

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
DAVENPORT SCHOOLS ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE CENTER
JIM HESTER BOARD ROOM
Achievement Service Center
1606 BRADY STREET
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2012

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

7:00 PM

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met on Monday, February 13, 2012 for their Regular Meeting pursuant to law. The meeting was held at the Administration Service Center, 1606 Brady St., Davenport, Iowa, in said District. President Johanson called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

On roll call the following board members were present: President Ralph Johanson, Directors Nikki De Fauw, Larry Roberson, Rich Clewell, Ken Krumwiede, Bill Sherwood and Patt Zamora. Dr. Tate and other administrators were present.

Director Sherwood read the vision statement.

I. SHOWCASE

A. Eisenhower Elementary –Principal, Steve Mielenhausen provided an overview of the mentoring program that is taking place at Eisenhower Elementary. They are collaborating with Edwards Congregational United Church of Christ to provide two very successful programs called Blessings of the Backpack and a mentoring program. He introduced site coordinator for both programs and she explained they are in the second year of their partnership and have nine mentors and with four members of the congregation being volunteers. She explained that 59 students receive Blessings in a Backpack every Friday. Jazmine, one of the mentees participating in the program, shared her positive experiences and then introduced her mentor, Ms. Judy Collins. Ms. Collins shared what a great experience it has been for her as well as the church to be involved in the program. Ms. Jamie Stratton, and Ms. Mila Smith, also mentors in the programs, shared some of their positive experiences and how they have seen their mentees grow in both self-esteem and be more confident in their school work. They emphasized that one child at a time can make a big difference.

Discussion: Director Sherwood offered congratulations on how successful the program is and asked Principal Mielenhausen if this could be replicated across the district. He stated that they have had discussions about branching out and how beneficial this would be. Director Krumwiede thanked all of them for their contributions and how it would be great to spread this across the district. Director Clewell noted how this is a grass roots level effort and that is why it is so successful. One of the volunteers shared a story on how a student wrote a letter to the church asking for a mentor and this

resulted in the program recruiting three more mentors. President Johanson thanked everyone and noted what great job Jazmine did making her presentation.

II. COMMUNICATIONS (Including Open Forum)

- A. February 20, All day event- Annual Get on the Bus Trip to the Capitol.
- B. February 25, 10AM – 2PM Board Workshop, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room
- C. February 27, 7:00 PM Regular Meeting, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room
- D. March 1, 4:00 PM - Legislative Advocacy Committee Meeting, ASC, Executive Board Room
- D. March 5, 5:30 PM - Committee of the Whole Meeting, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room
- F. Open Forum for Community Input – no one spoke.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

To conserve time and focus attention on non-routine matters on the agenda, the Board will consider 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 following meetings were presented for approval as follows: January 17, (Committee of the Whole Meeting), January 23, 2012 (Regular Meeting) and February 6, 2012 (Committee of the Whole Meeting).

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

APPOINTMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Droessler, Connie Preschool Children’s Village West	Degree: B.A. – Step 1 Effective: February 6, 2012 Salary: \$37,707.65 prorated to \$13,418.51 for 75/215 days
Vrombaut, Krista Special Education Smart Intermediate	Degree: B.A.+15 – Step 6 Effective: February 6, 2012 Salary: \$41,625.00 prorated to \$15,975.00 for 71/185 days

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Wurdinger, Craig Girls’ Assistant Varsity Golf - Spring Central High	12% \$3,332.00
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APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Brauer, Kala Food Service Cashier I Walcott School	Effective: February 8, 2012 Salary: \$9.28/hr Hours: 3.0 hrs/day
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2-13-12 Minutes

Busch, Bette Custodian Hayes Elementary	Effective: February 9, 2012 Salary: \$12.74/hr Hours: 5.5 hrs/day
Fowler, Christine Food Service Worker Garfield Elementary	Effective: February 6, 2012 Salary: \$9.07/hr Hours: 3.0 hrs/day
Knapp, Vicki Para Educator Sudlow Intermediate	Effective: January 31, 2012 Salary: \$9.42/hr Hours: 6.5 hrs/day
Leftwich, Mary Food Service Worker Buffalo Elementary	Effective: February 13, 2012 Salary: \$9.07/hr Hours: 2.25 hrs/day
Oberman, Cora Food Service Worker Fillmore Elementary	Effective: February 6, 2012 Salary: \$9.07/hr Hours: 3.0 hrs/day
Reynolds, Anthony Lead Custodian – Rover Operations Center	Effective: February 6, 2012 Salary: \$14.91/hr Hours: 8.0 hrs/day
Roberts, Farrah Safe and Supportive Schools Grant Manager Central High	Effective: February 13, 2012 Salary: \$40,800 prorated to \$16,110.79 (77/195 days) Hours: 8.0 hrs/day
Schwarz, Lisa Para Educator Walcott School	Effective: February 1, 2012 Salary: \$9.77/hr Hours: 2.5 hrs/day
Sones, Sarah Custodian Blue Grass Elementary	Effective: February 7, 2012 Salary: \$12.74/hr Hours: 4.0 hrs/day

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CERTIFICATED

Birr, Kiersten Teacher LOA	Effective: End of 2011-12 School Year Years of Service: 2 yrs 10 mos
Moore, Emily Teacher LOA	Effective: End of 2011-12 School Year Years of Service: 6 yrs 7 mos

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Behmetuik, Scott Assistant Football Central High	Effective: November 19, 2011 12% - \$3,332.00
Hahn, Jordan Assistant Girls' Soccer Central High	Effective: February 6, 2012 12% - \$3,332.00

2-13-12 Minutes

Mayfield, Pauli
Assistant Varsity Girls' Track Coach
Central High

Effective: February 3, 2012
12% - \$3,332.00

Ryder, Anthony
Safety Patrol
Adams Elementary

Effective: End of 2011-12 School Year
5% - \$1,389.00

Wurdinger, Craig
Boys' Assistant Varsity Golf – Fall
Central High

Effective: October 8, 2011
12% - \$3,332.00

RETIREMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Bailie, Norma
Para Educator
Children's Village West

Effective: February 1, 2012
Years of Service: 9 yrs 10 mos

Harland, Bonnie
Food Service Cook
Walcott School

Effective: May 4, 2012
Years of Service: 12 yrs 7 mos

Showens, Larry
Lead Custodian
Buchanan Elementary

Effective: June 1, 2012
Years of Service: 22 yrs 6 mos

CORRECTION TO 11/2/11 BOARD MINUTES:

Spring, Robert
Warehouse Person II
Operations Center

Effective: ~~February 3, 2012~~ **February 29, 2012**
Years of Service: 30 yrs

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Border, John
Community Ed Project Manager
ASC

Effective: January 31, 2012
Years of Service: 13 yrs 4 mos

Knapp, Vicki
Safety Associate
Sudlow Intermediate/Eisenhower
Elementary

Effective: January 30, 2012
Years of Service: 5 mos
Reason: Other District Employment

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Lennox, Amy
Teacher
LOA

Extension of Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: 2012-2013 school year

Motion: Director Krumwiede moved the Board approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Director Zamora seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion: Director Zamora 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 for the periods January 19, 2012 through February 8, 2012 with the following voided checks:

#292676 payable to Galls for \$84.99 (Void and replace)

#292799 payable to Patrick St. John for \$125.00 (Wrong vendor)

#292798 payable to Willie Parks for \$58.08 (Payable to accts payable instead of payroll)

Director Clewell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None.

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

V. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Tate provided an update on the Drop Out Prevention Task Force. They have had five meetings so far and meet every two weeks. Members of the committee represent a wide variety of organizations in the city. There are three committees of the task force: one of the committee is responsible for data collection and analysis and also providing liaison to many organizations. This committee is also charged with establishing actions and solutions. The second committee is looking at local causes and conditions. Their plan is based around interviews in the homes which is very powerful and provides the best indication of what is happening and why and this will help the task force learn what we can do differently. They are looking both at prevention and those at risk of dropping out. They will be conducting the home interviews over the spring break. The third committee he refers to as things that work and causes research. They are looking at books, articles and on-line data for causes and things that work regarding drop-out prevention. They have brought staff in from the curriculum department to look at what we are doing now and have a report each week on what others are doing.

VI. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. Wilson Elementary Student Drop Off and Pick Up Project Public Hearing

Motion: Director Clewell moved the board approve the plans and specifications for the Wilson Elementary Student Drop Off and Pick Up Project as presented. Director Zamora seconded the motion.

President Johanson announced this was the time and place for the Board to hold a public hearing regarding approval of the plans and specifications for the Wilson Elementary Student Drop Off and Pick Up Project. It was explained the notice of a public hearing was published in the Quad City Times on January 19, 2012. No one came forward to be heard. The public hearing was then declared closed.

Discussion: None.

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

B. Commercial Kitchen Equipment: Dishwashers and Convection Ovens

Motion: Director Krumwiede moved the board reject all bids received for the Commercial Kitchen Equipment: Dishwashers and Convection Ovens. Director Roberson seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Sherwood asked if the district can go to auction for equipment such as this since and how this would save money. Ms. Micki Carrington came to the podium and stated procurement laws require the district to go out for competitive formal bidding on equipment such as this and how we have to follow these guidelines. President Johanson asked Ms. Carrington if they are guidelines or codes and she stated it is federal and state regulations that require competitive bidding. Director Roberson asked why the bids were rejected. Ms. Carrington explained they ran into insulation complications they were not expecting and two buildings required significant electrical upgrades that equipment contractors were not qualified to do. This required a new bid which will be coming out February 23rd. Director Roberson also commented that in addition to the state and federal requirements for competitive bidding this process also provides transparency that we are not showing favoritism and this is the right thing to do.

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

C. SBRC Revised Application Request

Motion: Director Clewell moved the board approve a revised application to the SBRC for a total of \$576,534 for open enrollment and \$201,905 for LEP instruction beyond four years. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Krumwiede asked Ms. Tangen to explain this item. Ms. Tangen explained the board had originally approved this item and the state informed us that the enrollment count was updated since we had put in our application. The state said we could apply for more allowable growth with board approval. Director Zamora asked what LEP stands for. Ms. Tangen stated LEP is used interchangeably with ELL. Director Clewell asked if they are interchangeable terms. Ms. Tangen stated LEP stands for Limited

English Proficiency and ELL is English Language Learner and they also have English as a Second Language. Director Clewell asked for clarification on those three terms.

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

D. SBRC Submission Request

Motion: Director Zamora moved the board approve submission of a request to the SBRC for Modified Allowable Growth to provide 100% spending authority for actual program costs associated with the English Language Learners (ELL) program for the current fiscal year. Director Sherwood seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

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

E. Policy Review

Motion: Director De Fauw moved the board approve the following policies as previously discussed at the December 12, 2012 and January 9, 2012 regular board meetings:

203.09 - Evaluation of Administrators
103.11 - Community Use of School District Buildings, Sites, & Equipment
501.03 - Foreign Exchange Students

Director Clewell seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

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

F. Approval of Nomination of Candidate for Examining Board Position

Motion: Director Clewell moved the board approve the nomination of Richard Wahlstrand as the school unit representative for the Examining Board for the Davenport City Conference Board. Director Sherwood seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Roberson asked how we came up with the name of the nominee. President Johanson explained how he was contacted by Becky Eiting, Davenport City Assessor about a vacancy due to Steve Schalk's passing who was the School Unit

Representative on the Examining Board. He reported how he met with the board presidents' of the Bettendorf and North Scott school districts to discuss possible nominees. He had asked the board at the last meeting for their recommendations and he was provided with two names who were contacted and but neither was interested in the position. Out of the discussions with the other two districts they ended up with these two candidates, one of which is Richard Wahlstrand and the other being Chad Keppy.

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

VII. DISCUSSION

A. School Finance Fundamentals

Ms. Tangen presented the third installment on the series "School Finance Fundamentals." She provided a brief review of the topics covered so far and reviewed what allowable growth is and is not and discussed again the cost of per pupil funding. She reviewed the sources of funding which include property tax, state aid, and miscellaneous income and described each category. She used a map to illustrate and compare property rich to property poor districts. She explained the sub levies of cash reserve which is only for the general fund. She pointed out that the cash reserve levy does not create spending authority and emphasized that the cash reserve levy does not create spending authority but only gives the funds to spend it. This means a school district cannot just levy their way out of a spending authority problem. She covered and explained the various categories of miscellaneous income and reviewed the total budget of 2012. She explained that at the next board meeting she will cover and explain spending authority in more depth.

Discussion: Director Zamora asked about the instructional support levy and the petition. Ms. Tangen stated that once the board would approve the instructional support levy we have to wait 28 days before it can be filed because if the public were to file a petition with 100 signatures then we would have to take it out for a vote. Director Zamora asked when the instructional support levy was last approved. Ms. Tangen stated she thinks it was a couple of years ago and the levy is up in 2014. Director Zamora asked if we have ever had to go out for election. Ms. Tangen said there was one time we almost had to but we have never had it go out for a vote and that all has been board approved.

Director Clewell asked if she knew what caused the property tax roll back to occur. Ms. Tangen said she will have to get back with him on this. President Johanson asked about the cash reserve levy and asked if the comments included on the materials were her comments or Mr. Sigel's comments. Ms. Tangen stated they were Mr. Sigel's comments but thought they were appropriate. He asked Ms. Tangen if we have a spending authority problem. Ms. Tangen stated yes we do. President Johanson asked her to characterize this in some way. She stated we are going to exceed our spending authority within a year or two if reductions are not made. She explained the cash reserve we have levied in years past did not come with spending authority. We have been spending that and this has you always spending more than the authority you have that year and this can be built up from year to year. The district was given 21 million dollars in spending authority from the state and this was due to a gap

conversion done at the state level. In one year they gave all the districts an amount of spending authority and over the past four to five years we have eaten into that 21 million dollars of spending authority and in a year or two it will be gone. We have done this by using cash reserve dollars that didn't have spending authority to cover expenditures of the district. President Johanson asked if she could project what would happen in next several years. Ms. Tangen stated she put together a model to compare expenditures with spending authority and without making any reductions we will exceed our spending authority. He asked if the 5 year plan of the Resource Allocation Committee will include a conversation about this problem. She said it has been and will be part of the discussion. President Johanson asked about the money received in 2010-11 which was just over a million dollars from the property tax equity relief fund and asked where this went. She explained this money comes in just like the per pupil money and it has no ties associated with it so it goes into regular revenue. Director De Fauw asked how much is remaining of the 21million dollars. Ms. Tangen said she has it on her spreadsheet but does not have that with her but can provide it.

Director Zamora asked what the process is for getting more spending authority and remarked that the legislature is talking about giving a 4% increase in allowable growth for the 2013-14 year and this money comes with spending authority and asked if there was other ways to achieve additional spending authority. Ms. Tangen said the only other way is to go to the School Budget Review Committee. Director Zamora asked if they have limited reasons they allow it. Ms. Tangen stated they require that it be a unique and unusual situation. Ms. Tangen stated they are always looking for creative ways to accomplish this. Director Zamora pointed out that they do allow it for special education and Ms. Tangen stated this is correct.

B. Report on Bus Ridership

Dr. Tate referred to handout on board table provided by Mr. Martin. Mr. Martin reviewed the report with the board. He highlighted the second page with the monthly totals and remarked how they started in June with 1500 riders and in November they had 29,000. He reviewed each route and the schools associated with each route. They have had only minor problems which he has corrected these on site. He reported they are at the mid-point with the project and will be making a decision by end of the school year whether to continue. The city is talking about making some improvements and Mr. Martin talked about the idea of having a proximity card that would provide useful data. He also reported the city is reevaluating their routes this year and he asked the director to meet with Mr. Martin's transportation committee next week.

Discussion: Director De Fauw asked if a correlation can be made with this project and improved attendance. Dr. Tate said he would gather this data and provide it to the board. Director Roberson asked if he anticipated an increase in ridership and what students will do to as an alternative if this service is not available. Mr. Martin stated that the options could be that parents would have to transport them, walking if they do not have a car, or they just catch a ride with someone or still take the bus but it would not be for free. Mr. Martin said the January figures will tell us whether we have peaked or not but the numbers have increased almost every month. As spring comes we will have a better idea. Director Roberson asked if city would want to stop this project. Mr. Martin said he has no knowledge of any conversations such as this and the city looks at this as a win-win situation and talked about how students have commented how helpful it has been. Director Roberson

asked if he had an idea of what the costs would be for next year. Mr. Martin said he does not have those figures at this time but will be talking to city about this soon. Director Roberson asked if this has had an impact on ridership of our other buses. Mr. Martin said he cannot tell at this time. Director Roberson said we should be able to obtain the data by next school year.

Director Krumwiede asked the student board members for their input and if they were aware of any students who use the service to get back and forth to school. Ms. Leming stated she is not aware of too many students using it but is aware of graduates using the service. She recalled a friend of hers who rode the bus for the first time and she was really nervous but then this helped her get used to riding the bus. Director Sherwood asked about the figures of pre-ridership and how many students were riding the bus before it was free. Mr. Martin did not have that exact number but stated he believed it was a limited participation amount but remarked that CitiBus may have caught this data. Director Sherwood remarked that if we have 29,000 riders going home on the bus that takes a lot of pressure of the walking groups and asked if the city has seen a decline in calls from the PD along those routes. Mr. Martin stated is not aware of this. Director Sherwood said this could demonstrate a savings and justify their costs.

President Johanson asked if the numbers were reasonable and large and if Mr. Martin knew how many students would normally ride the bus. Mr. Martin said about 7,000 students ride regularly. President Johanson said he calculated that our district would have approximately 320,000 rides per month and Mr. Martin said that was a good guess. President Johanson stated these numbers are significant and represents almost a third of what the normal bus rides would be. He asked about length of ride and Mr. Martin said he doesn't have this information but he would like to do a survey with students as they get on or off the bus. Director Zamora commented that the free rides are all the time and not just for getting to and from school. Director Clewell suggested adding the question whether it is a school ride to a survey.

C. Public Input on Budget Process

Dr. Tate provided a synopsis of the public input data collected on the budget from the forums, e-mails, and other sources. Administrators helped him establish categories, themes, and general trends of the input collected. First he read some of the themes from the questions collected such as "will the 5% reduction affect support for AP exams?"; "why has there been decline in enrollment at Lincoln when it used to be full?" Next he read from the list of questions and concerns and then some of the themes established in the recommendations. Dr. Tate stated he didn't capture every comment and thinks the list he read off is a good representation of the data collected. He said he will be looking at this data as he comes up with his recommendation for the board. He reminded everyone that the agenda committee has created a schedule where every meeting that is scheduled until April 9th the board will be discussing the budget once his recommendation is made at the next regular meeting on the 27th.

D. Policy Review

No discussion of the following policies:

203.11 – Dissemination of Policy

203.13 – Collaborative Decision Making

505.05 – Athletic Eligibility Requirements

Discussion: Director Zamora asked if we have ever had an attendance requirement and whether this is a state mandate. President Johanson said no and that the proposed attendance requirement added this time to the policy is only a recommendation by the policy committee and it is not a state mandate or state regulation. President Johanson asked Director Sherwood to speak on this. Director Sherwood stated that Director Clewell has asked about increasing the academic requirements and did mention new standards for NCAA Division I scholarship requirements. He stated that athletes do much better than the average student as far as GPA and attendance. He pointed out that many schools have attendance policies and the policy committee discussed this as a way to get some benefit out of the policy and not cause kids to not participate in the programs. The policy committee is recommending an attendance requirement for the semester prior to participation of 80% and stated that the attendance problems are not in season but out of season.

Director Zamora said she did not like the idea of adding an attendance policy for a previous semester that you are not involved in the sport and suggested talking to the coaches and athletes about this first. She stated she doesn't think this is a very good idea. President Johanson asked Dr. O'Melia to report on her meeting with the principals. She reported that the principals had a meeting about this policy after the last board meeting and the principals were unanimously in favor of the current policy without any changes. Director Sherwood asked Dr. O'Melia if attendance was discussed at that meeting and she said it was mentioned as well as the trigger point on the GPA. Director Roberson expressed his concern about putting something in place just for athletes and not including other activities. President Johanson asked Director De Fauw if there are policies that address other extracurricular and other activities. Director DeFauw responded that it was her recollection of conversations concerning this matter and said she understands Director Roberson's concerns and thinks there is validity to his point that we shouldn't single out athletes. She said she was not in attendance at the last policy meeting so she cannot speak to the rationale of adding the attendance requirement. President Johanson said the rationale is looking at athletic eligibility and that the legal references would need to be researched that are included on the current policy. President Johanson stated that if Director Roberson was looking at expanding the scope of the attendance policy to other students the policy committee could look at this but they would need to respect the requirement of the code.

Director Roberson said if you put something in place like this it should be a requirement for all students and not just the athletes. He said this is a sidestep from an earlier recommendation to raise academic standards and he said he will not support this type of activity. President Johanson asked Director Roberson if he did not support having a policy for athletic eligibility. Director Roberson responded it is not about supporting a policy for athletic eligibility but this addition to the policy is due to another board member talking about raising the academic standards for athletes. He continued that we should not ask athletes to have higher standards than other students. Director Roberson asked board members to do a gut check when trying to put policies in place that really eliminate kids.

Director Zamora agreed with Director Roberson and remarked that the more restrictions that are added the more elite the participation becomes and the kids that we really want to reach will be most affected by these restrictions and this is harmful to some of our children. Director Sherwood agrees with expanding to all areas but stated that the athlete's attendance in season is excellent so this is not a bar they haven't met. This is about whether we can extend the leverage of participation to the previous semester so that we get the benefit without the downside.

Director Clewell read the proposed policy to the audience so they would know what was being suggested to include in the current policy. Director Zamora said using the previous semester will disincline children and we do have evidence in our district that more restrictions do result in certain kids not being able to participate.

Director Krumwiede asked Director Sherwood if any schools in Iowa have attendance policies such as this. Director Sherwood he did not find any in his search. Director Roberson said he wants to make clear that he is not opposed to raising the academic requirements but if we do this for athletes we need to do it for all students.

Ms. Leming stated we need to ask the students who are at the study tables what they think. She has been working on a survey that asks students why they are struggling and we need their input in this process. Mr. Mampre said if students want to pass a class they need to show up and thinks this policy is in right direction.

Director DeFauw asked the students if they are considered in season well before their first official game or meet. Ms. Leming said yes and in some cases with volleyball and basketball they are very rigorous in practice and sometimes it can be all year round. Mr. Mampre said they practice on Sunday nights but are not considered in season until May 1 when practice starts.

Director Clewell said he appreciates the discussion and the work the policy committee has done and emphasized this policy is about student achievement. He would like to see the committee entertain some student input. He continues to have concerns about the level of achievement. State code says that students are making adequate progress towards graduation requirements by making a 1.0 average. As a school board member, he stated that if we pass the current policy then we are saying that student expectation is a 1.0 and this expectation is too low in his opinion. He agrees with Director Roberson that if we have this for some we should have it for all. He referenced a comment in the public input that if we raise standards then we will penalize the district because we would be different than other school districts. He will be making a recommendation to the Legislative Advocacy Committee that they consider a resolution to the Department of Education through the board that states we take a look at this.

Director Sherwood clarified that a season for athletes is established and dictated and coaches are forbidden to have contact with students outside of that season. If the student board members are doing something in the summer time then it must be with volunteers or on their own but they are not coached by our staff.

Dr. Tate said this is great discussion and read some of the comments from the public input relevant to the discussion. He agrees with Director Roberson that it must be for everyone and reminded the board to be looking at the "why" of these standards. President Johanson

asked Director De Fauw if this policy was on the review schedule and she responded she would look at review date and Director Clewell said it was on the schedule to be reviewed.

President Johanson stated the policy committee will continue to look at this policy but it will probably have to come back to the board several times. Director Sherwood referenced some research done on 130,000 high school students comparing athletes to non-athletes and the research found that athletes out achieve the non-athletes in almost every category and the average GPA was 2.86. He remarked that we shouldn't give the idea that we have all these low performers because we have many kids who do very well but he is concerned about the kids in the margin. He stated he has issues with raising the GPA unless everyone in the state does it and even then he thinks we would lose kids. He is not convinced that an attendance policy would filter those kids out and in fact it could save kids by getting them in the classroom which would help them be more successful in school. Director Roberson stated he had a conversation with a superintendent not in this area and he talked about how students had to have a 2.0 in order to march at graduation. He didn't specify any particular group but that this requirement applied to all students. He said that student achievement should apply to all students.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Tate asked the board to read the memo provided by Ms. Saul that was placed at the board table regarding a rating system conducted by the Sunshine Review.

XI. BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS

Director Clewell reported on the Annual Get On the Bus Trip planned for Monday, February 20th. There are 47 students signed up and two busses heading for the capitol on Monday. He provided an overview of the agenda for the day and mentioned that students from Central High School have been studying the Governor's Blueprint since they will have opportunity to speak with him in person that day. He mentioned the two pages who are students at West will also be there and that our student board members, Whitney Leming, David Mampre, and Mitchel Boever will begin the discussions with legislators. He stated that Kay Luna, Education Reporter from the Quad City Times, will also be going on the trip.

Director Krumwiede said he will be joining the students that day but will also be attending the recognition for Lisa Arbisser who has received the Governor's Volunteer Award for her involvement in the Davenport Schools Foundation. Three board members attended the Pro Start fundraiser last week and he congratulated all the students and teachers involved in this event. He recognized Ms. Betty Griffin for all her efforts for this great event.

Director Zamora commented that she attended the Pro Start fundraiser and that the food is amazing and she was so proud of all the kids. She said we should not have a board meeting the night of this fundraiser next year.

Director Sherwood reported that he visited Hayes Elementary school and how they are doing great things at this school. He said they are having a Trivia Night Saturday at the Eagles Lodge at 7:00PM as a fundraiser for kids to attend Camp Abe Lincoln and asked board members if they wanted to create a trivia team to participate. He also commented on the Third Grade Retention

report that was discussed at the last Legislative Advocacy Committee Meeting. He expressed concern this did not come before the board in a timely manner. He hopes a resolution is created on this matter and presented in Des Moines coming from district employees. He also expressed a concern that we losing students and how some facilities are lacking. He mentioned the auditorium and other facilities at Central and doesn't know where this is on the priority list but hopes there is some reconsideration for funding these projects. Director Sherwood said he has a friend who is a bus driver in another district who tells him that their bus drivers are not informed of students who have serious medical issues. He would like to know if we are making sure that our bus drivers are informed on student's medical issues. Director Sherwood then commented we are about to bring in a lot of new people and we should make sure we bring in the best, that they are retained, and that an evaluation process is put in place during the first 3 years to make sure we keep only the best. He stated he would like the administration to look into doing this.

Director Roberson thanked Dr. Tate for his efforts on the Drop Out Prevention Task Force and remarked how diverse the group is. He stated there is an agreement in this group the much of the focus should be on grade schools and even Pre-K when talking about drop -out prevention. He said that if you want to see student achievement take a look at what is happening at Children's Village West. What is happening there should be marketed more. Student achievement starts this early. He remarked that he doesn't like that we talk like our students do not achieve and stated our district has just as many kids who go off to Ivy League schools but what we talk about is how their grade point average is not high enough. We need to be talking about other things.

President Johanson commented that with respect to the third grade retention report and the Legislative Advocacy Committee going to the Capitol, the committee is also representing the board. In the past the committee has had three strong messages that it presents and the board has not discussed the third grade retention report. President Johanson apologized to Director Sherwood that he was not aware of the timing relative to this discussion. He asked the Legislative Advocacy Committee be very careful and selective with what it represents.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Clewell moved the board adjourn. Director Zamora seconded the motion. By consensus President Johanson declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer