

REGULAR MEETING MARCH 21, 2005

The Board of Directors of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met in Regular Session on Monday, March 21, 2005 pursuant to law and the rules of said Board. The meeting was held in the Jim Hester Board Room at the Davenport Schools Administration Service Center, 1606 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa, in said district. President Zamora called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

On roll call the following board members were present: President Patt Zamora; Directors Richard Clewell, Alan Guard, Larry Roberson, and Timothy Tupper. Absent: Directors Nikki DeFauw and Ralph Johanson. There were no student board members present this evening.

RECOGNITIONS

I. RECOGNITIONS

A. **Smart Middle School “Beads on One String” * *Trampus Budde, Principal***

Principal Trampus Budde recognized **Mary Edwards**, the Media Specialist at Smart Middle School, who invited singer, song -writer Dennis Warner to share his talent with the 6th grade students at Smart. His song “Beads on One String” was a message of love, peace, and diversity. This project was funded through a Great Minds Grant. Mrs. Edwards’ efforts stretched across the curriculum, to include Art, Language Arts and Music. Students in **Kit Sayles’** and **Annette Lopez’s** art classes created bead “self-portraits.” The resulting efforts were connected on strands and hung in the Jim Hester Board Room. The art work will be on display through March. **Mrs. Cox’s** Language Arts students created writings using Mr. Warner’s songs as inspiration. These writings were collected and bound into book form. **Shanisha Lee**, a sixth grader, read her creation about people being all the same and beads on one-string. **Frank L. Smart chorus students** performed the song “Beads on One String” under the direction of Vocal Music instructor, **Rochelle Buske**.

B. **Central High ProStart Program * *Amalia Campanile, Associate Principal***

Ms. Campanile introduced Jill Akers, Family and Consumer Sciences instructor at Central. She explained the **ProStart Program** was a two-year curriculum designed to teach high school students the culinary and management skills needed for a career in the hospitality, restaurant and food service industry. The program was sponsored by the Iowa Hospitality Association and the National Restaurant Association. Part of the program was the national invitational and competition against 25 states. The rules are: (1) Students must fix a gourmet meal with two 10’ tables and two butane burners. (2) Students have to prepare the meal in one hour without running water or refrigeration. (3) Students must work quickly showing off the skills they have learned.

The second part of the competition was the management team. The management team must know the material for the two-year curriculum for a “quiz bowl”. In addition, the students must do a case study involving problems that may happen on a daily basis at a hotel or restaurant. The students take on different roles and address various issues such as legal matters, media, and food-illness.

Ms. Akers said they took two teams to the state competition and both teams won! They have two trophies and are working to raise funds in order to send both teams to the National ProStart Invitation in Orlando, Florida on April 24-27, 2005. Members of the Culinary Team are: **Tom Ghinazzi, Marcus Rasmussen, Roosevelt Smith, and Kenneth Stokes**. Members of the Management Team are: **Kenyon Gordon, Crystal Haley, Isaac Newton, and Demetrius Scott**. **Chef James Preszler** from the Davenport Country Club is the mentor to these students.

Director Guard mentioned the Board had gotten samples of some dessert the students had made and the food was delicious. He thanked the class on behalf of the Board.

C. **Central High Scholastic Bowl Team * *Amalia Campanile, Associate Principal***

Ms. Campanile introduced **Gail Henninger**, Central High School Talented and Gifted teacher. She talked about how the program formed a **Scholastic Bowl** team during the last school year 2003-04. Scholastic Bowl was an academic competition where high schools compete against each other on a variety of academic questions. Central’s team started with a group of nine TAG Freshman students and has since grown to 14 students. Scholastic Bowl has provided these students with an exciting opportunity to display their academic talents and match wits with other outstanding high school competitors. The challenging questions cover 14 curricular areas, ranging from math to history to the fine arts. Scholastic Bowl stimulates enthusiasm for learning and high scholarship. It also gives students recognition for academic accomplishments, which is often rare when athletics gets more attention.

The Central Scholastic Bowl Team competed in four tournaments last year and they have already been to three tournaments this year, with at least two tournaments remaining in this school year. Our team wrote a Great Minds Foundation Grant last year to help pay for a much-needed buzzer system, as well as to purchase practice questions. The Great Minds Foundation liked our concept so much that they decided to purchase buzzer systems for our school, as well as North and West High Schools, in the hope that they will begin a Scholastic Bowl program at their schools. The students that are involved in Scholastic Bowl have truly enjoyed this opportunity. It’s fun – it’s fast paced – and it’s educational! The Central High team hopes to improve as a team and also recruit new students to begin building another team. Team Members are **Eric Anderson *; Paul Baresel *; Ben Behrendt; Alysa Bradley *; Nicole Brokloff* ; Brendan Chambers *; Tim Corlett; Jason Davis *; Annie Harre; Kent Iglehart; Paul Kloppenborg *; Ashley Olt *; Ashley Petersen *; Stephen Quist (* Founding Member)**. Alysa, Eric, and Ashley talked about the competition in more details so the Board heard the perspectives of the students. .

D. **Central High Mock Trial Team * *Amalia Campanile, Associate Principal***

Ms. Campanile recognized the Iowa Bar Association that sponsors **Mock Trial in Iowa**. **Eric Anderson** explained how legal cases were set up to simulate a real case. In a mock trial, students play the roles of attorneys and witnesses as they prepare and present both sides of a hypothetical legal problem. Participants are given a hands-on opportunity to examine the legal process and current legal issues.

Alex Clewell talked about the set up with four lawyers and four witnesses. This year's Mock Trial case dealt with the ramifications of the Americans with Disabilities Act, a current legal hot topic. Students study trial techniques and procedures. Mock Trial helps students develop important critical thinking skills and aid in the development of fundamental research preparation and presentation skills. Teams are composed of 8 to 10 students. Director Clewell said he was very proud of his son and he had never been so impressed with his son as he was during this presentation.

One of our Central Mock Trial teams finished in the top four of our regional competition at the Scott County Courthouse on Saturday, February 26. The team now advances to the 2005 Iowa High School Mock Trial State Tournament in Des Moines on Friday, March 18 and Saturday, March 19. **Stacey Hawke**, an attorney with Lane and Waterman, coaches the team. Since the release of the case in early December, the team has met for two hours every week with Ms. Hawke. They have spent hours preparing and practicing their case. This year's case is perhaps the most challenging legal problem that has ever been presented in Mock Trial, and the students should be commended for their ability to handle such complex legal issues. Mock Trial Team Members going to the State Competition are **Eric Anderson; Caleb Arringdale; Heidi Arringdale; Mary Jo Boddorf; Alex Clewell; Brian Edwards; Ashley Olt; and Kevin Roberts.**

COMMUNICATIONS

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Tuesday, March 22, 6:30 PM, Local School Improvement Advisory Committee (LSIAC), Jim Hester Board Room
- B. Friday, March 25 (Inservice Day)
- C. Spring Break March 28—April 1 (No School)
- D. Monday, April 4, **6:00** PM, Committee of the Whole, Jim Hester Board Room
- E. Tuesday, April 5, 12:00 Noon, Harrison Elementary Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- F. Monday, April 11, 5:30 PM, Closed Session Real Estate, Administration Service Center, Conference Room A
- G. Monday, April 11, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Jim Hester Board Room (Public hearings for the Budget Amendment 04-05 and Budget Estimate 05-06 @ 7:00 PM)
- H. Monday, April 25, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Jim Hester Board Room
- I. Open Forum for Community Input – No one requested time to speak.

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: Special Call Closed Session Evaluation March 14, 2005 @ 5:15 PM, and Regular Board Meeting March 14, 2005 (7 PM).

B. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Etc.

RESIGNATIONS: CERTIFICATED

Irwin, Kayla Health Education Smart Intermediate	Effective: End of the 2005-2006 school year Years of Service: 5 yrs 10 mos
--	---

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Kellenberger, Heidi Grade 1 Hayes Elementary	Extended Leave of Absence without Pay Effective: beginning of the 2005-2006 school year through beginning of the 2006-2007 school year
--	--

RESIGNATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Dykstra, Darren Assistant Sophomore Baseball Central High	7% \$1,721.00
Ingle, Erin Assistant Sophomore Softball North High	7% \$1,721.00
Irwin, Kayla Department Head (.5) Smart Intermediate	6% \$737.50 (end of the 2004-2005 school year)
Irwin, Kayla 7 th Grade Volleyball Smart Intermediate	8% \$1,967.00
Irwin, Kayla 8 th Grade Girls' Basketball, 2 nd Team Smart Intermediate	7% \$1,721.00

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Bass, Marcus Para Educator McKinley Elementary	Effective: March 11, 2005 Years of Service: 6 mos
Diduro, Ellen Para Educator Smart Intermediate	Effective: March 4, 2005 Years of Service: 5 mos
Jackson-Owen, Johnnie Food Service Manager I West High	Effective: February 3, 2005 Years of Service: 5 mos
Williams, Darryl Campus Security Williams Intermediate	Effective: March 18, 2005 Years of Service: 4 mos

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Alcindor, Kathleen Para Educator Young Intermediate	Effective: March 22, 2005 Salary: \$7.05 Hours: 1.5 hours/day
Jackson, Theresa Para Educator Children’s Village West	Effective: March 15, 2005 Salary: \$8.55 Hours: 5.53 hours/day
Kane, Janet Para Educator Children’s Village West	Effective: March 21, 2005 Salary: \$8.55 Hours: 5.53 hours/day
McLemore, Shirley Para Educator Children’s Village West	Effective: March 21, 2005 Salary: \$8.55 Hours: 5.0 hours/day
Walters, Kelly Para Educator KCAE	Effective: March 21, 2005 Salary: \$7.05 Hours: 6.0 hours/day

* Not a Teacher ** Guest Teacher *** Not a Replacement

MOTION: Director Tupper moved the Board accept the Consent Agenda. Director Clewell seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Tupper, Clewell, Guard, 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 resolution: "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 with the exception of three voided checks: #165256 for \$9663.56; #165264 for \$900; and #165518 for \$270. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

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

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. Administrative Contracts for 2005-2006

Dr. Norbert Schuerman presented a recommendation for the administrator negotiated contract package.

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board accept the recommendation from the administration for the Negotiated Contract Package for administrators to include salaries and benefits for the 2005-2006 school year. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

The Board received details of the recommendations prior to approval. The total package was 3.75% that included an increase in insurance contribution by employee to \$100 for family and \$50 for single; salary increase of 3.5%, and no step movement.

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

B. Non-Bargaining Employee Salaries for 2005-2006

Dr. Norbert Schuerman presented a recommendation for the Non-Bargaining Employee package.

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board accept the administration's compensation package for Non-Bargaining (non-administrative) employees including salary and benefits for the 2005-2006 school year. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

The Board received details of the recommendations prior to approval. The total package was 3.99% that included a 2.14% salary increase and no step movement.

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

C. Bid #509 -- Asbestos Removal and Disposal at the Administration Service Center, Third Floor (Rejection of All Bids) and Public Hearing

Note: On March 14 it was announced Bid #509 would be moved to the March 21 board meeting for action and public hearing because it had not been listed on the agenda. At this time the administration recommended the Board reject all the bids for #509.

MOTION: Director Roberson moved the Board reject all bids in #509 for removal and disposal of asbestos spray-on fireproofing, tile, and mastic on the third floor of the Administration Service Center, south side. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

A public hearing was conducted on Bid #509 for asbestos work at the Administration Service Center. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was then declared closed. Director Roberson asked Mr. Good to explain the discrepancies in the bidding for this work. Mr. Good said based upon their evaluation of the work, some companies didn't try hard enough to come up with an appropriate bid, so they are doing it again.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Roberson, Tupper, Guard, Clewell, and Zamora. Motion carried unanimously. (All bids were rejected.)

D. Bid #510 -- New Playground Equipment Children's Village West/Public Hearing

The administration recommended low Bid #510 to Grounds for Play in the amount of \$26,792 for the purchase of new playground equipment for Children's Village West.

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board accept the administration's recommendation for low Bid #510 be awarded to Grounds for Play in the amount of \$26,792 to purchase new playground equipment for the Children's Village West. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

A public hearing was conducted on Bid #510 for playground equipment at Children's Village West. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was closed. Director Guard thanked the Scott County Regional Authority for the grant that will be used for the purchase of this equipment. We appreciate their support in our pre-school program.

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

E. Bid #511 -- Renovations at McKinley Elementary/Public Hearing

The administration recommended low Bid #511 to Estes Construction in the amount of \$1,309,000 for building renovations at McKinley Elementary.

MOTION: Director Tupper moved the Board accept the administration's recommendation for the low Bid #511 be awarded to Estes construction in the amount of \$1,309,000 for building renovations at McKinley Elementary. Director Clewell seconded the motion.

A public hearing was conducted on Bid #511 for the renovation work at McKinley. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was declared closed.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Budget Amendment for 2004-2005

Marsha Tangen, CFO, explained amendments can be made to the 2004-2005 Budget at this time of year. Amendments can be made in the areas of instruction, total support services, and non-instructional programs. Reasons for the amendments were listed as: an increase in receipts not previously budgeted as expenditures; balances on hand at the close of the previous year, and re-estimation of expenditures by functional area. A notice will be run in the paper showing the amendments and the notice of public hearing on April 11, 2005 at 7:00 PM in the Jim Hester Board Room. There will be no increase in taxes to be paid in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005. Final approval of the amendments to the 2004-2005 Budget must be made by April 15, 2005.

There were comments about special education fluctuations in spending and how there needed to be changes in how the state funds this area in order to meet all the expenses involved with exceptional education programming. The balance has to be made up by our local taxpayers and the urban school districts have many more students who receive services in their districts. We need to ask people to support us by writing or e-mailing their legislators about this funding. There was discussion about funding special education in prior years and the importance of keeping the Board informed about significant changes or problems in this area for finances. Mrs. Tangen talked about contracts, negotiations, and projections for the current year.

B. Budget Estimate for 2005-2006

Marsha Tangen, CFO, presented the proposed budget estimate for 2005-2006 showing total requirements of \$187,596,258. The proposed tax rate per \$1,000 of taxable valuation is 17.09027 and there is no increase in the tax levy rate. Mrs. Tangen clarified questions for the Board in several areas of the budget that were reviewed. The Board again talked about contacting legislators about funding for special education so we can provide the services needed in our district to these students. Director Roberson asked how we will continue to provide educational opportunities for the students and also reduce the budget by \$1 million. Mrs. Tangen said the Board and administration will need to look at priorities and expenditure areas. If we have to protect lower class size, then we have to look at other areas for reducing expenses.

Dr. Schuerman said the belt tightening will be part of the budget preparation and will be discussed so everyone understands where cuts have to be made. A public hearing for community input on the budget will be held on April 11, 2005. Notice will be found in the *Quad City Times* for this meeting. Final approval of the 2005-2006 Budget Estimate needs to be done by April 15, 2005.

C. Board Policy Committee Report

Richard Clewell reported on work from the Policy Committee on items ready for input from the full Board. People had an opportunity to respond to several policies: adoption of #504.09 Cell Phones and Electronic Devices; revisions to #504.02 Personal Appearance; adoption of #502.16 Administration of Medication to Students; and revisions to #501.12 Boundary Lines.

Work on the cell phone policy began in November 2004. After several reviews, the policy committee didn't want the policy to be overly prescriptive so the details were put into an administration regulation instead. Director Clewell talked about students attending the policy meeting and presenting 499 signatures in favor of allowing students to use cell phones during lunch and when passing in between classes as well as before and after school. He said the committee felt there was a large concern from the students regarding safety and the need for the phones for emergencies. He shared comments from the LSIAC members. Director Guard said he told his own daughter to turn off the cell phone during school hours. People agree the phones need to be turned off during the school day when classes were in session. The students need to focus on their school work first. Director Roberson said his position has not changed on this and he believes the cell phones cause disruption at the buildings. In emergencies the administration can handle contacting parents and students without the cell phones.

Jim Andrews explained the administration can work out details in the regulations for this policy that will be consistent from one building to another. They need to have some flexibility for administering the policy. Director Tupper felt he was generally for allowing the cell phones but not having them on during the school day. They should not be used at lunch or during passing in the halls, and the staff should be able to take them away. Mr. Andrews said that is what the staff does now. President Zamora said she was disappointed in the policy because the Board has the job of policy making and this policy doesn't set the rules. It needs to say the cell phones cannot be on during the class hours and we cannot abdicate this responsibility. Director Guard said the school closing policy has details listed in it and this policy on cell phones and other devices needs to have details listed so the Board's position is clearly understood. Director Zamora agreed saying the policy needs to state the phones are off when they come into school and can go on when they leave school.

Director Clewell said he wanted to note that 499 students responded to the Board on this matter and we needed to listen to their views also. Director Tupper said he appreciated the work of the committee but still felt the language needed to include details and cell phones should not be in use during school hours, but we will not prohibit students from possessing the phones. Director Clewell said we will do more work to clarify this policy with details on times and uses.

The personal appearance policy #504.02 was explored and Director Clewell felt this policy also should be a vision but the details should be left to the administration. Director Zamora said she thought the original policy was better and had more specifics. She felt the policy was not intended to be a vision but rules for dress. Director Tupper had some concerns about the language in the policy dealing with disruptions and he would like to make some changes to clarify. There seemed to be some concerns that the principals may have too much interpretation of the dress codes and the Board needed to be more direct and specific in what they allowed.

Director Roberson said the terms regarding the judgment of the principal needed to be changed because this is open to so many different viewpoints. Director Clewell said the students want clear standards but the enforcement has to be done through the administration regulations not the policy. Several people felt the original policy we had was much better than the sample from IASB. They wanted specifics outlined in the policy at this time.

Policy #502.16 regarding administration of medication was discussed and the changes made by the nursing staff were explained. There will be minor grammatical changes. Director Zamora thought this was a good policy to have.

Policy 501.12 on Boundary Lines was simplified to follow the sample from the IASB for attendance center assignments. The changes made were reviewed. Director Guard was concerned this policy didn't talk about public input and he felt a statement about input should be included. Director Tupper said the policy should say something about a time frame of 5 or 10 years even though the superintendent has responsibility to make recommendations. He agreed it should have something about the ability for the public to comment on the boundary changes. Without a time frame in the policy, this could be put off for a long time.

Dr. Schuerman didn't feel it was unreasonable for the Board to ask for a report on enrollment at different schools and the affect of boundaries every year. You can't predict where schools need to be built 30 years from now and some times boundaries have to be moved. The Board has an obligation to utilize the facilities we have and to keep a reasonable amount of students at these schools. He felt the Board needed to have a report on boundaries annually. Director Zamora had concerns because she saw the work the administration did last year on boundaries. Dr. Schuerman said the work is where we have to begin when we look at making changes in the boundary lines. We would know in the first part of October if any moves had to be made for the following year or down the road based on the data. Dr. Schuerman said you wouldn't make boundary changes every year, but the Board needed to annually receive information on trends to see patterns that might be emerging for the future. Boundary changes should be done very sparingly. Dr. Schuerman suggested the policy be as simple in language as possible, but he believes the Board needs information in order to have the administration make any recommendation for changes. Maybe an annual report could be made in October or November at the Committee of the Whole.

Because of some questions brought up in a letter received from Director Johanson concerning revisions to #401.01—Employment Equity and Non-Discrimination Since Director Johanson was not present this evening to talk about his concerns or ask questions, Director Clewell asked to put off discussion of the policy and have it brought back to committee for more review. The last Policy #401.02—Affirmative Action Statement only had a name change being recommended at this point.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE & INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS/BOARD REQUESTS

There were no additional reports at this time.

VIII. BOARD REPORTS

1. Director Guard asked for a report with regard to our open enrollment out-of-district requests for the school year 2005-06 that included the estimated ethnicity breakdown for the community, the open enrollment requests, and the number of requests denied.
2. Director Tupper would like it as we look at the open enrollment requests, if there was some way we could look at open enrollment to see if there was an the impact to our athletic program.
3. President Zamora believed our athletic directors were supposed to be coming forward with some information on this and the principals' agreements. Dr. Schuerman clarified that Director Tupper wanted information in a report relative to the impact open enrollment numbers had on athletics.
4. President Zamora announced the district would be receiving the 2004 Governor's Iowa Environmental Excellence Award for energy efficiency/renewable energy on Wednesday, April 6 at 2:00 PM in Des Moines. If anyone was interested in attending, they needed to talk with Bill Good.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Tupper 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 8:50 PM.

Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary