

REGULAR BOARD MEETING AUGUST 25, 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 25, 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, Ralph Johanson, Ken Krumwiede, Larry Roberson, and Tim Tupper. Superintendent Julio Almanza and other administrators were present for the meeting.

BOARD GOAL, OBJECTIVES, PRIORITIES 2007-2008

Director Krumwiede 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." He talked about the beginning of the school year and the teacher orientation session. We have new staff employed and it is an exciting year ahead. Director Krumwiede welcomed all the staff back to the District and noted it is the teacher who makes the difference in our classrooms.

COMMUNICATIONS

I. COMMUNICATIONS

- A. Tuesday, August 26, 3:45 PM, Legislative Advocacy Committee, Administration Service Center, Conference Room B (make-up meeting)
- B. Monday, September 1, **Labor Day Weekend Holiday – NO SCHOOL**
- C. Wednesday, September 3, 3:45 PM, Board Policy Committee, Administration Service Center, Conference Room B
- D. Monday, September 8, 5:30 PM, Committee of the Whole will be held in the Media Center at Fillmore Elementary School
- E. Tuesday, September 9 – SCHOOL BOARD ELECTION DAY
- F. Wednesday, September 10, 3:45 PM, Legislative Advocacy Committee, Administration Service Center, Conference Room B
- G. Monday, September 15, 7:00 PM, Organizational and Regular Board Meeting, Administration Service Center, Jim Hester Board Room
- H. Open Forum (There were two people who asked to speak.)
 - 1. Ruth Gallagher, 2049 West 1st Street, Davenport spoke about the change in how the District was handling funds from concessions at Brady Street Stadium and the lease cost of the stadium for Assumption football games. She said Assumption used the money they earned from concessions for equipment and uniforms for athletes. This money has been a part of their budget and it was not fair the District was going to get the money now. It was Davenport children who attend Assumption and the stadium should be for all of the children. Assumption shouldn't be penalized because their students

don't attend the Davenport District. Ms. Gallagher talked about the lease, security, and other charges for the stadium and that cuts into their budget for the children. These parents are also tax payers in Davenport and she didn't feel the new rules were justified.

2. Tom Mooney, 3430 Maplecrest Road, Bettendorf, explained he used to be the athletic director at Assumption and he objected to the charges to Assumption for use of the stadium. He was a part of the group who first put down the turf years ago and they contributed to the stadium at that time. He said the committee agreed to help with the turf and they were supposed to get some Friday night dates for games as part of the deal. They participated in the concession program for home games. They were supposed to get the profits from the games. He thought other districts worked with the Catholic schools to help with the costs for their games. He felt the cost of the lease was more than what was needed to pay for the janitors and lights during a game. The Davenport District should not be making a profit from the games Assumption plays. He didn't know what had happened to the agreement they had ten years ago, but this was certainly different.

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 last regular board meeting on August 11, 2008 were recommended for approval as presented.

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

APPOINTMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Correction to 7/14/08 Board Agenda

Cronkleton, Brian Science Smart Intermediate	Degree: TBD M.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 August 20, 2008 Salary: TBD \$31,395.00 prorated to \$31,055.59 (183 of 185 days)
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Driscoll, Jenna Kindergarten Lincoln Academy	Degree: B.A. – Step 2 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$28,665.00
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Easton, Jennifer Kindergarten Eisenhower Elementary	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
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Gray, Melanie Science Smart Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00 prorated to \$27,004.86 (183 of 185 days)
Hintermeister, Lindsey 3, 4, 5 Yr Old Children's Village West	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$31,727.03 prorated to \$29,365.95 (199 or 215 days)
Kaiser, April Social Studies Central High	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 20, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Kisner, Janice Nurse (.74) Sudlow Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 11 Effective: August 29, 2008 Salary: \$30,303.00 prorated to \$28,828.80 (176 of 185 days)
Kniess, Kimberly Vocal Music North High	Degree: B.M.E. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00
Leonard, Sara 3,4, 5 Yr Old Children's Village West	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$31,727.03 prorated to \$29,365.95 (199 of 215 days)
Ruyter, Melissa Special Education Smart Intermediate	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$27,300.00

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Argo, William 7 th Grade Wrestling Smart Intermediate	7% \$1,866.00
Barsness, Valerie Department Head (.5) Smart Intermediate	6% \$799.50
Bebermeyer, Rylan Safety Patrol (.5) Blue Grass Elementary	5% \$666.50
Christensen, Chad 7 th Grade Football Smart Intermediate	8% \$2,132.00
Eskildsen, Ann Sr High Cheerleading West High	19% \$5,064.00

Fah, Cara Department Head (.5) Smart Intermediate	6% \$799.50
Goodknight, Emily Department Head (.5) Smart Intermediate	6% \$799.50
Harris, Ricardo 7 th Grade Football Young Intermediate	8% \$2,132.00
Harrison, Michael Teacher-In-Charge (.5) Lincoln Academy	15% \$1,999.00
Hausch, Tammy Department Head (.5) Smart Intermediate	6% \$799.50
Knight, Tom Boys' 7 th Grade Basketball Smart Intermediate	7% \$1,866.00
Kurtz, Matthew Safety Patrol (.5) Blue Grass Elementary	5% \$1,333.00
Leonard, Craig Assistant 8 th Grade Football Young Intermediate	7% \$1,866.00
Long, Gary Department Head (.5) Smart Intermediate	6% \$799.50
Mayfield, Gary Assistant 7 th Grade Football Young Intermediate	7% \$1,866.00
Miller, Darren Assistant 9 th Grade Football Central High	8% \$2,132.00
Miranda, Anthony Assistant 8 th Grade Football Smart Intermediate	7% \$1,866.00
Peterson, Christopher Intramurals Blue Grass Elementary	6% \$1,599.00
Richmond, Jennifer Department Head Williams Intermediate	6% \$1,599.00

Rios, Tom Intramurals Williams Intermediate	8% \$2,132.00
Smith, Christine Safety Patrol Washington Elementary	5% \$1,333.00
Thomson, Tamera Department Head (.5) Smart Intermediate	6% \$799.50
Tiemeier, Joanna 9 th Grade Volleyball North High	8% \$2,132.00
Vincent, Aaron Girls' 8 th Grade Basketball Young Intermediate	7% \$1,866.00
Vincent, Aaron 8 th Grade Volleyball Young Intermediate	8% \$2,132.00

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Bojorquez, Angela FNS Cashier 1 North High	Effective: August 15, 2008 Salary: \$8.42/hr Hours: 3.0 hrs/day
Brimeyer, Jeffrey Plant Maintenance Mechanic I Operations Center	Effective: August 25, 2008 Salary: \$16.91/hr Hours: 8.0 hrs/day
Bray, Sandy FNS Worker Williams Intermediate	Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$8.21/hr Hours: 2.5 hrs/day
Collinson, Stacey FNS Cashier II Walcott Intermediate	Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$8.58/hr Hours: 4.0 hrs/day
Daxon, Sandra FNS Worker Smart Intermediate	Effective: August 18, 2008 Salary: \$8.21/hr Hours: 3.75 hrs/day

RECINDED APPOINTMENT (8/22/08)

Gillette, Leslie	Effective: August 25, 2008
Budget Specialist I	Salary: \$13.41/hr
Children's Village West	Hours: 8.0 hrs/day

Martinez, Kristina Juvenile Court Liaison West High	Effective: August 15, 2008 Salary: \$26,677.00 Hours: 8.0 hrs/day
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Robinson, Charles Positive Behavior Support Liaison Williams Intermediate	Effective: August 21, 2008 Salary: \$21,284.00 Hours: 8.0 hrs/day
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Tague, Kimberly FNS Cashier I Central High	Effective: August 21, 2008 Salary: \$8.42/hr Hours: 3.25 hrs/day
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RESIGNATIONS: CERTIFICATED

Ford, Ashley LOA	Effective: August 18, 2008 Years of Service: 9 yrs 2 mos
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RESIGNATIONS: NON-BARGAINING CERTIFICATED

Anderson-Rascher, Dawn Curriculum & Instructional Specialist Administrative Service Center	Effective: August 25, 2008 Years of Service: 6 yrs Reason: Other District Employment
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RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Argo, William 7 th Grade Wrestling Smart Intermediate	7% \$1,826.00
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Barber, Samantha Assistant Sr High Cheerleading West High	10% \$2,609.00
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Harris, Ricardo Assistant 8 th Grade Football (.5) Young Intermediate	7% \$1,826.00
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Harris, Ricardo Girls' 8 th Grade Basketball (.5) Young Intermediate	7% \$913.00
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Johnson, Dawn Intermediate Vocal Music Williams Intermediate	5% \$1,305.00
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Johnson, Dawn Assistant Intermediate Vocal Music Williams Intermediate	3% \$783.00
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Johnson, Dawn Department Head Williams Intermediate	6% \$1,565.00
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King, David 7%
Boys' 7th Grade Basketball \$1,826.00
Smart Intermediate

King, David 7%
Boys' 8th Grade Basketball \$1,826.00
Smart Intermediate

Knight, Thomas 7%
Boys' 7th Grade Basketball \$1,826.00
Smart Intermediate

Leonard, Craig 7%
Assistant 7th Grade Football \$1,826.00
Young Intermediate

Mayfield, Gary 8%
7th Grade Football \$2,087.00
Young Intermediate

Rios, Renee 7%
Assistant Sophomore Softball \$1,826.00
North High

Schaeffer, Bonnie 5%
Safety Patrol \$1,305.00
Washington Elementary

Sedgwick, Brian 10%
Sophomore Wrestling \$2,609.00
Central High

Thissen, Gregory 7%
Girls' 8th Grade Basketball (.5) \$931.00
Young Intermediate

RETIREMENT: CLASSIFIED

Johnson, Olive Effective: August 13, 2008
Para Educator Years of Service: 13 yrs 11 mos
North High

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

~~Burrows, Kimberly~~ Effective: August 11, 2008
~~Para Educator~~ Years of Service: 5 yrs 9 mos
~~West High~~ **(This is actually a Retirement – moved to 9/15/08 Consent Agenda)**

Elmore, Alvin Effective: August 18, 2008
FNS Van Driver Years of Service: 4 yrs 10 mos
Operations Center

Hamilton, Yvonne
Clerk II
LOA

Effective: August 11, 2008
Years of Service: 3 yrs 1 mo

Holst, Erin
Para Educator
Lincoln Academy

Effective: August 13, 2008
Years of Service: 1 yr 5 mos

Jacobsen, Emily
Para Educator
Williams Intermediate

Effective: August 6, 2008
Years of Service: 1 yr 11 mos

Kaiser, April
Juvenile Court Liaison
Young Intermediate

Effective: August 8, 2008
Years of Service: 9 mos
Reason: Other District Employment

Oxendine, Mary
Para Educator
West High

Effective: August 8, 2008
Years of Service: 10 mos

Starcher, Kelly
Para Educator-District Floater
ASC

Effective: August 8, 2008
Years of Service: 9 mos

Store, Rebecca
FNS Worker
West High

Effective: August 22, 2008
Years of Service: 6 mos

Vesey, Tymon
Campus Security
KCAE

Effective: August 15, 2008
Years of Service: 3 yrs

LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Allen, Nancy
Language Arts
North High

Extended Leave of Absence without Pay
Effective: August 18, 2008 – January 15, 2009

ADDENDUM TO THE CONSENT AGENDA

RECOMMENDATIONS: ADMINISTRATIVE

**Dawn Anderson-Rascher
Director of AERS
Administrative Service Center**

**Effective: August 26, 2008
Salary: \$90,851.00 prorated to \$76,873.92
(220 of 260 days)**

APPOINTMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Correction to 8/11/08 Board Minutes

**Bracey, Constance
Counselor
Blue Grass/Lincoln**

**Degree: ~~B.A. - Step 4~~ M.A. – Step 4
Effective: August 18, 2008
Salary: ~~\$31,395.00~~ \$35,490.00**

Norris, Dana	Degree: B.A. – Step 1
Social Studies	Effective: August 21, 2008
Central High	Salary: \$27,300.00 prorated to \$26,857.19
	(182 of 185 days)

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Adams, Richard	6%
Department Head	\$1,599.00
Sudlow Intermediate	

Anderson, Miriam	5%
Safety Patrol (.5)	\$666.50
Lincoln Academy	

Cronkleton, Brian	7%
7th Grade Football Assistant	\$1,866.00
Smart Intermediate	

Dekalb, Michelle	8%
7th Grade Volleyball	\$2,132.00
Williams Intermediate	

Hovick, Slade	6%
Department Head	\$1,599.00
Young Intermediate	

Schlichting, Mark	7%
Assistant 7th Grade Football	\$1,866.00
Williams Intermediate	

Senne, Angela	8%
8th Grade Volleyball	\$2,132.00
Williams intermediate	

Stevens, Michelle	10%
Assistant Sr High Cheerleading	\$2,665.00
West High	

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Paris, Nicole	Effective: September 4, 2008
FNS Worker	Salary: \$8.21/hr
Central High	Hours: 3.25 hrs/day

Rasmussen, Colby	Effective: August 25, 2008
Para Educator	Salary: \$9.90/hr
Children's Village West	Hours: 6.25 hrs/day

Walsten, Amber	Effective: August 27, 2008
Para Educator	Salary: \$9.90/hr
Children's Village West	Hours: 6.25 hrs/day

RETURN FROM LAY OFF: CLASSIFIED

Mayne, Catherine	Effective: August 22, 2008
Clerk II 10 ½ mos	Salary: \$11.73/hr
Central High	Hours: 8.0 hrs/day

RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Hem, Martha	Effective: August 21, 2008
Para Educator	Salary: \$10.50/hr
KCAE	Hours: 6.0 hrs/day

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Dekalb, Michelle	8%
8th Grade Volleyball	\$2,132.00
Williams Intermediate	

Smith, Sandra	6%
Department Head	\$1,599.00
Sudlow Intermediate	

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Hicks, Kevin	Effective: August 20, 2008
Para Educator	Years of Service: 4 mos
Pool	

McKay, Christine	Effective: September 3, 2008
FNS Worker	Years of Service: 3 yrs
Central High	

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board approved the Consent Agenda was written with the additional of the addendum items presented. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

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

APPROVAL OF BILLS**III. APPROVAL OF BILLS**

A recommendation was made by the administration for adoption of the bill list as presented to the Board and reviewed.

MOTION: Director Roberson moved, "Resolved all claims presented to the Board having been duly certified as correct by the Secretary, reviewed by the administration and board members, and they are hereby audited and allowed as just claims and warrants drawn on the Treasury for the several amounts. Further Resolved, the payment of claims and salaries be approved as presented, with the exception of three voided checks: #00250950 for \$52.32; #00250957 for \$45.72, and #00251120 for \$268.37 – wrong vendors. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion.

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

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

IV. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. Board Policy Reviews and Revisions

The Board was asked to take action on of the policy revisions and reviews which had been discussed previously at the board table.

#402.16 Guest Teachers (formerly Substitute Teacher)

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board accept Policy #402.16 Guest Teachers as revised. Director De Fauw seconded the motion.

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

#506.01 Collection of Money from Students

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board accept Policy #506.01 Collection of Money from Students as revised. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion.

Vice President Roberson asked about depositing money at night after hours. Mrs. Tangen addressed concerns about how deposits could stay in buildings in a secured safe or vault until the deposit could be made in the morning. The policy will reflect these procedures and are included in the handbook. Vice President Roberson expressed concerns about safety.

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

#506.02 Activity Funds

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board accept Policy #506.02 Activity Funds as reviewed. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

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

#601.02 School Calendar

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board accept Policy #601.02 School Calendar as reviewed with further consideration. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

Board members spent some time talking about the different calendars we currently have at buildings. There were comments about getting information from parents on what type of calendar worked best for them. It was suggested a survey be given out to parents during the October conferences to get input from them. Of course the pre-schools are running year round and currently there are eight balanced calendar schools. The superintendent talked about balanced and traditional calendars. Vice President Roberson said he didn't agree with some comments made and felt some parents wanted to have an option. He wondered if the Board would allow some choice to parents or if the direction was to have a common calendar. Mr. Almanza said the administration was gathering information to bring back to the Board so they could make a decision. He felt the majority of parents wanted a common calendar but not all parents. It will be up to the Board and this policy notes the authority.

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

#602.16 Student Home Construction/Remodeling Program

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board accept Policy #602.16 Student Home Construction/Remodeling Program as revised. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion.

Director Clewell asked why annual approval was stated in the policy. Director Johanson talked about making people aware of the significance of the student home construction project and it was the Board's responsibility to approve this agreement annually.

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

#602.20 United States Flag

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board accept Policy #602.20 United States Flag as reviewed. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

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

#603.02 Field Trips (Study Trips) (Keep name as currently listed)

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board accept Policy #603.02 Field Trips (Study Trips) as revised. Director Tupper seconded the motion.

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

B. 28E Agreement – Dual Enrollment

The Superintendent recommends approval of the 28E Agreement between Eastern Iowa Community College District and Davenport District for Dual Enrollment.

MOTION: Director Tupper moved the Board approve the 28E Agreement between Eastern Iowa Community College District (Scott Community College) and Davenport Community School District to establish a concurrent enrollment program at the Davenport High Schools as outlined in the contract effective August 1, 2008. Director De Fauw seconded the motion.

Director Tupper had questions about whether high school students could get college credit for the classes. Mr. Almanza said they were making some progress with the college but that has been in the vocational areas. There are a number of things that have to be considered for the college credit and the college has to be willing to accept this. Director Tupper talked about the academic rigor of our advanced classes and felt some of these courses should count for college credit.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS**V. DISCUSSION ITEMS****A. Teacher Allocation and Staff Ratios**

Chief Financial Office, Marsha Tangen, did a presentation looking at our budget process and how teacher allocation and ratios work at our schools. She went over certified enrollment, enrollment impacts, and the importance of changes in funding. The Board heard about salaries and benefits, inflation factors, and determining new money available. The staffing formulas were shared for elementary buildings based on class size. This does not include

media specialists, TAG, counselors, reading specialists, nurse and special education people. The Board looked at staffing guidelines for elementary, intermediate, and high schools. Once FTE allocation is determined, staffing adjustments are a building decision.

There was information about high school courses to meet graduation requirements and other expectations for electives. There are challenges and opportunities in the process. Equity in the district was explained as offering courses students demand across the district but not necessarily at every high school. The Board also saw the adjustments to the formula with staff reductions at all levels and with staff increases. There are potential impacts for reducing the formula and staffing costs are on-going costs. There is a potential impact to the fund balance with and without adjustments.

In summary the Board learned about certified enrollment, funding available for staff, formulas used at various levels, staff allocation and adjustments impacts on the fund balance.

Ethel Reynolds answered questions about the current count and how the process is working at the beginning of the school year through Labor Day. Harrison, McKinley, and Garfield each added a kindergarten class for a variety of reasons. The administration is reviewing numbers this week and will make adjustments as soon as possible. There are increases at some buildings, but they didn't have numbers district wide yet. Mrs. Tangen explained in her presentation she kept the population constant in the projected figures dealing with staff. Director Johanson asked about program costs and other calculations with the formula. Mrs. Tangen talked about factors like dropouts, weighing, ELL, instructional support levy, and cash reserves. There was a discussion about new money and non-categorical dollars for staff. There was an assumption of 4% allowable growth in the projections.

Director Tupper asked if the current ratios provide staff the resources for their buildings. Mr. Almanza talked about achievement and the impact of lower class size being studied. They are looking at the strengths of the ratios and equity matters. Director Tupper asked more about having sufficient resources to do the job. If our expectation is achievement plus, what resources are needed to make this happen? He also said he didn't believe it was a good practice to offer AP classes at one high school and not another. It needs to be more than a building decision and we need to know the resources the schools need to help them improve achievement.

Director De Fauw echoed the same concerns with high school equity. She asked for a report at the conclusion of the year on how many students took AP classes outside of their home school. She has heard the students are not taking the classes at other buildings and are not selecting that option. She felt this process impacts the rigor of classes for students. She would like more information on this matter. All the students should have the same opportunities for taking courses no matter what school they attend. Principals are making the decisions but the Board doesn't know what is offered from one high school to another.

Director Johanson had questions on allowable growth and the length of

teacher service to the district. He wondered if the years of service were going up for the teachers. Mrs. Tangen said she thought we have as many tenured teachers now as before. Director Johanson asked what we needed to do. Mr. Almanza said the Board was told small class size would increase expenses but we don't have a guarantee that will improve achievement levels. But with large class sizes, it is more likely we will lose ground. There was more dialogue about state trends, early retirement, turnover, and lack of resources. Director Clewell talked about the importance of teacher/student relationships in the attempts to improve student achievement. Mr. Almanza agreed we could do better with community and family participation. We are trying to address cultural awareness and sensitivity matters.

Mr. Almanza felt the Board wanted guarantees that if we have certain expectations, and we need this much funding, we will improve achievement. Director Tupper didn't think the Board was asking for a guarantee for success, but we need to look at the expectations and have a vision. Do we need more resources for training or what does it take to get the job done? Mr. Almanza said achievement is measured by growth and the majority of our schools are successful, but not all kids are successful. We have given the Board data to look at and we are analyzing the test scores. We are looking at the growth each child is making from one point to another.

Vice President Roberson said not all this is related to resources. We are not welcoming to people in the community who want to help. We need to say we need help and recognize others are willing to contribute. We have seen growth and people are working hard, but there is a group we have not engaged and who have not gotten involved. We have to read to kids, listen to kids, and use community members to help us. Director Clewell agreed and felt we need the whole village to gather around a common cause. He also wanted to know more about how we are spending statewide dollars and how will we establish criteria for success. Maybe we need common criteria for achievement and what is it we need to do to carry this forward.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VI. ADMINISTRATIVE & INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS/BOARD REQUESTS

The superintendent talked about the first day of school and he will be more confident about giving out numbers after the first week. Our count is up in a few schools but not district-wide. We have a good start to the year. There were a few transportation hitches but otherwise things went smooth. Buildings were ready and adjustments were made. We will continue to register kids next week. We started with five guest teachers to fill vacancies in buildings at the start of the year.

VII. BOARD REPORTS

President Zamora told board members to prepare themselves for issues coming up in the future for discussion. This would include the Jefferson/Edison contract and they should have some opinion in mind as we look over this and see what is happening. Also the Children's Village West lease will be coming up and we need to have information about where to go from here with the preschoolers. Let us know what information you might need so we can discuss these matters in the fall.

Director Tupper said if we are going to make a choice, he needs to know the alternatives to making any changes from what we have now. What are the options that are available for us and what are reasons for making changes.

Request for Information: Director Clewell would like a follow-up on balancing enrollment between Buffalo and Blue Grass elementary schools.

Request for Information: Director Tupper requested an agenda item on the status of achievement data and would it help to talk about what things we think we need to accomplish over the next year. We should organize a calendar for the year which would help us move forward and accomplish things.

President Zamora read a letter from the Iowa High School Athletic Association saying we were one of 196 schools who had no athletes or coaches ejected during the 2007-2008 school year. We should notify our coaches and athletes of how proud we are of their overall conduct this year.

Directors Clewell and De Fauw attended the North High ice cream social and raised money for the school and developing relationships. There was a group who worked on a van which had graffiti on the vehicle.

Director Clewell mentioned the Legislative Advocacy Committee would be having a make-up meeting on August 26 at 3:45 PM at the Administration Service Center in place of the postponed meeting on August 13th.

Director Clewell announced two additional vision meetings were planned with one for Tuesday, August 26 at 7 PM with the NAACP at United Neighbors and the second meeting on Thursday, August 28 at 10 AM with the Quad City Labor Federation and Tri-City Buildings group at 1401 West Third.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board adjourn. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion. By consensus all agreed to adjourn.

President Zamora declared the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary