

REGULAR SCHOOL BOARD MEETING JUNE 8, 2009

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the counties of Scott and Muscatine met in open session for the Regular Board Meeting on Monday, June 8, 2009, pursuant to law. The meeting was held in the Jim Hester Board Room at the Administration Service Center, 1606 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa, in said District. President Patt Zamora called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

The following board members were present: President Patt Zamora: Directors Richard Clewell; Nikki DeFauw, Ralph Johanson, Ken Krumwiede, Larry Roberson, and Tim Tupper. Superintendent Julio Almanza and other administrators were present for the meeting.

RECOGNITIONS

I. RECOGNITIONS

A. DAVENPORT SCHOOLS FOUNDATION -- * **Norm Bower, Development Director**

Norm Bower, Development Director, presented background information about the Great Minds Program and the Davenport Schools Foundation. He talked about events held during the year to raise funds for the scholarship program. He recognized members of the Foundation who worked on the Scholarship Committees and who donated many hours with the selection process. He talked about handling PTA scholarship money and a new scholarship in honor of the life of a Marie Linke Powell.

Mr. Bower announced the students who were named as the Davenport Schools Foundation scholarship winners for 2008-2009. The students were introduced and recognized along with their parents. The Board learned about the type of scholarship, school attending, and their Davenport High School or Program. Judy Hammond presented scholarships for the Class of 59 and Brenda Jordahl Buckles shared comments and presented the Johnson School Scholarship awards. A scholarship was presented by a family member of Marie Linke Powell to a student who wanted to become a teacher, Maaike Mielenhausen. Mr. Bower expressed thanks to parents, staff, and others involved in the education of these students. The Board extended their best wishes for a successful future and was very proud of the students.

Following the presentation, photos were taken of students with school board members. (A copy of the scholarship amounts will be included in the record.)

Last Name	First Name	HS	Parent(s) Names	Scholarship	School Attending
Shadden	Jessica	W	Robert and Debra Shadden	Tate	U of Northern Iowa
Kiley	Julia	C	Kathleen Kiley	Kohlberg Lowen	Northwestern U.
Rayburn	Nina	C	Chris and Mary Rayburn	Pohling - Central	U of Missouri,
Freese	Ashley	N	Kevin and Donna Freese	Pohling - North	Iowa State U
Braun	Patricia	W	Elizabeth Braun	Pohling - West	Central College, Pella
Larson	Sarah	C	Dave and Cindy Larson	Dav.Schools Foundation	U of Iowa

Oake	Andrea	W	Gregory and Shelly Oake	Class of 59	Iowa State U
Favati	Ayla	C	Marta Favati	Class of 59	Grinnell College
Moore	Lindsay	W	Kurt and Michelle Moore	Arbisser	U of Iowa
Regan	Kelsey	N	Larry and Mary Regan	Grady	Iowa State U
Mielenhausen	Maaike	C	Steve and Belinda M.	Marie Linke Powell	Central College, Pella
Mirocha	Tommy	C	Kenneth and Jean Mirocha	Jurgens	Wartburg College
Mitchell	Alexis	C	Barry and Sherry Mitchell	Jurgens	U of Wis, Madison
Weingart	Andrew	W	Anne Walters	George E. Weis Memorial	Black Hawk College
Mitchell	Alexis	C	Barry and Sherry Mitchell	CHS Hall of Honor, Hester Memorial	U of Wis, Madison
Hearn	Gabriel	C	Roy and Katherine Hearn	CHS Hall of Honor, Meyers Memorial	U of Iowa
Iglehart	Brendan	C	Dave and Peg Iglehart	CHS Hall of Honor	Indiana U
Laugen	Austin	C	Randy and Marilyn Laugen	CHS Hall of Honor	Iowa State U
Ross	Brenna	C	James and Julia Ross	CHS Hall of Honor	Grinnell College
Johnson	Ethan	C	Eric and Lynn Johnson	Hanae Fujiwara Weis Mem.I Scholarship -split Hanae Fujiwara Weis Mem.I Scholarship -	St. Ambrose U.
Kiley	Julia	C	Kathleen Kiley	split	Northwestern U.
Rink	Chelsea	C	Peter and Merriem Rink	Buttleman-Arbisser (split this year)	Drake U
Whalen	Lindsay	C	Kirk and Lisa Whalen	Buttleman-Arbisser (split this year)	U of Tampa
O'Toole	Kally	W	Mary O'Toole	Johnson School	Scott Comm. Coll.
Serrano	Trestan	W	Steven and Donya Serrano	Johnson School	Scott Comm. Coll.
Buckles	Lindsey	W	Brenda Jordahl-Buckles	Johnson School	Coe College
Johnson	Alexis	W	Randy and Terri Johnson	Johnson School	Black Hawk College
Crow	Kelli	W	Roger and Deb Crow	Johnson School	Kirkwood Comm. Coll.
Cole	Deidre	C	Michael and Dorothea Cole	Betty Nelson Career Technical	Indian Hills Comm. Coll.
Eisenbacher	Ashly	C	Michael and Debra E.	Betty Nelson Career Technical	Scott Comm. Coll.
Brown	Jamie	KC	Jolene Brown	Betty Nelson Career Technical	Scott Comm. Coll.
Quinn	Arvis	KC	Danielle Howard	Betty Nelson Career Technical	Scott Comm. Coll.
Crowe	Michael	W	David Crowe, Katie Hanson	Brad Peck Memorial	Luther College

B. IASBO Scholarship Presentations – *Marsha Tangen, CFO*

CFO of the Davenport School District, Marsha Tangen, explained the IASBO scholarship presentation. Three graduating seniors were selected to receive a \$500 scholarship from the Iowa Association of School Business Officials on behalf of Marsha Tangen, recipient of IASBO's 2009 Professional Leadership Award. Business teachers at the three high schools provided a recommendation for a student who would be graduating in 2009, was planning to major in business in college, had a grade point of at least 3.0, and was involved in extra curricular activities. Mrs. Tangen recognized the three students and presented them with checks.

Alicia Jennings-West High School – Alicia was recommended by Steve Verdon, business teacher at West High. She was involved with Junior Achievement, Girls Soccer, National Honor Society and Leadership while at West. She has enrolled at the University of Iowa for the fall where she will major in Business.

Myron Maxwell -North High School- Myron was recommended by Susan Day, business teacher at North High. Myron will attend the University of Northern Iowa majoring in Business Education or Finance. Myron was involved in both football and basketball all 4 years at North along with many other activities.

Nick Mims-Central High School - Nick was recommended by Chad Ryan, business teacher at Central High. Nick's extra curricular activities included soccer, Quad City Scholars, and basketball. Nick plans to major in Accounting (and play soccer) at Drake University.

COMMUNICATIONS

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Tuesday, June 16, 6 to 9:00 PM, Iowa Association of School Boards District #6 Workshop Meeting in Cedar Rapids
- B. Monday, June 22, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Administration Service Center, Jim Hester Board Room
- C. Monday, July 6, 2009 – CANDIDATE FILING BEGINS FOR SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION – Candidates must file their nomination papers with the School Board Secretary between Monday, July 6 and the deadline at 5:00 PM on Thursday, July 30, 2009. The School Board Election will be on Tuesday, September 8, 2009. ELECTION PACKETS ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN THE BOARD SECRETARY'S OFFICE AT THE ADMINISTRATION SERVICE CENTER OR ON LINE. SEE THE DISTRICT WEBSITE UNDER SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND LINK TO THE AUDITOR'S PAGE.
- D. Monday, July 6, 5:30 PM, Tentative Committee of the Whole or Long-Range Planning Workshop, Jim Hester Board Room, A. S. C.
- E. Wednesday, July 9, 3:45 PM, Legislative Advocacy Meeting
- F. Monday, July 13, 7:00 PM, Annual Meeting, Jim Hester Board Room, Administration Service Center.
- G. Open Forum
 - 1. Stacey Houk, 13174 83rd Avenue, Blue Grass, spoke about middle school cuts for visual arts in 6th grade at Smart and at 7th grade at Walcott. She mentioned the decision making process and felt the District was not in compliance with state codes. She thanked the Board for allowing her to express concerns and explained her investment in the district through her work as a teacher and having children who now taught school. She talked about the mission statement and the exploratory wheel offered at intermediate grades. She felt it was a disservice to students when these visual art classes were eliminated, and the children needed this type of curriculum to compete in a global society. She mentioned how the Board said they supported the arts, but now they were allowing cuts in art courses. She urged them to find a way to keep children interested in school through the arts being offered and help children with this type of career path alternative.
 - 2. Clyde Mayfield, 430 West 16th, Davenport, talked about the Dean of Students position which Debbie Teague held. He supported the work she was doing and felt her skills were very unique. She was committed and created shades of success for students. She connected with students and made a positive impact of the children she worked with at school. He shared concerns with the position changing and cuts in her salary. He felt she was a valuable asset to the young people in our community and it wasn't in the best interest of the school district to make this change. Ms. Teague should be allowed to get the credentials needed to continue with her work. He hoped she could continue doing the work she does next year.

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: Special Call Superintendent Evaluation Meeting May 18 at 5:30 PM; Regular Board Meeting May 18 at 7:00 PM; Exempt Private Hearing/Open Session May 29, 2009; and Special Call Evaluation Meeting June 1 at 5:30 PM.

B. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Etc.

APPOINTMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Hensel, Jason Science West High	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 17, 2009 Salary: \$27,600.00
Milke, Thomas Special Education KCAE	Degree: B.S. + 15 – Step 11 Effective: August 17, 2009 Salary: \$42,780.00
Miller, Elizabeth Gifted and Talented Williams Intermediate	Degree: B.A. + 15 – Step 11 Effective: August 17, 2009 Salary: \$42,780.00
Moultan, Dane Science Young Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 17, 2009 Salary: \$27,600.00
Neese, Kelli Special Education Smart Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 17, 2009 Salary: \$27,600.00

APPOINTMENTS: NON-BARGAINING

Gasaway, Kimberly Curriculum & Instruction Specialist--Science ASC	Effective: July 1, 2009 Salary: \$58,491.00 Hours: 8.0 hrs/day, 205 days
Scott, Cheryl ESIS Technician ASC	Effective: May 26, 2009 Salary: \$14.46/hr Hours: 8.0 hrs/day

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Buening, Rebecca Department Head Central High	6% \$1,617.00
Goddard, James Assistant 9 th Grade Football West High	8% \$2,156.00
Hoeksema, Thomas Assistant Varsity Football Central High	12% \$3,234.00
Hughes, Rebecca Teacher-In-Charge (.5) Garfield Elementary	15% \$2,021.50
McMahon, Jeremiah Department Head Wood Intermediate	6% \$1,617.00
Petersen, Kevin Girls' Cross Country Track Central High	20% \$5,390.00
Schultz, Ann Teacher-In-Charge (.5) Garfield Elementary	15% \$2,021.50
Seals, Rebecca 9 th Grade Volleyball Central High	8% \$2,156.00
Shiltz, Amanda Department Head Young Intermediate	6% \$1,617.00
Sinksen, Arthur Department Head Wood Intermediate	6% \$1,617.00
Toohill, Mary Girls' Cross Country Track North High	20% \$5,390.00
Van Hulle, Michael Boys' Cross Country Track North High	20% \$5,390.00

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Dodge, Cindy Clerk III – 12 mos Children's Village West	Effective: June 22, 2009 Salary: \$12.42/hr Hours: 8.0 hrs/day
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CORRECTION TO MARCH 9, 2009 BOARD AGENDA	
APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED	
Glembine, Lauree	Effective: March 2, 2009
Title I Family Involvement Liaison	Salary: \$10.58/hr
\$11.49/hr	
Lincoln Academy	Hours: 4.0 hrs/day

RETIREMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Avila, Gary	Effective: June 8, 2009
Physical Education	Years of Service: 18 yrs 10 mos
Lincoln Academy	

Iwen, Shirley	Effective: June 8, 2009
ESL	Years of Service: 12 yrs
Williams Intermediate	

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CERTIFICATED

Lawton, Meghan	Effective: June 8, 2009
Special Education	Years of Service: 10 mos
Smart Intermediate	

Robinson, Shanna	Effective: June 10, 2009
Reading Specialist	Years of Service: 4 yrs 10 mos
Washington Elementary	

Saunders, William	Effective: June 8, 2009
Grade 4	Years of Service: 1 yr 10 mos
Wilson Elementary	

Schmitzer, Jill	Effective: June 30, 2009
PreSchool -- Floating Teacher	Years of Service: 5 mos
Children's Village Sites	

Striegel, Darla	Effective: June 5, 2009
Language Arts	Years of Service: 5 yrs 10 mos
Wood Intermediate	

Viel, Carrie	Effective: June 8, 2009
Language Arts	Years of Service: 10 mos
Central High	

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Anderson, Miriam	5%
Elementary Vocal Music	\$1,333.00
Lincoln Academy	

Anderson, Rachel	6%
Department Head	\$1,599.00
Young Intermediate	

Avila, Gary	6%
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Elementary Intramurals Lincoln Academy	\$1,599.00
Belz, Gene Assistant Sophomore Football West High	10% \$2,665.00
Bunch, William 7 th Grade Volleyball (additional if needed) Wood Intermediate	8% \$2,132.00
Cox, Cyndi Department Head (.5) Smart Intermediate	6% \$1,599.00
Goddard, James Assistant Varsity Football West High	12% \$3,198.00
Harris, Frederich Assistant Sophomore Football North High	10% \$2,695.00
Hoeper, Anne Department Head Wood Intermediate	6% \$1,599.00
Jones, Michael 9 th Grade Wrestling West High	8% \$2,132.00
Kretschmer, Debra Teacher-In-Charge (.5) Truman Elementary	15% \$1,999.00
Knight, Thomas Elementary Intramurals Hayes Elementary	6% \$1,599.00
Marmorine, Marilyn Teacher-in-Charge (.5) Buffalo Elementary	15% \$1,999.00
McMahon, Jeremiah Boys' 7 th Grade Basketball (2 nd team if needed) Wood Intermediate	7% \$1,866.00
Meyer, Susan 7 th Grade Volleyball Walcott Intermediate	8% \$2,132.00
Meyer, Susan Assistant Intermediate Co-Ed Track Walcott Intermediate	5% \$1,333.00

Olderog, Traci 8 th Grade Volleyball (additional if needed) Wood Intermediate	8% \$2,132.00
Rommel, Tara Event Manager (.5) West High	10% \$2,665.00
Siokos, Sara Teacher-in-Charge (.5) Blue Grass Elementary	15% \$1,999.00
Wells, Michael Boys' Assistant Varsity Swimming North High	10% \$2,665.00

RETIREMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Charlton, Christine FNS Worker Walcott	Effective: June 5, 2009 Years of Service: 5 yrs 8 mos
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CORRECTION TO 4/27/09 BOARD AGENDA
RETIREMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Ryan, Colleen Para Educator LOA	Effective: May 20, 2009 May 21, 2009 Years of Service: 35 year 9 mos
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RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Balunis, Heather Para Educator Garfield Elementary	Effective: June 5, 2009 Years of Service: 1 yr 6 mos
Denkmann, John Para Educator – Floater ASC	Effective: June 5, 2009 Years of Service: 6 mos
Dodge, Cindy Para Educator Children's Village Hoover	Effective: June 19, 2009 Years of Service: 4 yrs 10 mos Reason: Other District Employment
Fisher, Iona FNS Worker Central High	Effective: June 5, 2009 Years of Service: 1 yr 1 mos
Hoehn, Elise Para Educator – Fast ForWord ASC	Effective: June 5, 2009 Years of Service: 10 mos
Peters, Laura Clerk III – 12 Month Children's Village West	Effective: June 12, 2009 Years of Service: 3 yrs 9 mos

Ranes, Melissa
Custodian
Buchanan/KCAE

Effective: May 19, 2009
Years of Service: 1 yr

Scott, Cheryl
Clerk III – 12 mos
Children's Village West

Effective: May 25, 2009
Years of Service: 8 yrs 1 mo
Reason: Other District Employment

RETURNS FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Gibbs, Shannon
Grade 3
Harrison Elementary

Effective: August 17, 2009
Salary: \$33,120.00

Law, Jennifer
Grade 3
Lincoln Academy

Effective: August 17, 2009
Salary: \$30,360.00

Lindaman, Diane
Grade 5
Garfield Elementary

Effective: August 17, 2009
Salary: \$48,300.00

Phelps, Erica
Kindergarten
Buchanan Elementary

Effective: August 5, 2009
Salary: \$33,120.00

Schlichting, Emily
Special Ed
Lincoln Academy

Effective: August 17, 2009
Salary: \$33,120.00

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Siokos, Sara
Grade 3
Blue Grass Elementary

Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: 2009-2010 school year

Votroubek, Wendi
Special Education
North High

Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: May 15, 2009 – June 8, 2009

RETURNS FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Hutchison, Rhonda
Food Service Worker
North High

Effective: May 18, 2009
Salary: \$9.68/hr
Hours: 7.0 hrs/day

Schaffert, Danielle
Para Educator
Children's Village Hoover

Effective: May 27, 2009
Salary: \$9.90/hr
Hours: 6.25 hrs/day

Woods, Christine **(corrected)**
Para Educator
Central High

Effective: ~~June 2, 2009~~ **August 21, 2009**
Salary: ~~\$8.44/hr~~ **TBD (corrected)**
Hours: 6.50 hrs/day

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Adams, Brenda
Para Educator (**Corrected**)
Buffalo Elementary

Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: April 23, 2009 – ~~June 5, 2009~~
August 19, 2009

Aldana de Anzola, Luz Nelly
Para Educator
Children's Village West

Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: June 19, 2009 – August 10, 2009

Bartleson, Catherine
Para Educator
Children's Village West

Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: June 1, 2009 – August 24, 2009

Kelding, Jean
Para Educator
Children's Village West

Extension of Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: June 2, 2009 – June 15, 2009

Klein, Angela
Para Educator
McKinley Elementary

Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: August 20, 2009 – January 5, 2010

MOTION: Director Krumwiede moved the Board approved the Consent Agenda as presented by the administration. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Krumwiede, Tupper, De Fauw, Johanson, Clewell, Roberson, and Zamora. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

MOTION: Director Roberson moved, "Resolved all claims presented to the Board having been duly certified as correct by the Secretary, reviewed by the administration and board members, and they are hereby audited and allowed as just claims and warrants drawn on the Treasury for the several amounts. Further Resolved, the payment of claims and salaries be approved as presented, with three exceptions which were voided: Checks #261022; #261400; and #261424. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Roberson, Tupper, Johanson, De Fauw, Krumwiede, Clewell, and Zamora. The motion carried unanimously.

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. **US Cellular Stealth Cell Phone Tower** (Action postponed)

The administration made a recommendation for approving the US Cellular Stealth Cell Phone Tower at North.

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board approve the administration's recommendation for the ground lease with US Cellular to place a stealth cell phone tower at North High School under the terms of the contract provided by US Cellular and as reviewed and amended by Davenport School District legal counsel. US Cellular has proposed leasing ground at North High School for a term of 25 years with payments of \$1200 per month and a 3% annual increase. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion

Director Tupper asked whether a provision had been made to allow the District to get out of this contract if necessary. The Superintendent believed a provision was in the contract language. Scott Martin responded the attorneys had removed the clause from the agreement and there wasn't anything about getting out early. There was discussion about the possibility of delaying action at this time until more information and a copy of the actual contract could be provided for board members.

There were additional comments about how the revenue would be split between the District and North High for the cell tower structure. Board members questioned the administration about subleasing, who was involved in the process for having the cell phone tower constructed, and fund raising options for buildings. Vice President Roberson felt the revenue should go to North if they looked at this as a potential fund raiser for their school. Other high schools had more ability to raise funds for student activities because of their size. Mr. Almanza explained no administrators had the right to lease school district property for a fund raiser. The use of the money could be for student activities and district expenses. The superintendent also stated he didn't want the administrators to lease, sell, or use their buildings for advertising revenue either. Board members continued to discuss how this could be handled and repercussions from allowing this request.

POSTPONEMENT:

Director Johanson moved the Board postpone action on this motion until more information was provided concerning the terms of the contract. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion to postpone was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Johanson, Krumwiede, Clewell, Tupper, Roberson, De Fauw, and Zamora. The motion to postpone action carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. GREAT MINDS PROGRAM REPORT

Gene Conrad, Program Director for Great Minds, presented a report to the Board explaining how the Great Minds program has been involved with more than 80 projects at a cost of \$18,000 to the Foundation. This commitment by Great Minds was matched by funders including buildings, PTA support, individuals, organizations, businesses and grantors. The purpose of the program is to enrich and enhance the education of our students, and teachers make applications for enrichment activities. The applications must show connections to the benchmarks and standards for the District.

Next year will begin the ninth year for Great Minds. This year they supported the United Way's joint emphasis on the 40 Developmental Assets. With a grant from the PTA Council they also encouraged projects promoting a connection with the home. Mr. Conrad provided statistics and data on the number of students reached and the projects completed during the year.

Mr. Conrad and the Foundation Board thanked the School board for the in-kind support received from the District to help with the office operations. He shared testimonies by teachers showing how the enrichment activities impacted their students and families. A copy of the full report will be included in the minutes of record and this was also presented to the Davenport Schools Foundation Board. Mr. Conrad highlighted some of his favorite comments included in the write up. They were looking forward to expansion of their outreach to upper level grades in the near future.

Director Clewell expressed sincere appreciation to the Great Minds program. He believed students learned about rigor and relevance in the classroom but the enrichment activities provided students with relationship building. The work being done for our children is wonderful.

B. DROP OUT PREVENTION METHODS

Ellen Reilly, Dr. O'Melia, and Family Support Liaisons Jamie Jorgensen (West High), Lakeisha Nathan (North High), Darryl Cross (Central High), plus Anastasia Nikolopoulos, the Community College/High School Support Liaison, presented a report on drop out prevention support services and methods being used in the district to help students remain in school and graduate. The Board saw a PowerPoint showing details about the dropout prevention and intervention programs. Ms. Reilly emphasized from research done by Cecilia Rouse, over a lifetime, each dropout costs the nation approximately \$260,000. She shared materials on potential incomes for dropouts, impacts on the economy, and other problem areas. The Board heard about general school prevention, family support liaisons, drop out interventionists, and the community college liaison. Each area was outlined so board members could understand the role service models better.

The report included details about the family support liaison, drop out interventionists, and the role the community college liaison played in providing alternative options to students at risk of not graduating. Numbers and statistics were shared about the check and connect family support program. The liaisons have a 40-50 student caseload and details were shown about numbers, grade levels, gender, and ethnicity. The drop-out prevention/intervention program started in January 2009 and has a caseload of 264. The community college program had 151 students served with 125 receiving their GED and 26 students earning their diplomas. There was information about GED testing and barriers to student attendance. The administration wanted to be transparent with the issues of transportation, family schedules, childcare issues, and explaining how some families do not value education.

The staff was able to make referrals for family mental and medical health matters. They work with appropriate parenting skills and problem areas caused by homelessness. There are individualized interventions needed to ensure a solid school attendance. We offer a continuum of services for students in order to reach the goal of graduation. Vice President asked about the relationship building the liaison staff members do with students and how this creates a path to success. The responses made included showing genuine concern, listening skills, working through problems and excuses that prevent students from coming to school, and teaching them about responsibility and consequences. Upfront help was very important and there are procedures and resources to help the students overcome obstacles to success. Director Krumwiede noted West, Central, and Kimberly Center had interventionists, but North was doing something different. Dr. O'Melia explained options which the principals could use for addressing the dropout situation and North was using another system.

Director Tupper talked about how dropout prevention has been a special priority of the Board and he appreciated hearing the report. He was concerned about the caseload size and wondered how more students could be served since there was a big waiting list of identified children. The liaison staff members talked about some of their experiences and different levels of intervention and help offered. Ellen Reilly mentioned the six staff members were unique and very talented people. They work with children and families who are disenfranchised with the system and give them a positive experience. Director De Fauw congratulated the staff about their positive outcomes. She said teachers who talked with her have said we need more of these liaison members on staff. She wanted them to know they were making a difference and people noticed this.

Ms. Reilly explained how they spent time together this year going over what they had to accomplish and laid the groundwork with the community. They work with other organizations and groups to help and provide services the students need to finish school. There was also talk about the number of kindergarten students who don't attend school and this was starting to become a problem because they get behind early. The liaison members talked about working around the students because some of the older ones will delete phone messages and take mail sent to the parents from school. They work with parents now at their places of work and have regular communication. One of the staff members talked about the mental health issues creating huge barriers for a number of students. This area was definitely a concern and families struggle with mental health. The liaison

staff tries to be the voice for many of the families and an advocate working with groups who can provide services for them. Many of the students at Kimberly Center will refuse help or they go off treatment; but the Kimberly Center staff does a wonderful job of working with the students and helping them. These students bring a lot of issues to the table because of being a single-parent family, transportation problems, work schedules, or childcare.

Director Krumwiede was amazed at the number of kindergarten students not attending school and wondered if the Legislative Advocacy Committee should be addressing this with legislation. We are moving to keep students in school until 18 but maybe we should also emphasize requiring them to attend at five years of age. Director Johanson had questions about mandatory attendance and asked about strategies for improving the cultural value of education for families. One of the teachers explained how many families have a negative experience with schools and she tries to show parents a genuine interest and honesty about their students. She works with them showing positive things and areas of improvement in order to create a better relationship with the school.

Darryl talked about consulting as a part of his job and how stories work best for some families to learn about change. He establishes relationships and shows how education can help them improve their own lifestyle. They value education but they don't always know how to implement education. Director Johanson wondered if the District should enlist support from the City to make some changes and work at getting funding for the mental health matters that impact the schools and our community in general.

Director Clewell noted a saying about opening a school door and closing a prison cell. He appreciated seeing the triangle of intervention and wanted the Board to know the Legislative Advocacy Committee had started working with Vera French to develop a constituency that would work with legislators to help them understand mental health issues. Ms. Reilly talked about curriculum and instruction areas and how professional development was a key to learning how to develop relationships. The more we work together to develop links, the more we see improvements happening. They use a part of the mission statement "all students" as they work on staff development and help teachers learn how to address needs. If we continue with initiatives, we will see more kids being successful. Mr. Almanza talked about the model of relationship building with parents and working on mutual respect areas. We will outmaneuver the negative challenges and change the model as required. Working with students in the regular classrooms is critical to the success patterns. President Zamora noted we needed to share with the community the success stories and statistics on changing our dropout rate and how we are helping students graduate.

REMAINING AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

President Zamora asked if the remaining items for discussion on the agenda could be moved to the next meeting due to the length of the board meeting tonight and time constraints. The items included: 1) IASB and UEN Membership Dues 2009-2010; 2) IASB 2010 Legislative Priorities; 3) Urban Education Network Priorities; and 4) Board Meeting Calendar 2009-2010. By consensus board members agreed to the change.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE & INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS/BOARD REQUESTS

The Superintendent announced the School Board members had been selected for a 2009 Governor's Volunteer Award for outstanding contribution of volunteer service to our community. The special recognition ceremony will be June 19 in Marion Iowa at 9:30 AM.

VIII. BOARD REPORTS/AWARDS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences: President Zamora expressed sympathy on behalf of the Board and District to the family and friends of Barbara Lard who passed away June 2. Mrs. Lard had been employed by the District as head cook for the food service department for 18 years and resigned in 2003. Her contributions were appreciated and her loss will be mourned by many people.

Graduation: Vice President Roberson talked about attending the graduation ceremonies on June 7 and he extended congratulations to all the students and their families. The ceremonies were great and everything was in order. People were well behaved and it was a wonderful opportunity to see our students.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board adjourn from the Regular Meeting. Director Tupper seconded the motion. By consensus all agreed to adjourn.

President Zamora adjourned the Regular Meeting at 9:00 PM. Following the adjournment, board members reconvened for the continuation of the Closed Session which had been recessed earlier in the evening.

Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary