, Iowa in the amount of \$157,407 to perform partial roof replacement at Garfield Elementary.

MOTION: Director Tupper moved the Board accept the administration's recommendation for the lowest responsible Bid #524 from Geisler Brothers, Dubuque, Iowa in the amount of \$157,407 to perform partial roof replacement at Garfield Elementary. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

The Board conducted a public hearing for community input on Bid #524 for partial roof replacement at Garfield Elementary. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was then declared closed.

Director Roberson asked for information on the range of bids shown for this project. Mr. Good said this would normally raise a red flag for us but we asked about the estimate on the bid. We were comfortable they believed the work could be done for this cost and we walked through the documents with them. They will do a good job and work well with the manufacturer.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Tupper, Roberson, Johanson, Clewell, DeFauw, Guard, and Zamora. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Bid #525 – Data Network Circuits/Public Hearing

The administration recommended approval of the lowest responsible Bid #525 received from Qwest for data network circuits serving 27 locations in the district in the amount of \$8,087 per month for a 36-month term.

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board approve the lowest responsible Bid #525 from Qwest for data network circuits serving 27 locations in the district in the amount of \$8,087 per month for a 36-month term. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

The Board conducted a public hearing for community input on Bid #525 for network data circuits. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was then declared closed.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Guard, Tupper, Roberson, Johanson, Clewell, DeFauw, and Zamora. Motion carried unanimously.

(Note: This contract is required as part of our 2006-07 Universal Service Fund (E-rate) application.)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PTA Council Presentation on Value to the District

Regina Clewell and Janelle Weinstein were introduced as representatives of the PTA Council. Regina Clewell presented the report highlighting the valuable work this organization does for our school district to improve achievement and to advocate for students in our community as well as throughout the country. Ms. Clewell gave her perspective from a parent's viewpoint and shared how many changes have come about over the years for the role of women and teachers in education. She talked about the mission of the PTA, preschool program development, legislation, and current national priorities such as working with parent involvement, safe and nurturing environments, and supporting public education. There were a number of handouts given to the Board showing the planks, resolutions, and position statements of PTA. Ms. Clewell helped the Board learn about the historical perspective of this group and to see how their collaborative efforts make a difference.

There were several informational websites that were explored and materials are available for people to learn about partnerships, schools of excellence, leadership, and other resource materials. The PTA Council has a 51 year history of providing leadership skills, building strong relationships, offering networking opportunities, and having participation with the Board. There were past and present project lists shown. Part of the mission of PTA is to speak on behalf of Iowa children, assist parents, and encourage involvement. Ms. Clewell shared resources dealing with parental involvement, civic engagement, and researched based, best practices. She linked the work of PTA with the goals of the Board of Directors. There are concerns for PTA dealing with lack of resources, and loss of social capital (parent involvement) due to a number of issues. However, PTA remains to be focused on all the children, not just our individual families. We have many great resources to share and are happy to work with the district in any way they can. Board President Zamora thanked the PTA for their efforts and said we can't stress parent involvement enough. This makes a big difference to our students and their success.

B. Junior Achievement Presentation on Value to the District

Christy Kunz, President, and Frank Clark, Plant Manager from Nestle Purina Pet Care, represented Junior Achievement. Mr. Clark gave an overview of JA and reported on programs operating in the Davenport School District. A Junior Achievement goal was to have the Board hear from community members about the value of JA in the district and to see how JA aligns with the district mission, purpose and goals. Mr. Clark noted JA was another type of partnership in our district that was critical to student success. He shared information about the history of JA and the worldwide movement. There are 6.6 million students across the world involved in age-appropriate curriculum activities. The students learn about economics and workforce issues through JA volunteers. The local JA is celebrating its 50th birthday and the Board learned about other data. There are about 63,500 students in K-12 involved in 264 area schools. About 70% of all Quad City area students have some contact with JA through schools. Mr. Clark talked about evaluation of JA activities and alignment with standards. We believe we have an impact on the students and can provide experiential learning for the K-12 students. There is no cost to the school district. There are JA labs and endeavors that students can attend with a shared cost at places such as Exchange City. Corporate contributions are a major part of our work and then we have fund raisers such as the JA bowl-a-thon or the Jim Victor event in May. We have 387 JA programs and 902 JA volunteers that go to classrooms or are involved in job shadowing day activities. We figure the estimated value of the services we offer the district is about \$232,000.

The call to action is for a continued partnership which is crucial to delivery of the JA message, a commitment to the partnership by the District, and a participation in special events. Our volunteers deliver an important message and the programs are wonderful for the students. The JA will continue to work with our schools to improve education in our community. Director Clewell expressed his appreciation for the partnerships with Junior Achievement and with PTA. As partners we can provide education and academic excellence for our students. Director Tupper thanked everyone for coming and for sharing the opportunities being made available to our students. He was well aware of JA and had taught in some of these classes. Dr. Schuerman thanked the representatives for their time and reports. JA is a program that as a result of their efforts gets more of the community into our classrooms than anything else. Business and corporate people get to see the students and it can change the children's lives.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE & INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS/BOARD REQUESTS

Dr. Schuerman reported the administration had completed six public hearings on the issue of boundary changes and principal agreements. It is important to publicly express appreciation to the community and Board for scheduling these meetings and having the public involved in the input process. The community was very positive about our schools and at every meeting people reflected on the positive things they saw in our schools. The Board should appreciate the good statements made about the quality of education we provide students. There were some aggressive statements made relative to opportunities and there were statements which were positive and negative. There were many pros and cons offered by parents and community members about the solutions being recommended. There was no hesitancy on the part of the community to speak out on where they were on issues and they were upfront and honest.

What we heard flowed through: 1) Maintain some level of choice in the district; 2) keep students with their peers and friends; 3) students need advance placement if we make changes; 4) be sensitive to how changes effect the community. We received e-mails, letters, and calls from parents; and no matter what decision is made it will impact the growth or lack of growth in areas. We heard that parents purchase homes dependent on where their children want to attend school. We heard we should expand the grandfather clause. And no matter what we said, people still didn't understand why the Board wanted to address this matter. Where do we go from here? There is time at the next Committee of the Whole meeting to discuss the recommendations and hopefully action can take place on February 13. The perimeters presented were studied by staff and we identified areas. We need to do more to help people understand the why behind our recommendations. Between now and the Committee of the Whole meeting, the staff will look at the considerations and address the recommendations. We will analyze the data and implementation process. Keep in mind this needs to represent all students in the district and the relationships of where students attend school is very important.

VIII. BOARD REPORTS

President Zamora thanked people who attended the hearings and for their community support.

The Board will meet for a Special Call Meeting on Wednesday, January 25 @ 5:30 PM to begin the selection process again for the superintendent. This is a closed session to review records.

President Zamora announced North High was one of 20 high schools selected to participate in the Iowa High School Project. She would like to find out what this means to our district and what this program is about in a report.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board adjourn. Director Guard seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as all ayes by consensus.

President Zamora declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary