

6-4-12 Minutes

**DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
DAVENPORT SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION SERVICE CENTER  
1606 BRADY STREET  
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
**June 4, 2012**

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met for the Committee of the Whole Meeting on Monday, June 4, 2012 pursuant to law. The meeting was held in the Jim Hester Board Room, Achievement Service Center, 1606 Brady Street Davenport, Iowa, in said District. President Johanson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

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

**Update Technology Steering Committee**

Mr. Gary Sloat presented an update to the board on district technology. He highlighted several technology accomplishments such as how they have increased computer access by 33%; 9 buildings are now equipped with high density wireless access and there are hotspots in the high school offices, libraries, and cafeterias; 80% of teacher stations have been replaced since 2010 with a plan to have all replaced by the Fall of 2012; 450 classrooms are now equipped with SMART Boards. Director Krumwiede asked if there is a plan for every classroom to receive a SMART Board noting a concern by some teachers that most of these are in the Title buildings. He asked that the plan for distributing these be communicated more clearly to teachers. Mr. Sloat said it was a given that it is part of the plan for all classrooms to have one, however, they will do a better job of communicating this to the schools. Director Krumwiede asked what will happen to the SMART Boards that were at Lincoln School. Mr. Sloat stated these are title dedicated so they will be moved to JB Young. Mr. Sloat highlighted information about the replacement cycle for computers stating that 4 years is the gold standard. Director Zamora asked what happens to the computers that are being replaced. Mr. Sloat said this is left to the discretion of each building. Director Sherwood asked about poor kids receiving these computers. Ms. Tangen responded that the Iowa Code mandates that the district is not allowed to give away computer equipment.

Mr. Sloat provided an overview of the Scholastic Achievement Suite (SAM), the Lexia Reading Program, the Destiny Textbook Management System, the new Avamar Systemic Backup System and how the district is the first in the state to have a totally paperless system with the digital cumulative folders. Director Roberson asked for clarification on several points. Director Sherwood asked if every item is being included in the digital cumulative folder and anything that weakens retention of information would not be good. Director Zamora asked if discipline reports are part of the cumulative folders and Mr. Sloat responded they are not included. Director Krumwiede asked who has access with new system and Mr. Sloat responded there is designated computer access through the secretary. Director Sherwood stated that if there is

roadblock to accessing information this could be problem. Mr. Sloat presented information about bandwidth and how this has been increased and the district will be upgrading an exchange server this summer. Mr. Sloat discussed Etextbooks and how the district already owns considerable electronic content which is available in the Well. He also explained a variety of portable tools, discussed some of the pilots that are currently taking place in the district, and covered information on Cloud Based Tools. There was a discussion about One to One (1:1) Computing which in the field of education refers to a computer for every student. Our district is currently boasting about 8:1 student to computer ratio. Mr. Sloat explained the cost for the district to be 1:1 would be 11 million dollars every three years which does not include the cost of technicians. Director De Fauw asked about Bettendorf's policy and what they are doing. Director Sherwood stated that it has not been proven that this type of technology and moving the district in this direction automatically improves the educational process or student achievement. Director Roberson thanked Mr. Sloat for his presentation and commented that he doesn't think we have a choice because students use technology and this is the direction that learning is headed. Director DeFauw asked if committee is recommending a 1:1 ratio. Mr. Sloat responded that we can learn from the pilots that are currently being implemented to see what works and what doesn't work, but stated he is conservative and is always looking for what brings the highest educational return and there is no rush to move in this direction.

### **Safe & Supportive Schools Project**

Ms. Ellen Reilly updated the board on the Safe & Supportive Schools Project. She introduced Ms. Farrah Roberts, Grant Manager, Iowa Safe and Supportive Schools. Ms. Reilly presented a Powerpoint to the board and provided an overview of the program. In October 2010, Iowa was awarded one of only 11 four year grants for approximately \$3.5 million each year to establish optimal *Conditions for Learning* for Iowa high schools in the following areas: safety, engagement, and environment. Davenport Central was one of 20 Iowa schools to receive funding of approximately \$106,500/year. Ms. Reilly reviewed some of the innovations and successes of the program and reported with supporting data on the increased feelings of safety as the result of the project. She also commented on how the students are taking bullying very seriously to the point of expressing that student believe staff need to be provided additional training. They have a leadership team that has been organized at Davenport Central and their program is being used as model. Director Zamora asked for copies of the materials distributed by Ms. Roberts. Director Krumwiede asked if there is a plan to implement this model throughout the district. Ms. Riley stated it is only at Central and explained that the other high schools were invited to participate and it was strictly voluntary. There was additional discussion on how they improved their scores according to the index and data reviewed on the powerpoint. Director Sherwood asked questions relative to how they will be training new staff and about discipline models. Director Clewell inquired as to why Central was the only high school willing to participate and there was some discussion around how schools have different personalities and other commitments and that it was voluntary. President Johanson thanked them for their presentation.

**Energy Rebate** – This topic was tabled.

### **Receipt Software**

Ms. Tangen explained the In Touch Receipting Software and how she will be requesting this item at the next board meeting. The software provides one stop shop for services. Currently the district does not have just one product that provides all these features. For example, it

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will allow parents to pay for fees, registration, put money in lunch accounts, pay fees for every student they have in the district, and purchase year books. She explained it is especially strong on internal controls which leaves very little room for error. She commented that one of the best features is the interfacing ability with systems that are currently used in the district. The cost is \$75,000 which will come from the PPEL fund.

### **Lead and Learn Commitment**

Dr. Tate explained this contract will be up for approval at the next board meeting. He explained they have been working with Lead and Learn for the last three years and that Doug Reeves is the founder. This year they are requesting \$305,000 which is less than the last two years since their goal is to become sustainable and reduce reliance on them. This year, they are asking them to train coaches. Some of the things they have done and are still doing for the district is professional development for unwrapping the standards; data teams; strategies for effective teaching and coming monthly for coaching. Director Krumwiede stated how he hears many comments about how impressed people are and commented on the positive feedback he receives about this program.

President Johanson announced that Agenda Committee is recommending the date of July 2 for the next Committee of the Whole Meeting.

President Johanson asked if there were any objections to adjourning the meeting and there was none. The meeting was adjourned by President Johanson at 7:55 p.m.

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Mary Correthers, Recording Secretary