

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AUGUST 11, 2008

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the counties of Scott and Muscatine met in open session for their Regular Board Meeting on Monday, August 11, 2008, 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 7:00 PM.

The following board members were present: President Patt Zamora; Directors Richard Clewell; Nikki DeFauw, Ken Krumwiede, Larry Roberson, and Tim Tupper. Director Ralph Johanson arrived at 7:20 PM and joined the others at the board table. Superintendent Julio Almanza and other administrators were present for the meeting.

BOARD GOAL, OBJECTIVES, PRIORITIES 2007-2008

Director Clewell read the board goal: "The Davenport School Board will actively support the efforts of the superintendent, district, staff, and families to ensure continuous student achievement for all students." Director Clewell said the Board would be looking at collaborative efforts with the Region IX Tech Prep agreement between our District, EICC, and North Scott to help with education in the trades for our students. President Zamora noted we were working toward our goals, objectives, and priorities this year.

COMMUNICATIONS

I. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Wednesday, August 13, @ 6:30 PM, Local School Improvement Advisory Committee, Administration Service Center, Jim Hester Board Room
- B. Thursday, August 21 – First day of Traditional School Calendar
- C. Monday, August 25 @ 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting
- D. Open Forum – There were two requests to speak at this time.

Brian Nauman is the President of the Advisory Group, 528 East 38th Street, Davenport. He addressed the Board about the new 403(b) regulations and possible options. His company was a local business who had helped with investments over the last 20 years. The Board had another choice than just using the State plan recommended. They can use a local plan. There are viable alternatives to the plan proposed by the State and he provided information about Great American Plan. He didn't work for this company, but they would manage all the requirements at no cost. This group has provided service for over 14 years and there were over 700 businesses using them to manage 403(b) regulations. The State plan does not mention liability or have a hold-harmless agreement. The State plan makes the employer responsible for calculations on contributions each year. The Great American Plan will monitor all the regulations and requirements at no cost to the district or employees. The local plan will allow more choices for employees. They can be ready to go on this within 30 days. Please consider other options than just using the State Plan for the 403 (b) changes.

Clyde Mayfield, 430 West 16th, Davenport, asked to talk to the Board about Lincoln School changes. He saw this on the agenda and wanted to have an opportunity for community input into what was happening at Lincoln. He was familiar with Lincoln as a fundamental school and he had concerns about the fact the community hasn't been more involved in what was going on at the school. Before the Board decides to make changes, he wanted the public to have time to discuss this matter. The school has not performed as well as it did in the past. There are reasons but it hasn't been discussed as far as he knows. He would like to be placed on the agenda to discuss this in public at a board meeting and have a dialog about the issues at Lincoln. There are people who have opinions about this but they don't get to talk. He spoke about minority students and trying to find something to help them learn, but we haven't been successful. We are not achieving our goals. He wants to talk about the students and better ways to help them learn. We need to discuss programs that are working and have a track record of success. He hoped the Board would allow him time on the agenda to talk about this matter.

CONSENT AGENDA

II. 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 Annual and Regular board meeting and the Committee of the Whole were presented for approval as follows: Annual and Regular Meeting July 14, 2008 and Committee of the Whole August 4, 2008.

B. Secretary's Monthly Financial Report

It was recommended the Secretary's monthly report of receipts and disbursements of the various funds for the period ending June 30, 2008 be approved.

C. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, Leaves, Etc.

APPOINTMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Behmetuik, Scott Social Studies Central High	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Bennett, Andrew Science North High	Degree: B.S. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Bracey, Connie Counselor Blue Grass/Lincoln	Degree: B.A. – Step 4 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$31,395.00

Butz, Cheryl Special Education – BD Wood Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Carlson, Bridget Special Education – BD Wood Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Child, Shannan Counselor/Interventionist Washington Elementary	Degree: M.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 6, 2008 Salary: \$31,395.00
Dean, Jennifer Science Smart Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Douthart, Steve Special Education – BD Sudlow Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Falk-Johnson, Pamela Special Education – BD West High	Degree: M.A. – Step 11 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$46,410.00
Gray, Melanie Science Smart Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Hargrave-VanHoutan, Kathy Special Education – BD Young Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Haessig, Heidi Grade 2 McKinley Elementary	Degree: B.A. – Step 2 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$28,665.00
Henn, Kiersten Preschool (floating) CV Sites	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 11, 2008 Salary: \$31,727.03 (215 days)
Hanna, Shawn Special Education North High	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$23,700.00
Lincoln, Randal Business KCAE – East	Degree: M.S. – Step 11 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$45,045.00
Marotti, Elizabeth Special Education – Preschool Children’s Village West	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$30,727.12 prorated to \$29,365.94 (199 of 215 days)
Miller, Devin Special Education – BD Lincoln Academy	Degree: B.A. – Step 4 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$31,395.00

Newton, Heather Special Education Williams Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Schelin-White, Theresa TIC/Academic Strategist Jefferson Elementary	Degree: M.A. + 30 – Step 11 Effective: August 6, 2008 Salary: \$47,775.00
Schlichting, Christopher Industrial Tech Young Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Swanson, Elizabeth Preschool (floating) CV Sites	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 11, 2008 Salary: \$31,727.03 (215 days)
Swanson-Whalen, Rachel Grade 4 Washington Elementary	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 6, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Viel, Carrie Language Arts Central High	Degree: B.A. – Step 3 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$30,030.00
Wadsiger, Lindsay Preschool Children’s Village Monroe	Degree: B.A. – Step 3 Effective: August 11, 2008 Salary: \$34,899.66 prorated to \$30,354.65 (187 of 215 days)
Waszczuk-Falcon, Damaris Spanish/World Language Williams Intermediate	Degree: M.A. – Step 8 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$40,950.00

CORRECTION TO 6/9/08 BOARD MINUTES

McGuire, Thomas Science KCAE – East	Degree: B.S. – Step 1 Step 2 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00 \$28,665.00
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APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Camplese, Angela Para Educator Children’s Village West	Effective: July 21, 2008 Salary: \$9.90/hr Hours: 6.25 hrs/day
Christenson, Kelli FNS Worker Smart Intermediate	Effective: August 11, 2008 Salary: \$8.21/hr Hours: 3.5 hrs/day
Causey, Cary Para Educator Children’s Village West/KCAE	Effective: August 14, 2008 Salary: \$9.90/hr Hours: 8.0 hrs/day

Estlund, Layla Para Educator Children's Village Buchanan	Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$9.90/hr Hours: 6.25 hrs/day
Johnson, Anthony Para Educator Lincoln Academy	Effective: August 21, 2008 Salary: \$11.75/hr Hours: 6.5 hrs/day
Pham, Huong Vietnamese Cultural Liaison ASC	Effective: August 11, 2008 Salary: \$12.50/hr Hours: 7.5 hrs/day

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Behmetuik, Scott Assistant Varsity Football Central High	12% \$3,198.00
Belz, Gene Assistant Sophomore Football West High	10% \$2,665.00
Breinich, Elizabeth Intramurals Truman Elementary	6% \$1,599.00
Broadie, Dave Sophomore Football West High	12% \$3,198.00
Ehlinger, Brian Assistant Sophomore Football Central High	10% \$2,665.00
Haley, Meredith Pom Pom Coach Central High	7% \$1,866.00
Hanson, Tara Girls' Varsity Swimming Central High	14% \$3,731.00
Johnson, Eric Intramurals West High	7% \$1,866.00
Johnson, Eric Assistant Sophomore Football West High	10% \$2,665.00
Jones, Mike Assistant 9 th Grade Football West High	8% \$2,132.00

Kurtz, Matthew 9 th Grade Football West High	9% \$2,399.00
Pearson, Brent Sophomore Football Central High	12% \$3,198.00
Porter, James Assistant Varsity Football Central High	12% \$3,198.00
Rangel, Juan Assistant Sophomore Football Central High	10% \$2,665.00
Rommel, Tara Event Manager (.5) West High	10% \$1,332.50
Schelin-White, Theresa Teacher-In-Charge Jefferson Elementary	15% \$3,998.00
Thissen, Gregory Intramurals Young Intermediate	8% \$2,132.00
Valant, Richard Assistant Varsity Football Central High	12% \$3,198.00
Viel, Carrie All School Play Central High	7% \$1,866.00

RETIREMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Christiansen, Lynn Industrial Tech Central High	Effective: July 23, 2008 Years of Service: 21 yrs 8 mos
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RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CERTIFICATED

Feller, Melissa Special Education – BD Wood Intermediate	Effective: July 28, 2008 Years of Service: 10 yrs
Heeter, Todd Social Studies Central High	Effective: June 8, 2008 Years of Service: 3 yrs 10 mos

Nicoletto, Sara
Spanish
Williams Intermediate

Effective: July 22, 2008
Years of Service: 1 yr 11 mos

Sanders, Keith
Physical Ed
Blue Grass Elementary

Effective: August 5, 2008
Years of Service: 10 yrs 11 mos

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Bell, Kimberly
Para Educator
Harrison Elementary

Effective: August 1, 2008
Years of Service: 1 yr 10 mos

Bloomer, Catherine
Para Educator
Wood Intermediate

Effective: August 4, 2008
Years of Service: 19 yrs 11 mos

Brotherson, Deborah
Para Educator
Garfield Elementary

Effective: August 4, 2008
Years of Service: 12 yrs 11 mos

Daniels, Leah
Para Educator
West High

Effective: July 16, 2008
Years of Service: 9 months

Ganfield, Darinda
Para Educator
LOA

Effective: August 1, 2008
Years of Service: 1 yr 10 mos

Lantzky, Katherine
Para Educator
Garfield Elementary

Effective: August 1, 2008
Years of Service: 4 yrs 5 mos

Lonstein, Bonnie
Para Educator
Washington Elementary

Effective: August 22, 2008
Years of Service: 4 yrs 11 mos

Lybeck, Bonnie
Para Educator
Wood Intermediate

Effective: July 28, 2008
Years of Service: 10 yrs 10 mos

McNeal, Crystal
Para Educator
Child's Play Day Care Center

Effective: July 31, 2008
Years of Service: 1 yr 9 mos

O'Brien, Sarah
Para Educator
Jefferson Elementary

Effective: July 30, 2008
Years of Service: 1 yr 10 mos

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Berning, Ryan 9 th Grade Wrestling Central High	8% \$2,087.00
Cross, Darryl Assistant 7 th Grade Football Williams Intermediate	7% \$1,826.00
Cross, Darryl Assistant Intermediate Co-Ed Track Williams Intermediate	5% \$1,305.00
Hanson, Tara Girl's Assistant Varsity Swimming Central High	10% \$2,609.00
Jager, Jeff Sophomore Baseball West High	10% \$2,665.00
Sanders, Keith Intramurals Blue Grass Elementary	6% \$1,599.00
Tritt, Brian Boys' Sophomore Basketball West High	12% \$3,198.00

RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

DeRoin, Debra Math Sudlow Intermediate	Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$49,140.00
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LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Dowell, Kandice Para Educator LOA	Extension of Unpaid Leave of Absence Effective: May 3, 2008 – August 20, 2008
Henson, Carol Lead Para Educator Children's Village West	Extension of Unpaid Leave of Absence Effective: August 4, 2008 – August 26, 2008
Hamilton, Yvonne Clerk II Administration Service Center	Leave of Absence without Pay Effective: August 12, 2008 – August 11, 2009

RETURNS FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Dowell, Kandice Para Educator KCAE	Effective: August 21, 2008 Salary: \$11.75/hr Hours: 6.5 hrs/day
Groenbeck, Kathy Para Educator Children's Village Hayes	Effective: August 21, 2008 Salary: \$9.90/hr Hours: 7.25 hrs/day
Vastine, Jana Head Cook Smart Intermediate	Effective: July 28, 2008 Salary: \$11.14/hr Hours: 8.0 hrs/day

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

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

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS

III. APPROVAL OF BILLS

A resolution was recommended by the Administration for adoption of the bills from two bill listing periods: July 10, 2008 through August 6, 2008.

MOTION: Director Roberson moved the approval of the resolution: 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 the exception of three voided checks, #00250235 Dean A. Bunting, MD for \$388.40; #00250260 for Hy Vee for \$91.70; and #00250521 General Asphalt Construction for \$1,100. (The lists covered two periods from July 10 to August 6, 2008.) Director Tupper seconded the motion.

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

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

IV. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. BOARD SECRETARY/TREASURER'S SALARY & BENEFITS 2008-2009

A recommendation was made regarding the Board Secretary/Treasurer's salary and benefits.

MOTION: Director Roberson moved approval of a salary and benefits package for Board Secretary/Treasurer Linda Smith Kortemeyer for the 2008-2009 school year, as reviewed in a previous closed session. Director De Fauw seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Roberson, De Fauw, Krumwiede, Clewell, Tupper, and Zamora. The motion carried unanimously. (The package was for 4.30% which included salary and benefits computed for 2008-2009. A copy of the details will be included in the minutes of record.)

B. LINCOLN ACADEMY OF INTEGRATED ARTS CHARTER DISSOLUTION

The administration recommended dissolving the charter at Lincoln Academy of Integrated Arts.

MOTION: Director Krumwiede moved the Board approve the recommended resolution dissolving the charter at Lincoln Academy of Integrated Arts as follows:

WHEREAS, Lincoln Fundamental School was converted to charter status as Lincoln Academy of Integrated Arts commencing with the 2005-06 school year, under Iowa Public Charter School Code of Iowa 1124 Charter Schools 256 F 1.

WHEREAS, the purpose of a charter schools established pursuant to Chapter 1124 shall be to accomplish the following:

- Improve student learning
- Increase learning opportunities for students
- Encourage the use of different and innovative methods of teaching
- Require the measurement of learning outcomes and create different and innovative forms of measuring outcomes
- Establish new forms of accountability for schools
- Create new professional opportunities for teacher and other educators, including the opportunity to be responsible for the learning program at the school site.

WHEREAS, this charter was supported by the Iowa State Board of Education, in conjunction with the Iowa Department of Education as well as the Davenport Community School District Board of Directors for four years with the option for renewal after that period.

WHEREAS, the ultimate goal was to create a sustainable model for Lincoln Academy that supported its mission: Lincoln Academy, in collaboration with parents, arts partners and the larger community, will engage the whole child through challenging and academic, arts-infused learning in a safe and positive environment.

WHEREAS, a sustainable model is in place that will:

- Keep the name Lincoln Academy of Integrated Arts
- Incorporate all the charter goals and indicators
- Support Lincoln's mission
- Provide transportation to any qualified family who wishes to attend as outlined in the original charter plan.

WHEREAS, the State is no longer providing financial or technical support for the charter as outlined in the original charter plan.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board supports the dissolution of the Iowa Public Charter School Agreement between the Iowa State Board of Education, Des Moines, Iowa and Davenport Community School District Board of Education, Davenport, Iowa.

Director Clewell seconded the motion.

Vice President Roberson mentioned this was discussed at the Committee of the Whole and he didn't have a complete answer to his question about what happened to the original fundamental school. He wanted to be certain we were debriefing what worked in the past. There was a waiting list to get into Lincoln Fundamental because of the curriculum and kids were learning to read and write. He hoped the administration would take his ideas and track what was appealing when Lincoln was a fundamental school.

President Zamora added that Lincoln won't change unless we find a better way to teach children. This was just a change in the "charter" for the school. Before it became a charter school, there was all-day kindergarten and that was a draw for people. Then other schools offered all-day kindergarten and the numbers on a waiting list went down. Mrs. Reynolds added the population also changed in the area and there were different needs now. She agreed we needed to look at the school and have conversations with the community.

Vice President Roberson said he never heard people say they went there because of all-day kindergarten. It was because of the good curriculum being offered and discipline. President Zamora asked if Lincoln was still using the same curriculum but adding an arts influence. Mrs. Reynolds said they were not using "Disstar" any longer but had changed to the "Treasurers Program" like other schools.

Director Tupper appreciated the data on achievement about Lincoln but he needed more information on other schools. Superintendent Almanza responded the request was specifically for achievement data on the group of students who had consistently attended Lincoln over the past three years. Director Tupper talked about getting data from others buildings and how that would be useful to him in making decisions about the school. Having a history of data was always useful so the Board could see patterns and progress.

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

C. DISTRICT'S 403(b) TRANSITION PLAN RESOLUTION

The administration recommended approval of a resolution for the 403(b) transition plan. (A copy of the resolution and Memorandum of Agreement will be included in the minutes of record.)

NOTE: Director Ralph Johanson arrived at 7:20 PM and was able to participate in the remainder of the action and discussion matters.

MOTION: Director De Fauw moved the following resolution be approved regarding the Memorandum of Agreement entered into by the District's representative and the employee organization(s) representatives, and that the Board approves the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement, and approves the District joining the State of Iowa sponsored 403(b) plan:

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 66 of SF 2424 the Davenport Community School District must reach agreement by August 15, 2008 with the District's organizations representing school district employees who are eligible to participate in the plan concerning the District's 403(b) transition plan.

WHEREAS, the District's designed representative has engaged in discussions and negotiations with the organization(s) representing District employees who are eligible to participate in the 403(b) plan and the District representative and employee organization(s) representatives have mutually agreed that it is in the best interests of the District's 403(b) plan participants that the District join the State of Iowa sponsored 403(b) plan.

WHEREAS, the District and employee organizations(s) have prepared and executed a written Memorandum of Agreement to memorialize this agreement, which shall remain in effect until an amended and/or substituted Memorandum of Agreement is negotiated and agreed upon by the District and the employee organizations(s).

NOW, THEREFORE, having reviewed the Memorandum of Agreement entered into by the District's representative and the employee organizations(s) representatives, the Board approves the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement and approves the District joining the State of Iowa sponsored 403(b) plan.

Director Tupper seconded the motion.

Director Tupper said he reviewed a report provided by the administration, and it talked about in the additional information section that, "Another concern of local vendors is that employees won't be able to keep their money in their chosen mutual fund. However, ING has a self-directed brokerage account through Ameritrade. That allows employees to invest in many thousands of mutual funds. If they are in mutual funds now, they will likely be able to invest in the same funds." Mrs. Tangen said that was correct information.

Vice President Roberson asked about all the employee groups getting together and agreeing this was in the best interest of their employees. Mrs. Tangen said she met with Ty Cutcomb from AFSCME and Linda Schneider from the Teachers Union DEA and presented information they took back to the bargaining groups. They signed off on the memorandums of agreement.

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

D. TEACHER QUALITY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP 2008-2009

The administration recommended names for the Teacher Quality Committee for 2008-09.

MOTION: Director Clewell moved approval of the administration's recommendation for the following individuals to serve as members of the Davenport School District Teacher Quality Committee for 2008-2009: Juli Staszewski; Linda McClurg; Kathleen Learn; Scott McKissick; Tom Green. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion.

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

C. REGION IX TECH-PREP REGIONAL CONSORTIUM 28-E AGREEMENT

The Superintendent recommended the continuation of the Region IX Tech-Prep Regional Consortium Agreement.

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board approve the Superintendent's recommendation for continuation of the Region IX Tech-Prep Regional Consortium Agreement for 2008-2009 between Eastern Iowa Community College District (EICCD) and the Davenport Community School District as reviewed. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

Director Tupper said it was his understanding this was a home building program. Mr. Almanza said the agreement included DCSD and North Scott in the program and it was a way to cut costs of building. There were questions about the number of students actually involved in the program. Dr. O'Melia didn't have those figures but would provide that to the Board as soon as possible.

Director Clewell talked about meeting with the Quad City Board of Realtors. They expressed a strong interest with this program and they want to be involved with the process. Mr. Almanza said the Board of Realtors was not paying for the expenses of building the home but they did support the program. The actual project is in the hands of the two districts. Director Krumwiede felt this was the best kept secret in the school district. We should have more information presented to the Board and a report from the group on building a home. It goes on every year and then the home is sold. During the open house we should recognize the program and honor the students working on the project.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. BOARD POLICY REVISIONS

Director Johanson from the Board Policy Committee led a discussion on revisions and reviews being considered for changes in the following policies. The Board went through each policy and revisions being recommended. They made comments about each policy and added thoughts about how the policies work and are used. The discussion included the following policies:

- #402.16 Guest Teachers (formerly Substitute Teachers)
- #506.01 Collection of Money from Students
- #506.02 Activity Funds
- #601.02 School Calendar
- #602.14 Co-curricular Activities
- #602.16 Student Home Construction Remodeling Program
- #602.20 United States Flag
- #603.02 Field Trips (Study Trips)

There were questions about how changes were made, who made the revisions, if people had input into the process for revision, involving staff in the conversations, and how follow up was done on procedures. Who was responsible for doing follow up and making sure the policies were being followed? Mrs. Tangen provided information about the policies dealing with finances and the Board had received a handbook on handling cash in the schools. She assured the Board her staff was responsible for the regulations being followed for deposits and handling money. The superintendent also talked about audits done and reviewing guidelines.

There was a lot of discussion on Policy 601.02 School Calendar and it was recommended as being "reviewed with further consideration" because of the possibility of changes in the calendar later this year. According to President Zamora the Iowa Code said decisions about the school calendar were in the hands of the Board as to whether we have a traditional, balanced, or common calendar.

Board members talked about the calendars we currently have in the district including a balanced calendar and traditional calendar; and there was discussion about the possibility of developing a common calendar for all buildings. The Board talked about the best ways to get input into the selection of calendars from the public. There were different opinions on the process to collect data and when to get responses from parents, staff, and students on this matter. They all wanted the public to have an opportunity for input. Director Clewell felt the Board should make a recommendation first and then see how the public responded. Other board members disagreed and felt that gave the impression the Board had already made up their mind on a calendar.

There were concerns about asking teachers to collect this information during the parent-teacher conferences and whether they could give accurate facts about the various calendars we use. This wouldn't be the best use of their time during the conferences either. There were suggestions about having a survey and asking people to give their thoughts on benefits and detriments to having different calendars. That would give the Board guidance in their decisions later on the calendar. There were concerns the Board wants to use one process to get input from the public for the vision, and now on this matter they want to use another process. We need to be consistent on what we are doing and how we are talking with the public about their ideas.

There were other questions on policies about co-curricular activities and having a definition of what this meant and if the Board actually approved these events. There were comments about the value of the home building construction policy and again about getting more information about the number of students involved. Board members wondered if more students knew about the project, they might want to become involved in the trade classes. Director Krumwiede was concerned if we don't talk more about this construction project, there might be a move to take it to another location than having it built in Davenport. We need to make sure we share the information on this project. Dr. O'Melia said she is following up with Betty Griffin who will be able to give a report to the Board at another time.

There was input about the field trip/study trip policy. One of the Policy Committee members felt we needed to drop the title "field trips" and call the policy "study trips" to give a better understanding of the purpose of the outings. These trips need to be educational in nature and not just time for fun. There was disagreement about this by other board members who felt there were opportunities for students to go out of the schools and explore new things. They were learning while having fun and the name change would not be in the best interest of the students. The term "field trip" has been around for a long time and it wasn't recommended we change the name just to be politically correct or try to make a point that wasn't needed. Director Krumwiede said teachers have been calling these study trips for a long time and we needed to change to keep this up-to-date and on track with the purpose we have in mind. The goal is student achievement and they need to know they will be learning on the trips. That was why we spend the money for trips. Most of the board members wanted to have the name remain as "field trips". The current policy uses both terms and can remain with the same name without change.

B. BANK CONFIRMATIONS/DEPOSITORY BALANCES JUNE 30, 2008

Board Treasurer Linda Smith Kortemeyer presented a report on bank confirmations and depository balances in accordance with Board Policy 304.02 Treasurer's Annual Report. She said information was collected regarding the District's designed depositories and the cash or investment balances were confirmed by the depositories showing balances at the end of the fiscal year as of June 30, 2008.

According to the policy, as Treasurer Mrs. Smith-Kortemeyer was required to make an annual report to the Board at the first regular meeting in August. There were notes about how some banks had not sent back verifications; however, those banks did not have any deposits listed in our financial statements. Mrs. Smith-Kortemeyer would inform the Board as soon as other statements were received showing verification or she would have the auditing company follow-up. There was a note about one confirmation which did not include the interest earned. It was explained due to our modified accrual method, we record the interest earned as of a specific date. The interest showed on the statement from the bank as of July 1 and not on June 30.

All accounts were balanced and in accordance with figures shown on the financial report for the end of the fiscal year. A final and updated report will be included in the minutes of record. Director Tupper expressed his appreciation for the work involved in gathering this information and reporting the details annually to the Board.

C. APPOINTMENT OF LEGAL COUNSEL

The Board took time to discussion the annual appointment of the District's legal counsel. President Zamora noted although costs were up, we have had a lot of important legal work to handle. Mr. Almanza talked about being proactive and keeping people informed ahead of time. There were a number of significant cases and we have been happy with the results. We have had work with the State on issues dealing with our diversity plan/open enrollment. We also had an interrogatory appeal and we won. President Zamora said they had considerable amounts of work to handle this year and there was a lot of preparation needed to be successful. The appointment of Lane and Waterman as the official district legal counsel was planned for September.

D. APPOINTMENT OF TRUANCY OFFICER

The Board had an opportunity to discuss the annual appointment of the truancy officer and they gave their input on this topic. There were questions about the impact of the new positions of family liaison personnel for our buildings. Dr. O'Melia explained how those positions were designed to build positive community relations and work with families to engage them in activities and improve attendance at school.

The role of the truancy officer was at the other end when there may be negative consequences for families if the students do not come to school. Dr. O'Melia explained how she met with the family liaison people and had a very productive session. There is a lot of work with the students and we will look at educational and related matters. One of their duties is to help get students to school. The truancy officer will be a resource person for them. Director Roberson expressed his hopes everyone would work together and form a positive relationship with families. The truancy office appointment will be recommended for approval in September.

E. LONG-RANGE PLANS – INPUT FROM THE BOARD

President Zamora said board members were being given a second time to respond to the long-range plan presentation from the Committee of the Whole. The discussion was around the one-cent sales tax money. If anyone had additional thoughts on the process or what they wanted, this was the time to present the ideas. Vice President Roberson wanted a list of needs and wants from the buildings. Director Tupper wanted the criteria needed for the schools to be efficient and effective.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE & INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS/BOARD REQUESTS

There were no administrative reports.

VII. BOARD REPORTS

Director Clewell updated the Board about the Vision Process and how they met with 45 members of the District Leadership Team on August 1 and got some wonderful suggestions. We are pulling things together and have met with eight groups. We are on track to meet with the Local School Improvement Advisory Committee in October. We plan to present our analysis at the end of October to the Board for discussion. The LSIAC is a community group that will prepare the report and recommendations on the District vision.

Directors Clewell and Krumwiede would be attending the IASB Workshop on advocacy on August 13 in Marion at Linn-Mar School District.

Director De Fauw reminded people about the Barbara Coloroso event at North High on Monday, August 18 at 6:30 PM. The topic is, "Just because it isn't wrong, doesn't make it right." The event is free and open to the public.

Director De Fauw said on Tuesday, at 6 PM the Instrumental Boosters would hold an ice cream social with music provided by the jazz band and other bands and Whitey's ice cream being served.

Vice President Roberson thanked Mr. Mayfield for speaking at Open Forum today. This gentleman was an active member of the community and visits our schools regularly. Director Roberson encouraged other people to visit our schools and volunteer to help our students at improving student achievement.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board adjourn. Director Krumwiede seconded.

By consensus the Board agreed to adjourn.

President Zamora declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary