

REGULAR MEETING OCTOBER 11, 2004

The Board of Directors of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met for a Regular Meeting on Monday, October 11, 2004 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 7:00 PM.

The following board members were present: President Patt Zamora; Directors Richard Clewell, Nikki DeFauw, Alan Guard, Ralph Johanson, Larry Roberson, and Timothy Tupper. Student board members present were Zach Sapato and Emily Lemburg from Central; Lindsay Marshall from Kimberly Center; Whitney Linville and Jin Young Yi from West High.

RECOGNITIONS

I. RECOGNITIONS

A. **MCKINLEY ELEMENTARY * *Lisa Baxter, Principal***

Principal Lisa Baxter recognized her staff and the work done by the faculty with the after-school program. She introduced **Ryan Christensen** who focused on elements of the McKinley's **Discovery Junction Program**. Mr. Christensen talked about how they provided after school and summer programming for McKinley students since fall of 2002. Ryan Christensen is the Community Site Facilitator and he shared highlights of the activities and services provided, as well as information about the demographic breakdown of participants. About 43% of all students at McKinley receive services now through Discovery Junction. The breakdown showed 43 African American, 69 Asian, 68 Caucasian, and 9 Hispanic students were involved. Their goals included improvements in achievement in literacy, math, and science, along with goals for safety and connecting to school, as well as access to experiences in the arts, recreation, drug awareness, hygiene, and having refreshments. Mr. Christensen stated they will continue to work together to enhance the services provided to the students and hope to find funding somewhere for the continuation of this after-school program. Though the long-term future for this program is uncertain, many ideas for sustainability are being explored. The McKinley community is hopeful programming dollars will be secured and quality summer and extended day programs will continue to thrive.

B. WILLIAMS INTERMEDIATE * Nancy Jacobson, Principal

Principal **Nancy Jacobsen** and Associate Principal **Tim Stoffer** highlighted two programs at Williams focusing on the Board Goals of increasing reading comprehension and improving school climate. The Reading Workshop course was implemented in 2003-2004 for students not yet meeting the district's reading benchmarks. The course was designed using scientifically based reading research. **Mrs. Jennifer Douglas**, Reading Workshop teacher, shared a Powerpoint presentation on the reading course and student achievement data. The workshop model starts with the teacher reading aloud, then uses guided reading, shared reading, and finally the student does independent reading assignments.

Tim Stoffer recognized business partners and then introduced the site facilitator at Williams. **Ms. Darcia Mortiboy** talked about the 21st Century Community Learning Center which has been active at Williams since September of 2001. Ms. Darcia Mortiboy shared the success of programming at Williams that included the Stepping Stones After-School Program and the Boost Summer School Camp and enrichment partnerships. There were 140 students registered and the programs had an academic component for three hours each day. The Boost Program has had a positive impact on school climate at Williams.

Director Guard said he read that the grants for these programs will be running out this year and wondered how the staff will address this situation. Mrs. Jacobson said they were working with Rachael Mullins and other community groups to provide after-school programs, but without extra funding these programs will be underserved for the needs of the students. Director Clewell noted that both McKinley and Williams had a strong community component in their after-school programs and that makes sense to have this type of commitment for them.

President Zamora thanked the staff members from both schools for helping the students with these special programs and stated this is the right thing to do.

COMMUNICATIONS

II. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Tuesday, October 12, 4:00 PM, Policy Committee, Administration Service Center
- B. Thursday, October 14, 3:30 PM to 6:30 PM, "**National Lights on for After School**" events and activities are being planned
- C. Monday, October 18, 6:00 PM, Special Call Workshop on Board Goals; John Deere Davenport Works Facility in Mount Joy
- D. Tuesday, October 19, 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM, IASB District #6 Meeting in Anamosa; "Making Every Dollar Count for Student Learning"

- E. Monday, October 25, 5:30 PM, Special Call Workshop with Superintendent Search Consultants, Administration Service Center, Conference Room B
- F. Monday, October 25, 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Administration Service Center, Jim Hester Board Room
- G. Tuesday, October 26, 7:30 AM, Kick Off Breakfast for Continuous Improvement Visitation Team for After School Programs (Location TBA)
- H. Monday, November 1, 5:30 PM, Committee of the Whole, Washington Elementary
- I. Open Forum – 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 September 27, 2004 and the Committee of the Whole on October 4, 2004 were presented for approval with corrections.

B. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Etc.

RETIREMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Benson, Mary	Effective: September 20, 2004
At Risk 6-8	Years of Service: 33 yrs 3 mos
KCAE	

RESIGNATIONS: CERTIFICATED

George, Michael	Effective: October 5, 2004
Physical Education	Years of Service: 7 yrs 1 mo
Blue Grass Elementary	

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Buening, Rebecca	FMLA with Pay
Language Arts	Effective: August 25, 2004 – August 30, 2004
Central High	FMLA without Pay
	Effective: August 31, 2004 – October 8, 2004

Burnett, Paula	FMLA with Pay
Kindergarten	Effective: September 23, 2004 – November 5, 2004

Eisenhower Elementary

Butler, Rolanda	Leave of Absence with Pay
Special Education – MC/SCI	Effective: August 25, 2004 – September 3, 2004 (am)
Fillmore Elementary	Leave of Absence without Pay
	Effective: Sept. 3, 2004 (pm) – September 23, 2004

Lotspeich, Margaret	Military Leave
Media Specialist	Effective: Sept. 13, 2004 – October 01, 2005
Buffalo Elementary	

Reynolds, Cheri	FMLA with Pay
Grade 4	Effective: August 25, 2004 – October 18, 2004
McKinley Elementary	

RESIGNATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Gill, Robert	12%
Assistant Varsity Girls’ Basketball Coach	\$2,951.00
West High	

Lotspeich, Margaret	5%
Safety Patrol	\$1,230.00
Buffalo Elementary	

Riewerts, Ryan	2%
Musical Director H S	\$492.00
North High	

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Huntley, David	7%	Assignment not accepted per H.R.
8th Grade Wrestling	\$1,721.00	(10/19/04 corrected)
Walcott Intermediate		

Mutum, John	5%
Safety Patrol	\$1,230.00
Buchanan Elementary	

Remmert, Chad	5%
Strength/Conditioning Coach	\$1,230.00
West High	

Schloemer, Colleen	2%
Musical Director H S	\$492.00
North High	

Tatum, Rodney	7%
7 th Grade Football Assistant	\$1,721.00
Wood Intermediate	

APPOINTMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Bendixen, Natalie	Degree: B.S. – Step 1
Kindergarten	Effective: September 20, 2004
Buffalo Elementary	Salary: \$25,240.00 prorated to \$22,920.58 for the remaining 168 days of the 2004-2005 school year

Frerichs, Sarah	Degree: B.S. – Step 1
Grade 5	Effective: September 16, 2004
Monroe Elementary	Salary: \$25,240.00 prorated to \$23,193.51 for the remaining 170 days of the 2004-2005 school year

Pollmiller, Jaymie	Degree: B.S. – Step 1
Grade 1	Effective: October 7, 2004
Eisenhower Elementary	Salary: \$25,240.00 prorated to \$21,147.03 for the remaining 155 days of the 2004-2005 school year

Walloch, Jennifer	Degree: B.A. – Step 1
Kindergarten	Effective: September 20, 2004
Jackson Elementary	Salary: \$25,240.00 prorated to \$22,920.58 for the remaining 168 days of the 2004-2005 school year

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Fickensher, Marilyn	Effective: October 6, 2004
Food Service Worker	Yrs of Service: 11 mos
North High School	

Gotto, Rachel	Effective: September 23, 2004
Para Educator	Yrs. Of Service: 6 mos
Hayes Elementary	

Lambert, Corey	Effective: September 24, 2004
Para Educator	Yrs of Service: 8 mos
Children's Village West	

Moss, Starr
Para Educator
Children's Village West

Effective: September 17, 2004
Yrs. Of Service: 17 days

Reasoner, Katie
Food Service Worker
West High School

Effective: September 24, 2004
Yrs of Service: 28 days

Saldivar, Rikki
Food Service Worker
Wilson Elementary

Effective: September 28, 2004
Yrs of Service: 2 yrs 10 mos

Schroeder, Gary
Campus Security
Williams Intermediate

Effective: September 24, 2004
Yrs of Service: 4 yrs 6 mos

Sindt, Angela
Food Service Worker
West High School

Effective: October 1, 2004
Yrs of Service: 1 yr

Tackett, Laura
Community Site Facilitator
Wilson Elementary

Effective: August 20, 2004
Yrs of Service: 3 years

Welzenbach-Hilliard, Johanna
Para Educator
Sudlow Intermediate

Effective: October 15, 2004
Yrs. Of Service: 3 yrs 10 mos

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Beal, Janet
Custodian
West High School

Leave of Absence without Pay
Effective: Sept. 29, 2004–September 28, 2005

Roisen, Lindsay
Community Site Facilitator
Buchanan Elementary

FMLA with Pay
Effective: Sept. 9, 2004 – October 20, 2004

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Baldry, Deborah Para Educator Hayes Elementary	Effective: September 27, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.0 hours/day
Butcher, Kelli Food Service Worker Walcott School	Effective: October 4, 2004 Salary: \$7.06 Hours: 3.0 hours/day
Cargile, Debbie Food Service Worker Harrison Elementary	Effective: September 14, 2004 Salary: \$7.06 Hours: 1.75 hours/day
DiDuro, Ellen Para Educator Smart Intermediate	Effective: September 30, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.0 hours/day
Dooley, Wendy Para Educator Central High	Effective: September 29, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 7.0 hours/day
Dyne, Joan Para Educator Children's Village West	Effective: October 4, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.5 hours/day
Earnest, Eddie Para Educator KCAE	Effective: October 1, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.0 hours/day
Erbst, Bobbie Para Educator Jackson Elementary	Effective: September 20, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.0 hours/day
Farwell, Sarah Para Educator Children's Village West	Effective: September 27, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 5.53 hours/day
Glaudel, Dawn Para Educator Eisenhower Elementary	Effective: September 27, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.50 hours/day

Gravert, Mary Para Educator Children's Village West	Effective: September 27, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 \$8.40 corrected Hours: 5.53 hours/day
Hayslett, Latosha Para Educator Truman Elementary	Effective: September 20, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 5.0 hours/day
Jones, Suzanne Para Educator Young Intermediate	Effective: October 4, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.5 hours/day
King, Cyndee Para Educator Eisenhower Elementary	Effective: September 27, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 5.0 hours/day
Krueger, Stephanie Para Educator Smart Intermediate	Effective: September 30, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.0 hours/day
Lemons, Barbara Food Service Cashier J. B. Young Intermediate	Effective: September 13, 2004 Salary: \$7.27 Hours: 4.0 hours/day
Matson, Patricia Clerk II 10 ½ Month Central High School	Effective: August 18, 2004 Salary: \$9.78 Hours: 8.0 hours/day
McDowell, Andrea Para Educator Eisenhower Elementary	Effective: September 27, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.5 hours/day
Moneymaker, Theresa Para Educator Hayes Elementary	Effective: October 4, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.5 hours/day
Ryan, Matt Para Educator North High	Effective: October 4, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 7.0 hours/day
Schleiger, Kenneth Custodian Truman Elementary	Effective: September 27, 2004 Salary: \$9.87 Hours: 7.0 hours/day

Sharov, Erinn Para Educator Truman Elementary	Effective: September 20, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 2.0 hours/day
Simmons, Cheryl Para Educator Harrison Elementary	Effective: September 23, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 5.0 hours/day
Smith, April Food Service Worker North High School	Effective: September 7, 2004 Salary: \$7.06 Hours: 2.75 hours/day
Sparbel, Kristin Para Educator Children's Village at Hoover	Effective: September 27, 2004 Salary: \$8.40 Hours: 5.53 hours/day
Williams, Rachael Para Educator Smart Intermediate	Effective: September 30, 2004 Salary: \$6.80 Hours: 6.0 hours/day

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

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Consent Agenda be approved as written with the corrections in the minutes noted at the table. Director DeFauw seconded the motion.

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

MOTION: Director Guard moved "Resolved that all claims presented to the Board having been duly certified as correct by the Secretary, and reviewed by the administration and Board Treasurer, the same be and they are hereby audited and allowed as just claims and warrants drawn on the Treasury for the several amounts. Further Resolved, that the payment of claims and salaries be approved as presented." Director Roberson seconded the motion.

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

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. Urban Education Network 2005 Legislative Priorities 2005

It was recommended the Board approve the final list of Urban Education Network 2005 Legislative Priorities developed by the eight largest school districts serving more than 25 percent of Iowa's school children.

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board approve the final list of Urban Education Network 2005 Legislative Priorities that provide direct support to classrooms as follows:

1. Maintain Iowa's Leading Role in Education: Increase Allowable Growth
2. Give Iowa Children the Right Start: Support Early Childhood Education
3. Invest in Iowa Teachers: Fund Ongoing Professional Growth Opportunities
4. Support Effective Class Size: Continue Class Size Reduction Initiative
5. Motivate and Accelerate Learning: Sustain Investment in Technology

Director Guard seconded the motion.

Director Clewell addressed the student board members and asked why they thought it was important for the eight urban districts to establish their own priority list when there were 370 smaller districts in the State of Iowa. Zach Sapato said he thought it would be to make sure the urban districts were all on the same page and unified with things important to the larger areas. Director Clewell said that was right because we have urban issues to deal with which the smaller districts don't have. We have social and economic issues plus ethnicity and diversity matters in the urban areas. Being together makes us stronger and sees we address the needs of the urban communities. We also work with IASB but UEN really pinpoints and advocates for the urban issues with the legislators.

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

B. School Budget Review Committee Request -- Open Enrollment

The administration recommended the District apply for modified allowable growth to the School Budget Review Committee for open enrollment students.

MOTION: Director Roberson moved the Board approved the administration's recommendation for the District to apply for modified allowable growth to the School Budget Review Committee for open enrollment students who were not included in the enrollment count during the fall of the year preceding the student's transfer under open enrollment if the resident district is paying tuition for that student during the current year. This request would grant Davenport additional allowable growth for 23 students in the amount of \$106,904. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

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

C. School Budget Review Committee Request -- Costs of ESL Program

The administration recommends the District apply for modified allowable growth to the School Budget Review Committee for additional spending authority for excessive costs associated with providing "Limited English Proficiency" programs.

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board approve the administration's recommendation for the District to apply for modified allowable growth to the School Budget Review Committee for additional spending authority for excessive costs associated with providing "Limited English Proficiency" programs for its ESL population, after the expiration of the three-year period specified in section 280.4. The request is for additional allowable growth for the difference between actual costs and the additional weighting we receive for ESL costs, which would be \$669,518. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

Director Guard noted to the public this funding will be made up through local property taxes and not from State funding. We have different funding challenges and we should not be forcing this on the back of local taxpayers. The public needs to let the State know this issue should be addressed.

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

D. Iowa Demonstration Fire (Life) Safety Grant

President Zamora asked for an explanation of the Iowa Demonstration Fire (Life) Safety Grant application that needs the Board's authorization. Director Guard explained the Iowa Demonstration Fire (Life) Safety grant application was due by December 10, 2004. The budget and project period for this grant was from September 28, 2004 through September 27, 2007. This grant was administered by the Iowa Department of Education to provide upgrades in fire protection devices in schools. The Board will see bids associated with this grant in the future. This grant has been very beneficial to the district. Past grants totaling over \$1 million have provided us with the funds needed to equip our school buildings with fire and life safety equipment and upgrades.

MOTION: Director Guard moved the Board accept the administration's recommendation to authorize the District to apply for a Fire (Life) Safety Grant that could provide up to \$150,000 in facilities and equipment upgrades with no match required by the District. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

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

E. Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant

President Zamora asked for information about the Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant. Director DeFauw said the Iowa Demonstration Construction Grant says priority shall be given to applicant districts seeking to provide space for projects such as reducing class size, establishing preschool programs, before and after school programs or engaging in community integrated construction projects. Budget and project period for this grant was September 28, 2004 through September 27, 2007. This grant in the past has provided funding for construction projects at Smart Intermediate and Harrison Elementary.

MOTION: Director DeFauw moved the Board approve the administration's recommendation to authorize the District to apply for a Construction Grant that could provide up to \$500,000 to be used for new school construction, renovation, repairing, improving or remodeling a schoolhouse. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

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

F. Board Policy #503.11 Graduation Requirements Revisions

The Policy Committee recommended approval of the revisions made in Board Policy #503.11 Graduation Requirements. The recommendations for changes in this policy have been discussed by the LSIAC and at several board meetings.

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board approve the recommendation for revisions in Board Policy #503.11 Graduation Requirements that increased the units for graduation to 26, included changes in basic requirements, and showed additional requirements for graduation. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

Director Guard said it was important to realize everyone will have to step up to the plate with changes in this policy. The students, staff, and parents will have to become more involved with their children's education. We are trying to establish guidelines that are in line with other school districts and help students be better prepared for life after high school. It is a challenge for everyone and we will have to work together to accomplish this. Director Guard said there was input from the community and we also heard from our school board members about issues. He felt this was the right move to make at the right time.

Director Roberson added all the community needs to be involved and he felt this was a step in the right direction to prepare students for the real world. He supported raising the bar and he asked the community for their support. Director Tupper agreed we need to do a better job to prepare our students, and he asked for additional information that was provided to him. However, he still struggled with the number of students shown from Central and North (50 to 60%) who would not have met the graduation requirements last year with this type of change.

Director Guard responded that he felt when we set a minimum, that is what many students work at accomplishing—a minimum. Dr. Schuerman said students don't always take course work that goes beyond what is required. For years the requirement has been 20 units and it doesn't surprise him the numbers show this is what half of the students get. Many of the students now are employed at age 16 and only attend school for part of the day. He also thought there were many students who were working with post secondary education credits and they probably go beyond 30 units when they graduate. Juli Staszewski noted the difference was with the PE requirement now in the policy. The change will require a full load for three years and students will need to take classes where now they might be in study halls or only take a minimum of classes. Dr. Schuerman said when we raise the bar the news will get out in a hurry. Counselors will work with the ninth graders and students will grasp the concept of raising the bar. We all have to get behind this. We have talked to our guidance counselors about the implementation and they are behind this and anxious to get going with a plan.

Director Tupper asked if the administration was comfortable with West High going to the block system, or the students won't make the requirements from West High for 26 credits. Jim Andrews said West High staff will come to the Board possibly in November with a plan for the block at this high school. President Zamora said West has been working toward the block before the graduation requirement changes came up. Director Tupper said he believed that decision should have come to the Board before the policy changes for graduation.

Director Tupper said when he asked for data on graduation, he had expected 20% of the students only having 20 units to graduate, not 50 to 60%. He expressed concerns that with the increases in graduation requirements, we might have an additional decline in our numbers. He worried about students not succeeding and this will make it more difficult for the marginal students to graduate. He sees a lot of kids in court that haven't graduated from high school now. He also wondered if there was any other reason besides finances that we require students to carry a full load and attend their senior year. Juli Staszewski said we want students to be a part of the four-year process and remain involved in their senior year. Director Tupper thought this matter should be up to the parents to decide. Mr. Andrews said there are alternatives and those students can take college classes and move forward with credits in their senior year.

Dr. Schuerman said as a public school educator, he sees benefits with a well-organized K-12 system, and students who are 15 or 16 should be in school. We hope to have them for the full four years of high school and we can offer programs that will give them a better start as productive citizens. Director Tupper said he was looking at the exceptional students and felt we have taken away some choices for them. It is not in the current policy and although very good students leave after their third year, he didn't think we should take this option away from them.

Director Tupper also asked about the service learning programs and if the administration will get back to the Board about this. Mrs. Staszewski said a committee is studying service learning opportunities but they have not finalized the details. Director Tupper thought there might be some students who would want to talk with the committee on this matter. President Zamora said there will always be exceptions that come along and the administration will handle this. There were additional questions about being careful with bending rules, hearing about study tables, credit recovery classes, and opportunities for implementation to make this successful. Dr. Schuerman said he understood Director Tupper's concerns and policies are not meant to be broken. We have intelligent people in our district and the policy may have to be waived under certain circumstances. Director Tupper said then the junior who already has 26 credits might be able to apply for a waiver. Dr. Schuerman said whether they remain in school or not, that instance may occur and the administration will consider the situation.

Mr. Andrews said the students have figured this out long ago and they could drop courses but still graduate with only 20 units. They will now have to step up to the plate and work at getting 26 units to graduate. President Zamora asked about service learning and how the board members can have input. Mrs. Staszewski said people can call her office and they will listen to ideas. Dr. Schuerman asked if the student board members had thoughts on this area, maybe they could attend the meetings to have input. President Zamora said our student board members were probably way ahead in their credits anyway.

ACTION: The vote on the motion to make revisions in the Graduation Policy Requirements was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Clewell, Roberson, Tupper, Johanson, DeFauw, Guard, and Zamora. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. 21st Century After-School Programs

Roger Fuerstenberg, Coordinator of Community Education, and John Border, After School Project Manager presented an overview of the current status of our After School program at ten buildings. The presentation highlighted the successes and also provided possible strategies for the future. Mr. Fuerstenberg said the grant will be finished by the end of May 2005. There were 1200 students in the program last year and there are no funding plans for continuation of after-school or summer programs. He has been meeting with the instructional support staff, Mr. Andrews, and Mrs. Reynolds and they have been talking with principals.

Mr. Fuerstenberg talked about benchmarks and the model created at J. B. Young Intermediate School. In 1999 they applied for funding and the money allowed for paying the teachers which eased up on the community burden. We received \$2 million for three years and we stretched this into a fourth year but we can't carry over any funds now. Ten programs were funded at different buildings in our district and although we have applied to the State, we have not been successful in getting additional funding. Cassie Ehrecke and John Border were the liaisons for the 21st Century Grant.

John Border talked with the Board about his experiences in the Stepping Stones after-school programs. He recognized the site facilitators from the various buildings for their work. The broad goals in the program were to provide a safe and caring environment, have homework support, share information about substance abuse, and provide community enrichment activities for students. There is an academic focus included in the program and a large percentage of the students improve their grades. The connection with

teachers was important because they could make observations that helped with the classroom work.

The reports showed 87% of the students improved their attendance at school, 78% improved their homework assignments, and 81% improved with getting along with each other. There is a Continuous Improvement Process for After School (CIPAS) tool to help people get the most out of planning and action steps to take. This will be our strategic plan, and involves self assessment and visits from experts who will look at seven areas. Mr. Border talked more about the CIPAS action checklist and invited a former student from Monroe to share comments about after school services.

The student told the Board how people are there who cared about them and they provided a safe environment when students are at school. The morning program got her off on the right start to the day and she got help with homework. It was fun learning and they had breakfast together. After school we finished homework, had games in the gym, worked with computers and games. If the parents were at work, they didn't have to take off time to get their kids from school so early. It was safe and good place to learn. If the grants could keep this going, it would be good. She said most of the kids have trouble with bullies, but in the morning program, they learn this is the toughest time in our lives and we have to face up to bullies even when we can't do anything about them. We are safe in the program and we have something to do after school.

The parent talked about the last couple of years at Monroe and the special needs of students. The teachers were able to address the concerns and she saw test scores go up. With a safe environment being addressed, the children's minds can absorb the materials and do so much better. Her child was now making all A's and B's and she wants to learn. The school helps with truancy issues and the students eat breakfast together. She hoped there would be businesses that could assist with the programs offered at the schools. With the changes in the high school graduation requirements, the students will need help with their work. She felt this will help students with their achievement in high school when they have to carry a full load. The day for the students goes from 8 AM until 5:30 PM and she never hears any complaints from her child.

President Zamora told Mary everyone was very proud of her and appreciated the presentation. Mr. Fuerstenberg said they have applied for two grants unsuccessfully but they were waiting for the legislators to establish a sub committee that could assist them. Together we can work on strategic planning ideas and have community involvement with an advisory counsel working at engaging more people in our area. We are sharing a development list with principals on potential resources.

Patsy Meeker read the NPTA resolution regarding After-School Programs and PTA President Janelle Weinstein talked about the benefits found in these programs for students. They brought a program to Eisenhower, but additional

students would use it if it was more affordable. The after-school programs give a peace of mind for parents and the parental support is there. The after-school programs are accomplishing their goals of safety, achievement, increased attendance and graduation rates. We must continue to seek ways to provide these programs for our students.

Mr. Fuerstenberg talked about programs at Adams and Harrison from the YMCA, a program at Washington, and the Boys and Girls Clubs, but those programs have fees involved. He talked with the Board about their invitation to attend two after-school program events on October 14 “National Lights On” and the breakfast October 26 for the kick-off for the Continuous Improvement Process for Afterschool (CIPAS).

Ethel Reynolds said that Roger Fuerstenberg gives accolades to other people for all their work, but he has been a champion for after-school and community programs. He is a real leader in working in the area of being a supporter for children and should be recognized for his involvement and dedication. The Board applauded Mr. Fuerstenberg and thanked him for his work.

Director Roberson said when “Mary” talked about the after-school programs, her words said it all. We must find a way to support them and raise the bar for our students. He told the staff to keep up the good work. Director Tupper asked about the costs per year for running the programs. Mr. Fuerstenberg said they spend about \$80,000/site up to \$100,000/site. The community partners in this and provides other needed resources. When we started a few years ago, it was easier for them to put in the resources, but it was difficult to get the teachers for the programs. With the grants, the funding supported the teachers’ salaries, but now it is difficult to get enough resources because we have ten sites instead of just one. They want to serve, but we need many more to help. Director Tupper thanked everyone for their work and also for Mary talking to the Board.

Director Guard asked if it would be of value if they presented these stories at the Rotary or Kiwanis so people in our community and business leaders would hear about this first hand? You are the diplomas for the program and this community will buy in when they hear the positive results from the students. Mr. Fuerstenberg said they all appreciated the support from the Board.

B. Kindergarten through Fifth Grade Pilot Report Cards

Juli Staszewski and Gary Sloat presented information on the report cards being used in the K-5 Pilot Program. A committee has been working on the elementary school report cards and four schools are on a pilot program. The report cards were at the open houses for parents to view and are also at the conferences. We sat down with our teachers and talked about documentation to support the report card using electronic means.

The Board had an opportunity to review the different report cards at each grade level and learn how the pilot program worked for reporting student progress in Kindergarten to Fifth grade. The format and styles were similar and the differences were explained for the pilot programs. Director Guard asked about alignment with the benchmarks, and Mrs. Staszewski said this was based on the standards and benchmarks needed in the district. They learned about the marks showing “E” for exceeding grade level expectations; “M” for meeting grade level expectations; and “N” for needing more help or time. In the fifth grade there are some letter grades that help prepare the students for middle school grading.

Director Clewell especially liked the Skills for Life areas on the back of the report cards. Mrs. Staszewski said the parents keep getting updates on grade level expectations. Director Guard talked about Madison and how the report cards were introduced at a PTA meeting. He felt it makes sense and was very supportive. He thanked the technology people for their work on this reporting system setup.

Mrs. Staszewski said there will be issues through the year they will need to monitor and the teachers will need to keep track of things differently. Director Guard said he heard from teachers that they liked the free form comments section under the Skills for Life area.

C. Innovative Calendar Waiver for Children’s Village Sites for 2005-2006

Rita Watts explained the process for receiving a waiver from the State for continuation of the innovative program calendars for the Children's Village Sites at Hoover, Hayes, and Children’s Village West. The waiver request has to be filed by November 1 of the preceding school year. The request may include a list of the savings and goals to be attained under the innovative school year. The Board is required to hold a public hearing on any proposal for innovative program calendars prior to submitting the continuation waiver request to the Department of Education. The innovative calendar applies to the Children's Village Sites at Hoover, Hayes, and Children’s Village West. The public hearing will be held on October 25, 2004 at the beginning of the Regular Board meeting.

D. District-Wide Innovative Calendar Waiver for 2005-2006

Rita Watts answered questions regarding the need to make a request for a district-wide waiver for our Innovative Calendar that will be equivalent to the State's requirement of 180 school days or 57,600 minutes of instruction. The Department of Education has granted our waivers in the past for 176 days of instruction and two conference days. She said the waiver needs to be approved by the Department of Education as required by law and a public hearing will be needed. The public hearing is scheduled for October 25, 2004 at the beginning of the next regular board meeting to allow for community input the district-wide innovative calendar.

E. School Finance and Budgeting Discussion Series – Session 2

CFO Marsha Tangen continued with the second session of a discussion series on school finance and budgeting issues that began September 27, 2004. She wanted to make sure the Board had a thorough understanding of the budget because they have to make tough decisions based on finances. She reviewed the first session and then talked about Enrollment as the primary factor in determining a schools' spending authority. The Board heard about resident pupils and certified enrollment as well as weighted enrollment for special education. Director Guard asked if we received enough additional money to cover the costs of special education. Mrs. Tangen responded that we don't receive enough and there was a \$1.2 million deficit for special education for the 2003-04 year. Dr. Schuerman said this was an eye-opener for people but it was not only happening in Iowa. Based on the State formula, here is a problem. Mrs. Tangen talked about the special education weighting which is determined on December 1 each year and the foundation formula is one-year behind.

The Board would start on page 6 at point #3 for the next discussion on school finance and budgeting. The Board also had an opportunity to look at the certified enrollment summary page and questions were answered on some of the numbers. Director Tupper noted our enrollment was down 1% but the non-public enrollment was down about 5%. He asked when the Board would be provided with the individual building counts because they will need this to make financial decisions. Mrs. Reynolds said they could provide this for the Board if they needed it.

Dr. Schuerman asked if there were any questions on this material and Director Johanson had questions about specifics for special education weighting and how we determine which students go into which group. Mrs. Tangen will provide additional information on definitions developed by the State Department for weighting areas. She said the IEP determines which program the student falls in and there is specific criteria used to develop the IEP. Director Guard said the weighting determinations are made in Des Moines and the local school board is not contacted. Dr. Schuerman said this is a political issue with other school boards in the state. If you improve the formula, we have to get the money from some place and that might come from the regular education students. Mrs. Tangen also talked about the process for getting additional funding for special education through the SBRC. We can levy \$500,000 in cash reserve and we apply on-line for this, but we don't have to use the same process as we need for the ESL and Open Enrollment allowable growth. We have a November 1 deadline where we can apply for special education deficit funding.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE AND INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS

There were no additional administrative reports. Dr. Schuerman asked the Board to read their packets carefully and if they have questions, to call him.

There will be a Special Call Board Goal Workshop on Monday, October 18, 2004 starting at 6:00 PM at the John Deere Davenport Works facility in Mt. Joy. Dr. Schuerman will facilitate the workshop for developing board goals for the year.

VIII. BOARD REPORTS AND REQUESTS

1. Director Tupper Request for Information – Request for follow-up from the administration on prior requests for academic achievement data.
2. Director Tupper Request for Information—Request for “Y” utilization for 2003-2004 school year by students including dates and times of use, number of students for each use, and type of use.
Dr. Schuerman said he had an in-depth meeting with Mr. Klipsch from the Y and talked about the area of utilization and collaboration, as well as problems and issues which will be going to the Executive Directors of the Y. They had a good discussion and he believes some issues will be discussed at the YMCA committee level and President Zamora will be attending this with our staff.
3. Director DeFauw Request for Information—What is the status of securing an objective third party to discuss the advantages and disadvantages of creating a merged collective bargaining agreement?
4. Director Clewell Request for Information—In 2002 the DCS Board voted to eliminate the 2.0 GPA for participation in extra curricular activities. In lieu of the 2.0 GPA, a lower standard was approved. The last up date from the administration on the effect of study tables was in the Fall 2002. He requested a status report be given to the Board on the dynamics of GPA since inception.
5. President Zamora announced that three board members were receiving the IASB Better Boardsmanship Award this year—Richard Clewell, Alan Guard, and Larry Roberson. We are very proud of all of them and the awards will be given out at the IASB convention in November.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Tupper moved the Board adjourn. Director Guard seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was called and recorded by consensus, all ayes.
President Zamora declared the meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM.

Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary