

REGULAR BOARD MEETING MARCH 20, 2006

The Board of Directors of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met in Closed Session at 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM for Regular Session on Monday, March 20, 2006, pursuant to law and the rules of said Board. The Closed Session was held in the office conference area at Adams Elementary, and the Regular Session was held in the Media Center at Adams Elementary School, 3029 North Division Street, Davenport, Iowa, in said district. President Zamora called the Closed Session to order at 6:05 PM.

On roll call the following members were present: President Patt Zamora; Directors Nikki DeFauw, Ralph Johanson, Larry Roberson, and Tim Tupper. Director Alan Guard arrived at 6:10 PM. Absent: Director Richard Clewell. Superintendent Norbert Schuerman was present for the Closed Session Evaluation as well as for the Regular Session. Student board members present for the Regular Session were Bryce Ricketts and Mairin Burke from West High.

CLOSED SESSION EVALUATION OF SUPERINTENDENT

6:05 PM CLOSED SESSION: Superintendent's Evaluation

MOTION: Director DeFauw moved the Board hold a closed session as provided in section 21.5(l) (i) of the open meetings law to evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose performance is being considered to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation, as that individual has requested a closed session. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: DeFauw, Tupper, Johanson, Roberson, and Zamora. Director Guard agreed to the closed session when he arrived at 6:10 PM. Motion carried unanimously.

The Board held the closed session evaluation for Dr. Schuerman in the office conference area at Adams School starting at 6:05 PM.

OPEN SESSION

6:55 PM By consensus the Board returned to open session at 6:55 PM and took a brief recess before the start of the Regular Meeting at 7:05 PM. The Regular Session was held in the Media Center at Adams Elementary School, due to construction at the Administration Service Center, third floor.

7:05 PM

REGULAR MEETING

RECOGNITIONS

I. RECOGNITIONS

President Zamora recognized the accomplishments of the high school show choirs over the weekend and congratulated the students on their accomplishments.

A. **KIMBERLY CENTER * *CATHY BOSCO, PRINCIPAL***

Principal Cathy Bosco recognized the entire teaching and support staff at the **Kimberly Center** for their outstanding efforts toward improved student achievement this year. She remarked all staff members had participated in the District Reading Initiative. This has meant that new, research-based reading strategies are being taught in all subject areas. Secondly, Focus Lessons were being taught to all students every day in the areas of Math, Reading and Science.

Math Teacher Lisa Heinen talked about lessons developed using Pat Davenport's Eight-Step Process which required several days of training for Kimberly Center staff. ITED item analysis data was used to assist staff in writing the lessons. The board members received materials to review and they learned that by lowering the stress levels of students, it has improved test scores. Students are assessed regularly on the content taught in the lessons.

Roberta Cochran-Zavitz has taught for 30 years and she shared her thoughts about the reading initiatives in place. Kimberly Center is in its second year of a Sustained Silent Reading program. This program, based on the research of Robert Marzano, requires students and teachers alike to read a book every day for at least 15 minutes, followed by writing a short journal entry. The KC media center reported a 52% increase in circulation following the implementation of SSR. Mrs. Cochran-Zavitz said Kimberly Center East implemented a Pyramid of Interventions for every student. These interventions include assigning an advisor to students; increased communications with families; advisory support for teachers by counselors, AEA support staff and our School Services Facilitator; individual and group counseling; parent support; referrals to a variety of community agencies; and academic support through a Guided Study program. The entire staff deserves to be recognized for these efforts. We are confident they are making an important difference.

COMMUNICATIONS

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Spring Break March 24 – March 31
- B. Tuesday, March 28; 6:45 AM, "Hop on the Bus", Legislative Advocacy Committee trip to Des Moines. (First pick up at J. B. Young; second pick up scheduled for 7:15 AM at West High) Reservations required with Board Secretary.
- C. Monday, April 3, 4:00 to 5:00 PM, Legislative Advocacy Committee Forum, North High

School, Conference Room 305 in Media Center

- D. Monday, April 3; 5:30 PM, Committee of the Whole, North High, Media Center
- E. Monday, April 10; 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Adams Elementary
- F. Short Spring Break, April 14 and April 17 – No School
- G. Monday, April 24, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Adams Elementary
- H. OPEN FORUM

1. Laurie Peyton Crane, 4928 Main Ct, Davenport spoke in support of adopting the Wellness Policy. Speaking as a dietician and parent, she understood the need to address nutrition and to reduce obesity. As a district, we can't control the family's eating habits, but we have a responsibility to provide healthy options while students are in our buildings. Moderation is the key and we need to be serious about sugar and fat consumption. In some buildings we are hearing students are eating in every class and some never even come to the cafeteria to get any nutritious food. The research is clear on this topic and we have a huge health concern. Mrs. Peyton-Crane talked about some historical data on the food lunch and breakfast programs. We need to establish guidelines and set good examples for students.
2. Kathy Bierl, 2827 Kelling Street, Davenport addressed the Wellness Policy from the viewpoint of a dietician and parent. She works with people all the time on nutrition and eating habits. At first she thought this was just another regulation and rules for the staff. However, she is seeing more and more obesity in children and this policy provides an opportunity to talk positively about nutrition, exercise, and habits. Years ago children used to drink pop as a reward and this has now become a very emotional issue. Physical activities are also vital to the well being of our children. Practice of good eating habits is very important and schools can help make a difference. Students can take home information and practice good eating habits at home if they learn them at school. Ms. Bierl was in favor of the policy.

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 board meeting and intervening meetings were presented for approval as follows: Regular Board Meeting March 13, 2006 and Committee of the Whole Meeting March 6, 2006.

B. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Etc.

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Bankie, Christopher	6%
Assistant S H Boys' Soccer Coach	\$1,499.00
Central High	

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Burkhalter, Kourtney	6%
Assistant Girls' Soccer	\$1,499.00
North High	
Jones, Allison	12%
Head Sophomore Girls' Basketball	\$2,999.00
North High	

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Consent Agenda be approved as presented. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

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

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. Board Policy #502.17 Wellness – Adoption

The Policy Committee recommended adoption of Board Policy #502.17-- Wellness with the revisions shown as suggested during discussions at several meetings and with input from stakeholders in the district.

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board adopt Board Policy #502.17—Wellness with the revisions shown as suggested during discussions at several meetings and with input from stakeholders in the district, as recommended by the Policy Committee. Director Guard seconded the motion.

Director Johanson commented about the discussion process for this policy adoption, receiving input from the community, and having a policy that was in compliance with federal law. We have discussed guidelines, administrative regulations, and made adjustments after dialogues at meetings and in committee.

There are five specific areas acknowledged in this version of the policy and it should meet code requirements that were reviewed. Director Johanson read parts of the IASB policy material and documented the wording suggested in the policy adoption. Director DeFauw addressed the area of administrative regulations and restrictions discussed. The Policy Committee has made a strong effort to refine the policy and addressed issues raised by the Board. There can be some flexibility in the policy, with possible waivers, and compromised during the implementation stages.

Director Roberson agreed the Board needed to emphasize healthy foods but he still had concerns about going too far and in monitoring the policy. He was worried about fund raisers and the affect this might have on the general and special funds. Director Tupper expressed his views on restrictions and compliances in the policy. He still felt the policy needed to be reworked and allow more choices.

AMEND: Director Tupper moved the Board amend the motion to reflect the wording in Alternative #1 that was more consistent with the basic components of the law. Director Zamora seconded the amendment.

Board members took time to discuss the wording in Alternative #1 which was a shortened version of the policy. They talked about administrative regulations and restrictions that would be limited. There were comments about obesity awareness, encouraging education on nutrition, and requiring activity in the schools. Some board members thought there was more balance in the shortened version. Areas of concern dealing with punishment, monitoring, violations, and compliance were reviewed. Director Johanson presented his views regarding the amendment, as well as Directors DeFauw and Guard. There would need to be regulations and guidance for the buildings in implementation of the wellness policy.

Dr. Schuerman assured the Board the staff has listened to the discussions and concerns and they will prepare consistent regulations that are fair. The issue of policy versus regulations can be a problem and he hoped the Board will allow the staff to take care of the administrative regulations that will follow the intent of their policy.

ACTION ON THE AMENDMENT

The vote on the amendment to use Alternative #1 wording in the Wellness Policy adoption was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Tupper, Roberson, and Zamora. Nays: Johanson, Guard, and DeFauw. Amendment failed with a tied vote.

ACTION ON THE ORIGINAL MOTION

The vote on the original motion to adopt the Wellness Policy as recommended by the Policy Committee was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Johanson, Guard, DeFauw, Roberson, Tupper, and Zamora. Motion carried unanimously.

(The Wellness Policy will be included in the minutes of record as well as the wording mentioned for Alternative #1.)

B. Textbook Adoptions for 6-8th Grade Science and Reading (PreK-6)

The administration recommended approval of the textbook adoptions presented at the March 13 board meeting.

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board accept the administration's recommendation for adoption of textbooks as follows: sixth grade Earth Science (\$83,620.40); seventh grade Science and Life Issues (\$111,687.19); eighth grade Foundations of Physical Science (\$86,803.75); and PreK-sixth grade Treasures Reading Program/Triumphs Intervention (\$844,075.06). Director Roberson seconded the motion.

Director Guard asked if this would provide textbooks for every student. Mrs. Staszewski explained there would be a classroom set and next year there will be additional copies purchased for the classrooms. The teachers will have supplemental materials for homework assignments, but not all students will have books to take home. The present series of books is old and can't be replaced. Director Guard wanted to make sure students had access to books after class also. Mrs. Staszewski said they are making this happen and have a schedule for purchasing additional textbooks as money is available. She talked about future adoptions for courses and getting outside funding for the purchases. She clarified questions on adoptions planned for July 2007 for intermediate science and math and the costs for the books. There will be a series of adoptions in the next few years and projections will be made as adoptions are recommended.

Director Guard added the purchase of textbooks is tied to our spending authority also. Dr. Schuerman added comments complimenting the staff on working within budget confines and being careful of the budget situation. He strongly recommended that the Board did not go beyond this due to budget restrictions. Director Tupper commented about curriculum and concerns for having adequate materials in our math and science courses. He challenged the administration to find money in the budget to improve the course materials for students and he would like additional discussion on this topic. Juli Staszewski explained the life expectancy of the books was about 10 years and this was the adoption cycle they had in place. We rebind books and after 10 years the books are usually out of print. President Zamora said she was sensitive to this process and had experience in working on curriculum adoptions. If we push for additional textbooks, then something else has to be put aside. Mrs. Staszewski told the Board parents were involved with the selection process as well as teachers and other people. Director Johanson asked about additional materials for teachers and it was explained there were many teacher resources that are sent with the textbooks. It is a very organized process and teachers put in a lot of extra time and effort looking at the books.

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

C. Superintendent's Contract 2006-2007 (Moved to April 10)

President Zamora said this item was not ready and would be taken off the agenda at this time. There would be action taken at the April 10 Board meeting.

D. Bid #534 – Asbestos Abatement, Third Floor North Side of the Administration Service Center/Public Hearing

MOTION: Director Roberson moved the asbestos abatement, third floor north side of the Administration Service Center be awarded to the lowest responsible Bid #534 to Pro Environmental Abatement, Des Moines in the amount of \$67,590. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

The Board conducted a public hearing on Bid #534 for the removal and disposal of asbestos spray-on fireproofing, tile, and mastic on third floor of the Administration Service Center, north side. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was therefore declared closed.

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

E. Bid #535 – Heating System Replacement and Addition of Classroom Cooling at Buchanan Elementary/Public Hearing

MOTION: Director Tupper moved the Board approve the lowest responsible bid #535 be awarded to Hometown Plumbing, Davenport, in the amount of \$1,645,000 for the replacement of the heating system and addition of classroom cooling at Buchanan. Director DeFauw seconded the motion.

The Board conducted a public hearing on Bid #535 for heating and cooling system work at Buchanan Elementary. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was therefore declared closed.

Director Johanson asked what the Alternative #1 listed in the bid meant. Bill Good said this was a major retrofit and Alternative #1 was for removal of the ceiling in the corridor. The base bid was for the retrofit and the alternative was for replacing the ceiling. We did the cost impact and it was advisable to do this. There would be new lighting fixtures and access to the ceiling and asbestos abatement. Director Guard wanted to make sure people understood this was a large project but is funded through the PPEL money and the remodeling will cut our utility costs which come out of the general fund where we can use money for teachers and learning.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Budget Amendment for 2005-2006

Marsha Tangen, CFO, explained the reasons for the recommendation to amend the 2005-2006 Budget at this time of the year. After additional review of the records looking at money we get from grants or other areas, we make recommendations to amend the budget. There are four functional areas we certify and we needed to make increases as shown. This takes into account additional resources we have received. The transportation area was estimated too high and we can make changes for some line items. Mrs. Tangen provided information about tuition, investments, local grants, state aid, the juvenile home expenses, and instructional support level funds. Board members received a summary of the budget amendment recommended for the current school years 2005-2006. A public hearing on the amendments to the budget will be held on April 10, 2006. Final approval of the Amendments to the 2005-2006 Budget must be made by April 15, 2006.

B. Budget Estimate for 2006-2007

Marsha Tangen also presented the proposed budget estimate for 2006-2007. She briefly explained the budget process for the year and clarified questions for the Board. They heard about the foundation formula, maximum amounts allowed, follow up work, and other financial data. There were worksheets which had highlighted areas to review. Mrs. Tangen spoke about certified enrollments, weighted numbers, adjustments, cash reserves, and miscellaneous funding with service fees, tuition, federal and title dollars, or with grants. There was historic data available for review and comment. She outlined adjustments, talked about taxes, management funds, special education, state aid, PPEL funding, capital projects, debt service, and fund balances. She also had information on expenditures and revenue and concerns about our spending authority limitations. We will have to cut from the budget because we don't have spending authority. However, in April we can go to the School Board Review Committee to make a request for additional spending authority because of the GAAP accounting system and they will decide in May if we have additional spending authority granted for \$19 million. She answered questions about special education, summer months, and fund balance estimates.

Dr. Schuerman told the Board the importance of developing a long-range financial plan that included essential services and the district mission. We need to have a working balance or that created problems. We need a long-range plan for our expenditures and be aware that employee benefits may exceed new money. We want to avoid having to cut programs and need to be proactive in our planning. We have to ask how can we maintain services and live within the financial structure that is in place for the state.

Director Tupper felt board members needed to be included in these discussions because they could help the administration with priorities. He had

ideas to share about the 6, 7, and 8th grade science programs and wanted board members to have input. Dr. Schuerman said the staff was working on getting things together. Director Tupper felt the staff needed the Board's support to get this done. Director Guard commented about the tax rates, decreasing cash reserve, and growing the fund balance. Businesses are paying more than their share in taxes and it is important to maintain a good relationship with our business partners. Director Roberson commented about making cuts, paying more out in salaries, and less services. We can't pay out more than we have to spend. President Zamora said she felt we should stick with the budget as outlined by Mrs. Tangen and we need to have the money to offer the services we need for our students. Director Guard said his concern was with special education areas. Mrs. Tangen said these concerns would be addressed in a long-range plan and they would look at things like a recreation levy in the future. There are trade offs by reducing one area and increasing revenue in another area. Director Guard had concerns about equity for business, perceptions, and relationships. A public hearing on the budget will be held on April 10, 2006. Final approval of the 2006-2007 Budget Estimate needs to be done by April 15, 2006.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE & INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS/BOARD REQUESTS

There were no administrative reports or board requests.

VIII. BOARD REPORTS

There were compliments to parents and students for their outstanding work. There was a note about this being Iowa History Day and activities at St. Ambrose.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board adjourn. Director Tupper seconded the motion.
By consensus all board members agreed to adjourn.
President Zamora declared the meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM.

Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary