

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

June 21, 2010

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met for the Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, June 21, 2010, pursuant to law. The meeting was held in the Jim Hester Board Room, Administration Service Center, 1606 Brady Street Davenport, Iowa, in said District. President Zamora called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

On roll call the following board members were present: President: Patt Zamora, Directors: Ken Krumwiede, Nikki De Fauw, Rich Clewell, Larry Roberson and Tim Tupper. Director Ralph Johanson was absent. Superintendent Julio Almanza and other administrators were present.

Children's Village West Update

Mr. Martin reported on the status of the Children's Village West project. There continues to be weekly meetings to examine progress and make changes as necessary in the planning process. The final plans and specifications will be provided to the board in approximately 2 months. This is an opportunity for input from the board. The architect provided plans and described the current model. They will submit these plans for an updated estimate in the near future and that information will be brought to the board. Board members asked several questions concerning the plans. The architect, Mr. Martin, and Ms. Schulte answered all these questions. Size of classrooms, size of corridors, ramp between levels, large motor spaces, windows, restrooms, playground, kitchen space, parking, and storage spaces were addressed. Ms. Cooper, from Operations, is recommending a production kitchen on this site. The additional cost for this would be approximately \$17,000 and includes using several items the district already owns from other sites. Food Service has money set aside to cover the additional costs. The timeline for phase completions is September 1, 2010 to open bids, October 4 for board approval on bids, June 17, 2011 the construction will be complete. Our current lease runs through August 31, 2011. Classroom operations will have to be shut down during the final move phase and parents will be given ample notice.

GIS Discussion

Mr. Martin reviewed the information the board was given concerning the GIS update. The summary was given to the board to begin to formulate a plan. Director Tupper stated his concern for the small number of people that were involved in the initial meetings at the schools. He feels it may misrepresent the information received as being true as a whole rather than just a few parents' opinions. Mr. Martin reported that consistent standards were put into place to make sure the current data is correct. QCGIS used this information for mapping purposes. We can now locate 99% of our students compared to 50% from our previous data. Most of the new residential lots in the city are in the northwest part of the city as projected growth areas. Some schools in these areas are already at capacity and we will need to determine how to add students in these areas. Director Roberson asked how we can accommodate children in these areas without moving them out of their neighborhoods? Childcare is a common reason to move into a certain school, especially at Harrison and Garfield. Parents feel strongly that if you live in an enrollment area you should be allowed to attend that school. Director Clewell asked if there are any schools that could be expanded. Director Roberson suggested speaking to a larger group of parents from

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the area for their recommendations. Director De Fauw asked if we want to have extremely large schools to accommodate the expansion of these areas or are there other alternatives. Apartments vs single residence homes has influenced enrollment numbers in some of these areas. There are many issues to explore as this is just the beginning of the discussion. Director Tupper asked the administration to come up with some options for the board to explore. Director De Fauw noted there are misperceptions about some of the buildings. The board needs to be conscientious in developing pride in neighborhood schools and it needs to engage families beginning at the building level. Director Krumwiede agreed with this assessment and cautioned having large numbers of children on one campus by adding to existing overcrowded schools. We need to look at transfers very carefully so people can send their children to their own attendance areas. We need to continue to market our schools aggressively to overcome perceptions. The administration will continue to talk with the city to see what type of residences will be built in specific areas, they will look at ways to overcome misperceptions, and explore setting caps. The administration will bring some options to the board. The board suggests not setting any limits at this point in bringing forward options. At some point these options will be taken to the public for more input. Mr. Martin pointed out that all the parents that have been given an opportunity to give input to this point were very appreciative that the board was seeking their opinions. Director Tupper questioned whether we should review the Special Education Report before making any decisions on the enrollment issues. Mr. Almanza stated we do not have a final report at this point to review.

Policy Committee Report

Director De Fauw reported that due to changes in Iowa law, the policy committee is recommending making some changes to several policies reflecting these new laws. The issues are with officer elections and annual and organizational meetings. The current Board Meeting Calendar will need to be amended to reflect these changes. Information will be given to the board and will be on the next board agenda.

The meeting was adjourned by President Zamora at 7:10 PM.

Lynnette Carver, Board Secretary