

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING MARCH 14, 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 14, 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 7:05 PM.

On roll call, the following board members were present: President Patt Zamora; Directors Richard Clewell, Nikki DeFauw, Alan Guard, Ralph Johanson, Larry Roberson, and Tim Tupper. Student board members present were Emily Lemburg (Central High); Abby Frick (North High); and Whitney Linville (West High).

### RECOGNITIONS

#### I. RECOGNITIONS

##### A. **Blue Grass Elementary, Jeanne Wolf, *Principal***

Principal Jeanne Wolf said Blue Grass Elementary School was excited to highlight the efforts of two programs. The first recognition was for a program organized by **Mrs. Lynne Leacox**, a parent and the PTA Co-President. Mrs. Leacox explained “**No TV Tuesday**” was implemented last Fall in an effort to encourage a healthier life style for all students and families through more physical activity. Students were asked to replace Tuesday night TV watching with alternative activities including reading, bike riding, board games, and skating. There were prizes and certificates used as rewards and last semester there were 1453 times students tuned out TV. Mrs. Wolf commented students have enjoyed a wide variety of healthier options thanks to Mrs. Leacox, her son Grant, and the support from the PTA for “**No T.V. Tuesday**”.

Mrs. Wolf recognized **Brandon Smith**, a fifth grader who came up with a great idea. Brandon understood problems created by tornados and other weather conditions. So after winter break Brandon came to her with an idea that Blue Grass School should help students across the world try to rebuild their lives following the Tsunami disaster. Brandon approached the PTA and the media specialist, Mrs. Sherry Roberts and then “**Dimes for Disaster**” was created. They used the Life Skill of caring and even learned a song about lending a helping hand. Mrs. Wolf even played a recording of the children singing. The culminating event was on Valentines Day when Brandon presented the American Red Cross with a check for \$612.38. Blue Grass staff members are very proud of the efforts both these initiatives had in making the school, community, and the world a better place.

##### B. **United Way Success by Six & Quad City Health Initiative \* *Roger Fuerstenberg***

Roger Fuerstenberg talked about two agencies that were actively helping our students. They learned about a number of health issues caused by poor dental hygiene that affect youth and adults as well. The Davenport Schools Health Services recognized the **United Way's Success by Six** and the **Quad City Health Initiative** for their tremendous efforts to assist our students with dental needs. Mr. Fuerstenberg explained how the Quad City Health Initiative sought resources and prepared "dental kits" that were distributed to close to 3,000 of our youth. Involved in this project were 30 dentists and 11 specialists. Nurses

helped identify students and made referrals. On February 4 they contracted with First Student to provide transportation for students to visit dentists. Success by Six recruited dentists who provided cleaning, screening and treatment to 146 Davenport students, and there were 84 who needed follow-up treatment. Individuals from Success by Six and the Quad Cities Health Initiative were introduced and presented with special certificates. Representatives remarked how beneficial it was for agencies to come together to have the opportunity to make creative solutions to problems.

Mr. Fuerstenberg said additional recognition should go to **Cathy Gripp-Bladel**, from the Community Education Office, who organized individual transportation for all of the follow-up care, including driving every day herself. He extended thanks to **Karen Farley** for her efforts and members of the **PTA Council** for their involvement in getting people to ride with students to their first visit at the dentist. This system helped children have a positive first experience. President Zamora thanked all these people on behalf of the children in the Davenport School District.

C. **Adams Elementary \* *Mary McMeekin, Principal***

Principal Mary McMeekin talked about how Adams Elementary was involved in using the **Second Step Program**, which was a research-based social skills program for preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade. The Board heard about staff members understanding that an effective school must have a true sense of community where students learn about building strong relationships. The school day at Adams Elementary has built in time for Community Circle, and many teachers believed this time should have meaningful lessons centered on the District's Life Skills and relationship building. After doing research, they found the Second Step program would help with their goals.

**Mr. Matt Hantz** explained how the Second Step Program lessons have content that varies by grade level and was organized into three skill-building units: (1) Empathy; (2) Impulse Control and Problem Solving; and (3) Anger/Emotion Management. Lessons were based on class discussion and skill practice. Matt Hantz is the Adams' counselor and he attended the formal training in Boston. Now he trains school staff and oversees the program's implementation. Adams' Kindergarten and first grade teachers began teaching the Second Step curriculum during the 2003-2004 school year. Last summer training was added for second grade teachers. This school year a training session was held for para educators. The plan is to incorporate Second Step into a new grade level each year. A short Powerpoint showed the Second Step lessons in action.

Mrs. McMeekin also said Adams School would like to recognize **Sara Prizler**, the Skills Center para educator, who enters all their discipline-related data into eSis. She works with children referred to the Skills Center and gives out "High Fives" to students who show the Life Skills and who transfer Second Step lessons to real life.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

President Zamora noted that due to the number of young children attending who were waiting to make a presentation later in the meeting, she would like to move up the discussion item on the Impact of the Arts Programs to this point in the agenda. There were no objections to the adjustment in the agenda.

### A. Impact of the Arts Programs

Mrs. Reynolds said because of a request from Director Alan Guard for information on the impact of the arts program, the administration would like to report to the Board. She introduced Facilitator Kay Hall who highlighted elements in the arts program and showed the successes we are having. The Board received a report on the benefits of increased visual art instruction at nine elementary schools. They heard about how visual art was raising achievement, supporting reading, writing, and math literacy, increasing opportunities to address individual needs, making art teachers full participants in buildings, improving school climate, increasing communication with parents and families, and enhancing professional growth. Mrs. Hall shared comments from principals and teachers and presented other data concerning the arts program.

Art teacher Stacey Houk talked about art portfolios and thanked the students and families for coming to give the Board hands-on experience with their art work. Ms. Houk went through parts of a book they use in class and had students show their art work on wandering off the beaten path. One presenter talked about integrating art work with other curriculum pieces. A student named Thomas read his special story and showed his artwork to the Board. A parent shared her perspective on how the learning is incorporated into the children's work and this will open new opportunities for kids in the future with their portfolios. She felt in the long run this effort would come back to help our community. Mrs. Hall used quotes from principals in her concluding notes.

Director Guard thanked the Board for having this opportunity to hear about the impact arts curriculum was having on the schools. He hopes we will see improvement in test scores through the benefits realized from the arts experiences in the long term. This type of evaluation was the first step in convincing him the Board did the right thing when they voted on the arts program last year.

## COMMUNICATIONS

### II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Monday, March 21, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Jim Hester Board Room
- B. Friday, March 25 -- Inservice Day
- C. March 28-April 1 (Spring Break Week)
- D. Monday, April 4, 5:30 PM, Special Call Closed Session Real Estate, Conference Room A
- E. Monday, April 4, 6:00 PM, Committee of the Whole, Jim Hester Board Room
- F. Monday, April 11, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Jim Hester Board Room (This will include Public Hearings for the Budget Amendment for 2004-2005 & Budget for 2005-2006 at 7 PM)
- G. Open Forum for Community Input
  1. Bonnie Beechum, 1210 Brown, Davenport, read a letter she received at United Neighbors from a parent about an incident at a recent basketball game. The writer expressed frustration and concern for the black community. The writer talked about his impressions of unsportsmanlike conduct by other teams and problems with referees. He felt this behavior extends into our lives.

2. Cliff Hinton, 724 Sullivan Court, Davenport, talked about sports officiating and effects on education. His comments were a follow-up to Mrs. Beechum's statements. Mr. Hinton talked about his background with sports and suggested the referees need more training. Since the principals set up the format for officials, the topic of training should be placed on their agenda for the future. He would like to be on the agenda and meet with athletic directors. He will be meeting with the Iowa Athletic High School Association to discuss equity and fairness in sports. These children work hard and should not have to face situations that prevent fairness and lack of opportunities. President Zamora asked Mr. Andrews to meet with Mr. Hinton on the process.
3. Monte Harrington, 2517 Bridge Avenue, Davenport, addressed the Board on the matter of driver education programs and his driving school. He hoped they would still put out a public bid for providing driver education services. He also remarked that his first grade son just loves our art programs.
4. Craig Malin and Jamie Howard were representatives from the City who asked for time to make a presentation on area development. With prior approval, they were given additional time to give their report during Open Forum. They brought greetings from the Mayor and City Council and were pleased to be able to present an offer from the City regarding future development in the northern part of the city. Mr. Malin talked about thinking toward the future and investments in our community. They are working on a plan to build a \$300 million tax base. He reviewed the history of the 630 acres of property owned by the city. Most of the infrastructure is already in this area. He shared how residences have had input into the plans and they are now ready for marketing. This plan was fiscally viable and he has been authorized to offer the school district 20 acres of property in a park surrounded by other land where we could locate a school. There were 630 acres in the city plan and 220 acres were owned by the city. We want to position Davenport to be the city of choice through this partnership. They will keep 125 acres for a park which will be used to add value to the area. They would like for development purposes to build a neo-traditional neighborhood with some commercial development. Green space would develop and they were offering 20 acres for a school. They would like to work with the district to determine where these 20 acres should be and then move forward toward building our tax base which will benefit everyone.

President Zamora said the Board will be discussing this matter at a later date. She thanked Mr. Malin and Mrs. Howard for sharing the city's interest in our district.

## 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 February 28, 2005; Special Call Litigation Session (closed) March 7, 2005 @ 5:15 PM; Committee of the Whole March 7 @ 6:00 PM.

#### **B. Secretary's Monthly Financial Report**

It was recommended that the Secretary's monthly reports of receipts and disbursements of the various funds for the period ending January 31, 2005 be approved.

**C. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Etc.**

## EARLY RETIREMENT: CERTIFICATED

Churchill, William	Effective: End of the 2004 - 2005 school year
Driver Education	Years of Service: 33 yrs 10 mos
Central/North High	

## RESIGNATIONS: CERTIFICATED

Chambers, Shelley	Effective: February 21, 2005
LOA	Years of Service: 5 yrs 11 mos

## LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Gunnare, Lynn	Extension of Extended Leave of Absence without Pay
LOA	Effective: August 20, 2005 – August 20, 2006

Miller, Sharon	FMLA/Leave of Absence with Pay
Language Arts	Effective: January 18, 2005 – April 11, 2005
West High	

Noe, Casey	Extension of Military Leave
Math	Effective: February 26, 2005 – March 4, 2005
Williams Intermediate	

## RESIGNATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Fox, William	7%
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Boys' Basketball, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Team	\$1,721.00
Walcott Intermediate	

Hoeksema, Thomas	9%
Head Freshman Football	\$2,213.00
Central High	

Pethoud, Hugh	7%
Assistant Sophomore Softball	\$1,721.00
Central High	

## APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Gripp, Kyle	7%
Assistant Sophomore Baseball	\$1,721.00
Central High	

Hill, Thomas	19%
Varsity Softball	\$4,672.00
Central High	



Shelton, Cindy Para Educator Children's Village Hayes	Effective: March 11, 2005 Years of Service: 2 yrs 6 mos
Swisher, Kathryn Food Service Head Cook Smart Intermediate	Effective: February 10, 2005 Years of Service: 2 yrs 5 mos
Strieder, Amber Food Service Worker Sudlow/Eisenhower	Effective: March 24, 2005 Years of Service: 6 mos
Thomas-Hodges, Heather Para Educator Smart Intermediate	Effective: March 4, 2005 Years of Service: 3 mos
Williams, Laura Para Educator Wilson Elementary	Effective: February 28, 2005 Years of Service: 4 mos

## LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Paterson, Linda Para Educator Eisenhower Elementary	Effective: February 15, 2005 - April 1, 2005
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## APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Overton, Steve Para Educator North High	Effective: February 28, 2005 Salary: \$7.05 Hours: 6.5 hours/day
Palmer, Steven Custodian Blue Grass Elementary	Effective: February 28, 2005 Salary: \$9.87 Hours: 4 hours/day

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

**MOTION:** Director Roberson moved the Board accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows: Ayes, Roberson, Tupper, DeFauw, Guard, Clewell, 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 the following resolution: Resolved 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 one check which was voided,

#164800 in the amount of \$9,663.56. Director DeFauw seconded the motion.

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

## OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

### V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

#### A. Review of Bid #501—Partial Roof Replacement at West High/Public Hearing

The Board originally voted on Bid #501 after conducting a public hearing on February 14, 2005. A review of this bid was placed on the agenda for February 28, 2005. At that meeting, the Board voted to postpone the discussion on reviewing the bid. The item was being brought back to the table at this time.

#### Rescinding Original Motion on Bid #501

**MOTION:** Director Clewell moved the Board rescind the motion passed at the February 14, 2005 meeting concerning Bid #501—Partial Roof Replacement at West High. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

Board members discussed additional information they received at home over the weekend regarding this bid which made reference to Iowa Code and a different interpretation. Dr. Schuerman said the administration couldn't address this matter since they hadn't received any of the documents. There was discussion about the code dealing with preferences for local purchasers and conclusions that were being drawn. Board members had reviewed matters with legal council regarding local suppliers and our efforts in the bid process. Board members had an opportunity to share their ideas on this matter and Mr. Good addressed areas of concern about hiring local labor.

**ACTION:** Director Clewell restated the motion. The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Clewell, Roberson, DeFauw, Guard, Johanson. Nays: Tupper and Zamora. Motion to rescind the original bid was carried.

#### Bid #501—Partial Roof Replacement at West High/Public Hearing

**MOTION:** Director Guard moved the Board approve the low Bid #501 from RA Oldeen Inc. in the total amount of \$48,049 for the partial roof replacement at West High School. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

The Board held a public hearing on Bid #501 for the partial roof replacement at West. Mr. Rory Washburn, 4485 Cheyenne Avenue, Davenport, said he originally suggested the Board base their decision not on the lowest bidder but on employment of local contractors. He had questions about the ability this company to hire local contractors. He felt since the bids were close, the Board could give preference to a local contractor over someone from out of state. He felt the law targeted local businesses and it was not necessary to take the lowest bid. He thought the Board could accept any bid or reject them and they should do what was in the best interest of the public. He remarked if the law only gave the option of selecting a low bid, then what did the preference code mean to local contractors.

There were no other people who requested time to speak at the public hearing, so President Zamora declared the public hearing closed. Mr. Good responded to hiring and the use of subcontractors from the local area by the RA Oldeen firm.

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

#### B. Driver Education Classes Proposal

The administration made three recommendations regarding driver education classes for students in the school district. Prior to taking action, the Board had discussions to clarify proposals being recommended. Each board member talked about the proposals and presented their preference. They discussed impact of educational opportunities, cost savings, delivery of curriculum, efficiency, demands on staff to improve achievement, experience of the AEA, and use of tax payer money. The Board had discussed this matter at the Committee of the Whole and received additional guidance for their concerns about how the program would be run through the AEA. Director Tupper felt the cost savings was overstated and this did not give our students the choices they wanted. The Board discussed all three of the options being explored before making a motion.

**MOTION:** Director Guard moved the Board accept the original recommendation from the administration to contract with the AEA for driver education services starting with the 2005-06 year. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

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

**B. Cooperative Swim Agreement and Renewal 2005-06**

**MOTION:** Director Tupper moved the Board approve the administration's recommendation for the 2005-2006 Application for a Cooperative Sharing Agreement for swimming and diving with Davenport Central, North, and West High Schools and Davenport Assumption High School, and for renewal of the Cooperative Sponsorship of an Activity with the Iowa High School Athletic Association and the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union between Davenport Assumption and Davenport Central, North, and West High Schools for boys and girls swimming. Director Guard seconded the motion.

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

**C. Collaborative Time Proposal**

**MOTION:** Director Clewell moved the Board accept the administration's recommendation for approval of the Collaborative Time Proposal presented and discussed at previous meetings for early dismissal time as outlined starting with the 2005-2006 school year. Director Guard seconded the motion.

Rachael Mullins responded to questions on consistency and maintaining minimum state standards regarding time requirements for students. The buildings will do schedule changes and recapture time. The Board asked the administration to work hard at getting information out to parents so everyone understands how this will work. We must convey a good picture of what we are trying to accomplish. There was frustration expressed by comments made on talk radio about this plan that showed the misinformation the public had on what we were planning. The callers didn't know what we wanted to accomplish and didn't know anything about the research that had been done on this already. The lack of information will be a problem so we need to get information out to the families through the students. This was innovative and addresses a big need that will reap huge benefits in the future. Director Tupper expressed concerns about students having too much time after school to get into trouble. Parents were not at home in the afternoon and the students need adult supervision. He hopes the administration thinks this through so a plan was in place to help these students. Director Guard again talked about having evaluative measures in place. Dr. Schuerman said the one disadvantage was the additional hours for parents to find a way to fill the needs of their children. He was hopeful that efforts for after school programming will answer this. We will be monitoring all of these areas on use of time, and he felt students would reap rewards from the teachers through this additional training and collaborative effort.

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

Note on Bid #509 – Asbestos Abatement (Moved to March 21 Board Meeting)

President Zamora announced that Bid #509 for Asbestos Abatement at the Administration Service Center had not been placed on the agenda for tonight's meeting. Therefore the Board could not take action at this meeting.

President Zamora stated Bid #509 would come before the Board for action at the Monday, March 21 board meeting with a public hearing at that time. All the bids were rejected by the administration, but this still required board action.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

#### **B. National CIPAS Visitation Team for After-School Programs**

Roger Fuerstenberg explained the work with community partnerships to lay the ground work for the sustainability of after-school programs. These programs affect the lives of many students and they wanted to learn more about how to make this the best program. They went through a process last fall to help evaluate efforts. Mr. Fuerstenberg introduced Dr. Duane Rubert, Chair of the National CIPAS visitation team. He presented the findings made by the Continuous Improvement Process for After School (CIPAS) team. He explained the process used that included self-evaluation tools, documentation, and an on-site visit by the CIPAS team. All the sites were visited and interviews were conducted. They looked at: 1) community and family involvement; 2) programming; 3) management and administration; 4) staffing and training; 5) finances; 6) research and evaluation; and 7) policy and advocacy.

Dr. Rubert reported on areas of strengths and recommendations for improvement. He said as he listens to conversations and people talk about federal budget cuts, it is a good move to look at self-sustainability for the after-school activities. It is a tremendous program and there will be a transition as we go from federal funding to local funding, but that is essential. There were some comments from the Board and President Zamora thanked everyone for their hard work. (The report will be part of the minutes of record.)

#### **C. Lobby Day (March 8) Update Report**

Directors Clewell and Johanson reported on the March 8 Lobby Day trip to Des Moines which provided a 14 member team from Davenport to have the opportunity to talk with legislators about priorities for education. Director Clewell first talked about the State of the School meetings and advocacy efforts. The trip to Des Moines was a brainstorm from UEN to use grassroots efforts to influence our legislators. Attendees were: Richard Clewell (Board), Janelle Weinstein (PTA), Terry James (QC Radio) Carolyn Ryan (Channel 4), Linda Smith-Kortemeyer (Board Secretary), Rachael Mullins (Development Supervisor), Ralph Johanson (Board), Joann Conrad (Parent), Angie Reitz (Parent), William Bradford (Central High Teacher), and West High Students: Laura (Ann) Miller, Marin Burke, Ashley Rocha, and Adam Miller. A Powerpoint slide presentation was used to show pictures of the trip while Director Clewell commented on the day's activities.

Director Johanson talked about the passion of the parents to convey their ideas to legislators. He served as a facilitator. Director Johanson said Mr. Bradford was a powerful speaker and went through a lot to be able to participate in Des Moines. Director Johanson said senators acknowledged the team's efforts and thought it was fantastic to talk with students. He said the teams were so involved in their discussions, that the group he was in even missed lunch in order to meet with a legislator. He thanked everyone for their efforts. President Zamora also expressed appreciation for those who put forth such a big effort to go to Des Moines.

## ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

### VII. ADMINISTRATIVE & INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS/BOARD REQUESTS

There were no additional reports or requests made.

### ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board adjourn. Director Clewell seconded the motion.  
The vote on the motion was called and recorded by consensus as all ayes.  
President Zamora declared the meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

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Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary