

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

DAVENPORT SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION SERVICE CENTER

JIM HESTER BOARD ROOM

Administration Service Center

1606 BRADY STREET

DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803

NOVEMBER 28, 2011

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, November 28, 2011 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, and Bill Sherwood. Patt Zamora was absent. Dr. Tate and other administrators were present.

REGULAR MEETING

7:00 PM

Director DeFauw read the vision statement.

I. SHOWCASE

A. Central High School –Principal Scott gave a brief overview of the presentation and introduced the staff participating in the presentation. He also mentioned that 400 of their students have a GPA of 3.5 or above. Each staff member commented on the slides from the PowerPoint which highlighted the AP (Advanced Placement Program) initiatives taking place at Central High School. One aspect of the AP program is that students receive recognition medals and it was noted that 94 medals were distributed at the awards program for seniors. Michael Goodyear, one of the students attending the meeting, received the AP Scholar Award. It was explained that 29% of all seniors take some type of AP class and over 50% of students received a high enough score to receive college credit. Principal Scott then asked the students to come up and share their personal experiences with taking AP classes. David Mampre, also a student board member, said the classes have helped him get ahead as far as being prepared for college; Justin Farrell shared he is also more prepared to take college classes; Peter Kaufmann shared the bar is set higher with the AP classes and this is very helpful; Whitney Leming, another student board member, shared that the AP teachers are amazing and the classes teach a new mindset which has helped her prepare for college; Michael Goodyear shared that AP classes are more stimulating and have helped him learn complex theories and that they are also a great way to prepare for college; Erik Hahn said it offers a unique opportunity to get ahead financially because of getting college credit and this helps students and parents save money. Mary Reeves shared she feels more

prepared for college and the classes also help students develop as individuals; Rachael Herman said the AP classes are more interesting and challenging and they provide a good transition into college; Emily Fritz, a sophomore at St. Ambrose, stated she didn't realize what an impact taking the AP classes would have for her but now that she is college student. She said she realizes now what great building blocks the classes have been and how they have helped her with study skills and also have allowed her more options as far as selecting a major. Principal Scott thanked everyone for their participation and noted what a great job the students.

Discussion: Director Clewell asked how many of the students who take AP classes also take the exam. Principal Scott responded that everyone takes exam and this is a district requirement. Director Clewell expressed how much he enjoyed reading the student testimonials and how AP classes are an opportunity for those students who want to be challenged. Director Sherwood stated there is low participation of minority students across the board in these types of programs and asked if Central is doing anything in particular to attract minority students. Principal Scott responded that many students are concerned about their GPA and this is why some do not participate in AP classes. He said they created focus groups to explore ways to attract more minority students. He also said the cost of the test may also be a barrier, but they are looking into ways of helping with the cost in these cases. Director Sherwood expressed a concern that the standard curriculum is not rigorous enough and asked staff if they thought enough students felt comfortable taking the AP classes. One of the staff responded that the main requirement is being willing to be at class every day and doing the homework and expressed that he feels his students are prepared to take his classes. He shared they do have a hard time recruiting students of color and that it is hard to convince some students that they can do the work. He said we need work on more ways to communicate with students that it might not be as hard as they think it is. Director Krumwiede thanked all the students for presenting and asked what is special about an AP teacher and does this require special training. A staff member responded that teachers are required to attend a week long institute and are also encouraged to attend additional trainings. Director Roberson thanked all the students and stated there needs to more awareness that it is about economics and this should be the emphasis in recruiting students. He reaffirmed that by taking AP classes students are getting a big jump on their college education. President Johanson thanked all the students by name and all the presenters.

II. COMMUNICATIONS (Including Open Forum)

- A. December 1, 4:00PM Legislative Advocacy Meeting, ASC, Executive Board Room
- B. December 5, 5:30PM Committee of the Whole Meeting, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room
- C. December 7, 4:00PM Policy Committee Meeting, ASC, Executive Board Room
- D. December 12, 7:00PM Regular Meeting, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room
- E. Open Forum for Community Input
 - 1. Kenny Lewis - Mr. Lewis stated he was here to show support for his co-worker Seth Tweety. He said we all make mistakes and they still respect Mr. Tweety. They do not condone his behavior but will support him.
 - 2. Jennifer Betker - Ms. Betker expressed her support and said she has been in the district for 30 years. She said she is happy to support the entire Adams family and that it takes courage to go into the teaching field. She thanked the board for their compassion regarding Mr. Tweety.

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 will be presented for approval as follows: November 7, 2011 (Committee of the Whole) and November 14 (Regular Meeting)

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

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Harper, Justin	12%
Boys' Assistant Basketball	\$3,332.00
North High	

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Bennett, William	Effective: November 21, 2011
Food Service Van Driver	Rate: \$11.03/hr
Operations Center	Hours: 8.0 hrs/week

Farley, Julie	Effective: November 29, 2011
Professional Secretary I	Rate: \$12.85/hr
Walcott School	Hours: 8.0 hrs/day

Harris Thomas, Heidi	Effective: November 15, 2011
Para Educator	Rate: \$9.77/hr
Buchanan Elementary	Hours: 2.40 hrs/day

Heirigs, Heidi	Effective: November 18, 2011
Para Educator	Rate: \$9.77/hr
Buchanan Elementary	Hours: 6.0 hrs/day

Holeman, Donna	Effective: November 14, 2011
Para Educator	Rate: \$9.77/hr
Smart Intermediate	Hours: 6.5 hrs/day

Kurth, Leah	Effective: November 14, 2011
District-Wide Job Coach	Rate: \$9.42/hr
District Wide	Hours: 6.5 hrs/day

Leitzen, Monyka	Effective: November 22, 2011
Para Educator	Rate: \$9.77/hr
Jefferson Elementary	Hours: 7.5hrs./day

Littig, Stephanie	Effective: November 17, 2011
Para Educator	Rate: \$9.42/hr
Washington Elementary	Hours: 1.05 hrs./day

McCalester, Trianna
Para Educator
Jackson Elementary
Effective: November 22, 2011
Rate: \$9.42/hr
Hours: 4.0 hrs/day

Ryan, Betty Jean
Para Educator
Wilson Elementary
Effective: November 17, 2011
Rate: \$9.42/hr
Hours: 1.6 hrs/day

Schaeffer, Michelle
Para Educator
Blue Grass Elementary
Effective: November 21, 2011
Rate: \$9.42/hr
Hours: 2.0 hrs/day

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Overton, Corey
Assistant Boys' Basketball
North High
12%
\$3,332.00

RETIREMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Spring, Robert
Warehouse Person II
Operations Center
Effective: February 3, 2012
Years of Service: 30 yrs

Lesch, Carlyn
Food Service Worker
West High
Effective: December 12, 2011
Years of Service: 21 yrs 3 mos

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS:CLASSIFIED

Farley, Julie
Para Educator
Walcott School
Effective: November 28, 2011
Years of Service: 8 yrs 3 mos
Reason: Other District Employment

Gibbs, Terry
Head Custodian
Hayes Elementary
Effective: November 18, 2011
Years of Service: 17 yrs

Leamer, Lori
Food Service Cashier I
North High
Effective: November 21, 2011
Years of Service: 6 days

Addendum: moved to Retirements: Classified Section
~~Lesch, Carlyn~~ Effective: ~~December 12, 2011~~
~~Food Service Worker~~ Years of Service: ~~21 yrs 3 mos~~
~~West High~~

Rathna, Hosahalli
Para Educator
Sudlow Intermediate
Effective: November 18, 2011
Rate: \$9.77/hr

RETURNS FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Ferkel, Kelly
Para Educator
Monroe Elementary
Effective: November 14, 2011
Rate: \$9.42
Hours: 6.0 hrs/day

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Dengler, Georgianna
Para Educator
Children's Village West

Extension of Unpaid Leave of Absence
Effective: November 28, 2011 – January 3, 2012

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

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

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion: Director Clewell moved the approval of the resolution: "Resolved, all claims presented to the Board having been duly certified as correct by the Secretary/Treasurer, 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 is approved as presented for the period November 10, 2011 to November 23, 2011. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion.

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

V. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Tate stated one of the strengths we have in this district are the ROTC programs at both Central and North High Schools. He shared how he felt privileged to attend the marine ball on November 19th and shared this was the first time he had the opportunity to see the cadets in action and expressed how impressed he was with them.

VI. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. School Budget Review Application

Motion: Director Roberson moved the board approve application to the School Budget Review Committee (SBRC) for modified allowable growth of \$667,132 for Open Enrollment Out students and LEP Instruction beyond 4 Years. Director Clewell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Roberson asked Ms. Tangen to explain this item in more detail so the audience would have a better understanding of what was being discussed. Ms. Tangen stated that the LEP Cost are for costs that exceed students that have been here more than four years and the open enrollment out is for students that were not able to

be counted in the certified enrollment count. She noted that this year on both of those counts the state automatically calculated it for us.

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

B. Early Start Date Waiver 2012-2013

Motion: Director Roberson made a motion to accept the administration's recommendation to submit a request for a waiver to the State Department allowing a 2012-13 early start date of Monday, August 13, 2012 for all district schools. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion.

President Johanson announced this was the time and place for the Board to hold a public hearing regarding the administration's recommendation to submit a request for a waiver to the State Department allowing a 2012-13 early start date of Monday, August 13, 2012 for all district schools. It was explained the notice of a public hearing was published in the Quad City Times on November 18, 2011. No one came forward to be heard. The public hearing was then declared closed.

Discussion: Director Roberson asked why we have this waiver. Ms. Weipert responded that the state requires that we file an early start date waiver in order to start school prior to the first week of September. Director Krumwiede stated that August 13th is the earliest we have ever started and asked why it is being moved up. Ms. Weipert stated they had a couple of priorities they were trying to meet in view of some information that was gathered from parents in calendar survey. Also in order to change calendars an earlier date had to be used to meet most of the requests from parents on both sides of calendars. One of the important requests was to have the semester end before winter break. Another request was to have semesters be balanced. We have conferences and other breaks required by union contract regarding holidays. When you put all those things together starting on August 13th allows us to meet those requests and allows us to have exact semesters. If we started later as we did this year on the 15th it makes have an imbalance of a couple of days in the semester and those extra two days are critical in helping us stay balanced and meeting all of the other criteria such as breaks and holidays required by union contract. Director Krumwiede said he expressed concern last year about the balanced calendar and that it was his understanding that there was going to be a compromise between the balanced and traditional calendars. He has heard from several teachers in the balanced calendar schools that this has not been done regarding the first semester and the breaks that were included. Director Krumwiede asked if this will allow us to have a fall break also.

Ms. Weipert stated we will not be able to have a fall break. She explained they have a variety of competing wants and needs between the traditional and balanced calendar schools and they also have to meet with the unions and stated the breaks are negotiated topics. She explained that the main request for the traditional calendar people was to be able to end as they usually do around the end of May. The balanced calendar went to 7th or 8th of June and they were not willing to compromise in that regard. She stated she had to pull a lot of teeth to get two weeks at spring break. She

said we have had seven days for Christmas and balanced had two weeks and so we have to put all those things together and get as close as possible to what parents want along with the negotiated items. Ms. Weipert said she felt they did a good job in striking a compromise and reiterated that we do have restraints under bargaining contracts.

Director DeFauw asked if families or staff were polled to determine how this would be received. Ms. Weipert replied that no polling has taken place, however, she has heard both positive and negative feedback and not having a fall break is still a point of discontentment. Director DeFauw stated that she knows that when we had a start date two years ago of August 20th we were still able to conclude the fall semester prior to Christmas break. She asked is that not the case for the balanced calendar and did their semester wrap Christmas break so they were ending their semester in January? Ms. Weipert said this depended on their break at holidays and October. One of the issues for both the traditional and the balanced was trying to end before Christmas and there is an imbalance and we had a lot of teachers very concerned about the imbalance because it can be up to eight days difference between first and second semester. Ms. Weipert also stated that it affects the schools who have quarter classes. Director DeFauw said she recalled in the past that we knew a certain portion of students would not report to school the prior to week following Labor Day and did we note any difference in the number of students that may not have come to school the second week in August as opposed to after Labor Day? Ms. Weipert stated she could not answer this but could find out. Ms. Reynolds stated this was a problem and they have noticed the closer we get to Labor Day the more students miss but the earlier we start the more students attend on time.

Director Clewell stated the administration has taken a deliberate approach to calendars and asked if what we now have is the best approach for ensuring student achievement. Ms. Weipert said we will work to ensure the best possible outcome for our students and families while working within the constraints that we have with union contracts.

President Johanson asked student board members for their opinions concerning the early start date of August 13th. David Mampre said he doesn't like it because he plays baseball and this doesn't allow much of a break for him. Whitney Leming agreed and said the same applies to those involved in the marching band and maybe if we got air conditioning it would make a difference. President Johanson asked if there was an urgency to approve this tonight and could this be postponed until Director Zamora is able to participate in the discussion. Ms. Weipert said it wasn't a matter of meeting a deadline, but that we do have to negotiate contracts and the sooner we get a start date the sooner we can start those conversations. She said she felt it would be better not delay the vote. Director Roberson stated that when you are involved in these negotiations you do need the dates in place and he knows from experience that it is important and he is not in favor of tabling the vote. President Johanson also said he received call from the Farm Bureau who expressed their concern about an early start date because this would affect 4-H participation in the fair.

President Johanson asked for an explanation regarding school starting the week in which September first falls. Ms. Weipert said that each week starts on Sunday. President Johanson said that if each week starts on Sunday then we would be starting

three weeks prior to what the code requires and asked if that was correct. Ms. Weipert stated that was correct. President Johanson commented he understands the complexity of this matter, however, it seems that this is more focused on breaks and vacations rather than student achievement. Ms. Weipert stated that state code has identified breaks and holidays as mandatory topics of bargaining and this is her answer.

Director Sherwood asked if a unified calendar is closer to what a balanced calendar looks like. Ms. Weipert said when we began this process we looked at different elements and tried to best of our abilities to achieve this. Director Sherwood stated there is research that indicates moving to a balanced calendar benefits kids in poverty. Ms. Weipert agreed you could argue this point. Director Krumwiede asked how this is closer to a balanced calendar because it appears that we are moving further away from balanced calendar. He noted there is one semester without any breaks and then we have second semester with two weeks of breaks and what impact does having two weeks off have on student achievement and then first semester with no breaks and what impact does this have on student achievement. He is thinking they are moving further away from a balanced calendar. Ms. Weipert stated again this is a compromise from one week in fall is absent and this was one thing we couldn't agree on. It looks more like a balanced calendar because we start earlier like the balanced calendar and have two weeks for winter break. She explained they are trying to pull all the elements together and again breaks and holidays are negotiated topics.

Director Krumwiede moved to table this discussion so Director Zamora could be involved in the discussion. There was not a second so the motion to table failed.

President Johanson asked for additional discussion on the original motion. Director Clewell stated it is hard for anyone to change, but he is satisfied that the administration has done the work given the constraints that we have that this is best we can do for student achievement and on this basis he will vote yes.

Vote: The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows:

Ayes: Roberson, De Fauw, Clewell, and Sherwood. Nays: Krumwiede and Johanson. The motion carried.

C. Wilson Climate Control Project Public Hearing

Motion: Director Roberson made a motion the board approve the plans and specifications for the climate control project at Wilson Elementary School as presented. Director Clewell seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Clewell asked about the capability of having air conditioning in the cafeteria. Mr. Martin stated we would have the capacity to do this. Director Clewell asked what it would cost to actually cool the air. Mr. Martin said we are ordering the same units as the classrooms and they will have the cooling coils in them to be able to provide that if we decide to turn it on. Director Clewell asked what it would cost to turn it on. Mr. Martin said it would involve incremental electrical costs to run both pumps. Director Clewell clarified that Mr. Martin is saying it is just a matter of turning the unit on and Mr. Martin said yes it is just a matter of turning it

on. President Johanson asked for clarification on what payback means exactly. Mr. Martin stated that it depends on the systems and cost of those systems. We have been using geothermal so this means we can pay back the difference of what the unit cost in 6.6 years. Mr. Martin stated that Richard Hemsley from KPE was in attendance at the meeting so he can also be available for clarification. President Johanson stated that the payback is from one system to the other both geothermal. Mr. Martin stated that was correct. Mr. Hemsley clarified that payback is the money saved annually based on operating costs. There are additional installation costs for geothermal but there is also savings from using geothermal and the payback in comparing with a chiller system is 10 years. Director Clewell asked in terms of protecting the environment how do you compare the ground loop vs. injection and asked which one is better environmentally. Mr. Martin stated that having two wells is much more environmentally friendly than putting 300 holes in the ground. Director Sherwood asked what the life expectancy of this unit is. Mr. Martin said a pump would be approximately 30-40 years.

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 climate control project at Wilson Elementary School as presented. It was explained the notice of public hearing was published in the Quad City Times on November 18, 2011. No one came forward to be heard. The public hearing was then declared closed.

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

D. Vision Statement - Board Approved 1-26-09

Motion: Director Krumwiede made a motion the board reaffirm the vision statement “Education that challenges conventional thinking, prepares all students to compete in a global society, and inspires our students, parents, staff, and community to answer the question, “What if?”” Director Roberson seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Clewell stated that 17 different focus groups provided input and the board worked for hours to make sure this statement reflected the community’s concerns and what you have here is pretty amazing given the reams of information we were provided. Director Roberson stated it was not an easy discussion to have and some people were upset. He pointed out the importance of the statement “competing globally” and we have to be able to compete in that environment and especially the “what if” statement at the end says a lot to him.

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

E. Mission Statement – Board Reaffirmed 1-26-09

Motion: Director De Fauw made a motion to reaffirm the mission statement “To enhance each student’s abilities by providing a quality education enriched by our diverse community.” Director Roberson seconded the motion.

Discussion: None

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

F. Belief Statements – Board Approved – 1-26-09

Motion: Director Clewell made a motion the board reaffirm the following belief statements:

We Believe.....

- All children can and will learn in the Davenport Community School District;
- Each child deserves respect;
- We must have high expectations for each child;
- We must never limit children;
- In the power of effective instruction
- Effective instruction encourages students to be inquisitive and to explore and discover;
- Every child has the right to a safe environment;
- A caring environment is important for student success because relationships impact learning;
- Extracurricular activities engage students in the educational environment;
- Effective schools nurture relationships and impact learning.

Director De Fauw seconded the motion.

Discussion: Director Roberson asked the student board members what they think of the statements. David Mampre remarked he disagreed with a statement made earlier that the expectations are high and that he thinks the classes are pretty easy and some students can pass without showing up for class all the time. Whitney Leming agreed and said expectations should be higher. Director Sherwood said he agreed with all the statements but suggested adding something about the universal benefits of continuous quality improvement. President Johanson asked Director Sherwood if he would like to make a motion to amend.

Motion to amend: Director Sherwood made a motion to amend the list by adding the following statement “we believe in the universal benefits of continuous quality improvement.” Director Krumwiede seconded the motion to amend.

Discussion: None

Vote to Amend: The vote to amend was called and recorded as follows: Ayes: Sherwood, Krumwiede, De Fauw, Clewell, Roberson and Johanson. The motion to amend carried unanimously.

Discussion: Director Krumwiede asked Dr. Tate what is the next step. Dr. Tate said he wants to get these up in all the schools and use them as a pedestal for our marketing. He wants to get them out in the schools and to the public through the media right away so they can be seen.

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

VII. DISCUSSION

A. Policy Review

Director De Fauw reviewed policy recommendations as presented.

307.04 Energy Use

505.01 Student Government

505.05 Athletic Eligibility Requirements

This policy will return to the policy committee for discussion at the next meeting

604.12 Balanced Enrollment

There was discussion about the statement “Procedures for balanced enrollment shall be evaluated on an annual basis” and Dr. O’Melia suggested the board secretary review trigger points as to when the schedule dictates we need a report.

102.02 Citizen Advisory Committee

604.10 Objection to Instructional Materials

B. Financial Benchmarks

Dr. Tate stated that it is important that we look at our financial benchmarks and introduced Ms. Tangen. Ms. Tangen stated we would like for board to review the financial benchmarks that were set several years ago. As the Resource Allocation Committee looks at the reductions that have to be made we need to know what goals we want to reach. Are we happy with the minimum fund balance or the minimum number of day’s net cash ratio? Ms. Tangen stated they need to know what the end goal is. She stated that what has been provided to the board is what we have had in the past with regard to certain recommendations as to where we should be. For example, the financial solvency ratio is that it be less than 5% the target of between 5-10% so we are able to meet unforeseen financial requirements. For example, the last couple of years when the state has cut

funding because we did have our fund balance high enough our cuts were not as deep. The days net cash ratio recommendation is 90 days which is based off of the Government Finance Officers Association, but more importantly it equates to the number of months we go without state aid in the summer. The unspent balance ratio equals what your fund balance ratio and this tells us the spending authority we have. The goal is to have spending authority meet the fund balance. Ms. Tangen stated these are the targets and an explanation of the ratios and stated we wanted to bring these recommendations to the board so as the Resource Allocation Committee is looking at reductions we need to know what the end goals are as the committee makes those decisions.

President Johanson asked for clarification on the unspent balance that is listed for 2006 at 13.57% and 2011 at 5-10%. He asked if we are currently at 13.57%. Ms. Tangen said 13.57 was from the 2006 handout and stated that we are currently at 6.3% which reflects that our spending authority has gone down.

President Johanson clarified that this means if we are at 6% that this is lower than the 10% that is being recommended. Ms. Tangen said that is correct. President Johanson asked Ms. Tangen what she is looking for from the board. Ms. Tangen said she would like to know where the board would like all three ratios to be but remarked that the unspent balance ratio is very important because our spending authority is going down.

President Johanson stated for the board to make recommendations, the board would need to know what the effects would be regarding different scenarios with the recommendation. For example, what would be the effect is the board agreed the recommendations or wanted them higher or lower? Ms. Tangen stated she can provide the board with the information on different scenarios and how this would affect budget reductions. Director DeFauw asked which ratio would have the most implications as she is reviewing the different ratios. Ms. Tangen stated the unspent balance ratio would be the most critical item because that is the one we are legally bound by.

C. Board Goals

President Johanson opened up the discussion asking the board where they were with regard to establishing board goals. He stated that the board has established some goals with the Superintendent but the board also has some responsibility to establish goals for itself. Director Sherwood reviewed some of the points made on the handout he received at the UEN/IASB meeting regarding how to establish board goals. Director De Fauw suggested the board revisit the board goals and suggested we set aside a time to accomplish this and this be a single agenda item at a meeting. Director Krumwiede agreed with Director DeFauw to review the goals we have and possibly establish new goals. He stated his understanding from the last board workshop was the board decided to have additional workshops and board goals would be the agenda item at the next workshop once it was scheduled. Director Roberson stated he believes we should look at what we have done in the past but we really need to establish what is driving what and when we do have this discussion this should be the only item on the agenda so we know we are in line with what we are asking the Superintendent to do. Director Clewell

agreed that it is high time we established board goals and mentioned the word “expectations”. He asked what the difference between expectations and goals is. Director Clewell also stated that we need to look at what is student achievement before we establish board goals. President Johanson asked the board if they wanted an outside facilitator to conduct this workshop and the general consensus was to get an outside facilitator to conduct the workshop. President Johanson stated he would arrange this.

D. Meeting Processes and Practices

President Johanson reviewed the questions presented at the last meeting regarding meeting processes and practices. He presented his understanding of what the board stated at the last meeting to ensure he had the proper understanding of each. He read each question and then asked for feedback regarding the board’s responses to those the questions. Regarding the question concerning agenda items and board requests, President Johanson stated his understanding is the following: Board members should indicate clearly on the request whether it is a request for an agenda item or an information request. Requests should be submitted on the form. All agenda requests will be submitted to the agenda committee and requests for information will go to the Superintendent. If further clarification is needed then the agenda committee or the Superintendent will contact the requestor. If there is going to be a significant delay for any reason that will be discussed with board member.

Board requests should be made at a meeting, not by e-mail and not in person. The only exception would be requests for information that are already prepared. All requests for information will be satisfied ASAP. If significant time or resources are required to satisfy the request the Superintendent will speak with board member first.

President Johanson asked for discussion regarding this item. Director Sherwood asked for clarification on what is considered a board request. If a parent calls him with a concern and he calls the Superintendent for information is this a board request? President Johanson stated that board requests are requests written on the Board Request Form requesting either information or a request for an agenda item. President Johanson asked Director Sherwood if he could clarify. Director Sherwood said he had a situation that concerned a student being denied being part of swim club and he asked Dr. Tate for the information regarding getting this situation. President Johanson asked Dr. Tate to respond. Dr. Tate stated that he wants to be responsive to both board members and parents and stated he gets calls from board members frequently asking about certain situations and he will respond to board members as soon as possible. This has to do with day to day parent and student matters as opposed to requesting reports or data. President Johanson clarified if it is a report or analysis that a specific board member is requesting this is requires the board member to complete the Board Request Form. Director Krumwiede asked if we know if there are any legal ramifications for not providing information to a board member. President Johanson clarified that every board request for information or a request for an agenda item is responded to. Requests for certain information may not be currently available and it may require a long time to prepare that information. In this case the

Superintendent would need to get back with the requestor as to how long it would take. Director De Fauw stated this conversation doesn't have anything to do with denying information but it is about the amount of detail that is being requested. There are natural cycles as to when certain information may be available and this is an option for providing certain information. She stated that she has not heard anyone suggest limiting information for a board member. Director Clewell shared that this topic was discussed at the recent UEN meeting but emphasized that he feels the primary goals should be about what is student achievement and sometimes we get caught up in operational aspects which then takes that away from the Administration. He stated we are a learning board and as we grow as a board these items will not be as important as we think they are.

President Johanson said regarding question #2 he stated the following is his understanding of what the board desires regarding how he controls time. No limits on time or frequency of discussion by any board members. If there is a time restraint items left on the agenda or additional discussion of an open topic may be tabled or postponed to a later meeting.

President Johanson asked for discussion. Director Clewell stated he would prefer to have boundaries and asked what Robert's Rules of Order says regarding this topic. President Johanson said it suggests that no one speaks more than once on a particular topic until everyone has had a chance to speak on that topic and that each person is limited to 10 minutes. Director Clewell stated this would be his personal preference. Director De Fauw stated that there were very strong opinions expressed contrary to this presented at the last board meeting.

President Johanson moved on his request of having the board secretary call the votes. He stated the board said he should do whatever he wants regarding this. There was no discussion.

President Johanson stated that question #5 concerned where we should go regarding collaboration and his understanding is that the board wants to be collaborative. When possible the President will inform the board prior to a meeting occurring. Any meeting that occurs between any board member and any organization will be reported as soon as possible. There was no discussion.

President Johanson moved on to the question of what are our restrictions are concerning open forum. He spoke with our attorney concerning this and she said the board can ask questions and make comments during open forum but we cannot take any actions. He stated that questions for the purposes of clarification should be allowed and that we do not need to be quite as rigid with regard to comments and questions. Director Clewell stated that Director Zamora had strong feelings on this issue and said he hopes we can have this discussion when she is able to participate. President Johanson agreed. Director Sherwood said he has concerns we could get too close to having a discussion. Director Roberson stated we need to be very careful because sometimes people come to open forum with certain motives and this can head down the wrong path. His preference is that people simply speak at open forum and if additional information is needed staff can address it separately. Director De Fauw stated she knows it is very daunting

to get up and speak during open forum and when you walk away and the board does not acknowledge you in any way it makes people question whether they were taken seriously. She said we need to use caution not to violate open meeting laws but that it is reasonable and welcoming to acknowledge the effort that people have made to bring their concerns to us and she is comfortable as long as we use caution not to violate open meetings laws. President Johanson stated we will continue to look at this item.

The next topic was comments and questions during presentations which are already included on the agenda. President Johanson stated that questions and comments should be generally allowed being careful not to get into a discussion or take any action. Director Roberson stated he has no issue allowing questions or comments during a presentation. Director DeFauw agreed. Director Krumwiede agreed and said people take a lot of time to prepare presentations and if we are going to be a learning board we need to be able to ask questions. Director Sherwood said he agrees.

President Johanson said the next item concerns the agenda committee and his understanding is that the board feels the committee should not be changed in any particular manner. We have enough changes taking place and he would prefer not change anything on at this point. Director Krumwiede stated that one of reasons he ran for Vice-President was to be able to participate in the agenda committee. He feels all board members should have the opportunity to serve on the agenda committee and other roles. Director Sherwood agreed with the idea of rotation. Director Clewell agreed that all board members should have the opportunity to participate and thinks a quarterly rotation, including President, Vice-President, Superintendent, and a rotating board member would provide this opportunity and hopes the board will consider this option. Director De Fauw said there is the matter of continuity that may be lost with rotating board members. Director Roberson mentioned the timeline that was provided in the board packets and stated that all requests will eventually become an item for discussion and will show up on this timeline. He encouraged all board members to take a look at the timeline. Director Clewell said he understands the need for continuity but stated we also need to provide the opportunity for all board members to learn along with the agenda committee and he thinks enough continuity is provided by the President, Vice-President, and Superintendent. He also stated that it should not require that much to make the changes. President Johanson reiterated that we do have enough to do right now as a board and that we already have a diverse set of perspectives on the committee and unless a board member brings this up he does not intend to bring the matter up regarding making any changes. President Johanson thanked everyone for their input.

C. Proximity of Businesses to Schools and Should the Board Take a Position

President Johanson stated that this question is stated a little different than Director Sherwood's request concerning asking the school dieticians their perspective on fast food restaurants and their proximity schools. President Johanson remarked that he received information from the city on their code requirements and information from the city's zoning department. President Johanson asked Director Sherwood to open up discussion on this topic. Director Sherwood explained that

the reason he brought this up was the proposal to build a McDonalds close to JB. His original question was whether the district should have a position regarding this and stated that he was assuming that maybe the board would be asking the city to include this in their zoning requirements when he saw this included in the packet. He said he doesn't know how the district feels about McDonald's proximity to schools and whether it is a concern for the district. He knows this probably is not an easy question to answer. Director Clewell said he certainly has concerns about some of things that go on in the city but he feels this is not in line with board responsibilities. The exception might be if we allowed mascots from these type organizations to advertise in the schools and this would cause concern. Director De Fauw said this makes her reflect on the wellness policy and how she would prefer providing the skills and tools students need to make healthy choices rather than to just say no. As she looks at the idea of taking a position on any business that will be a neighbor of our schools she can think of several fast food restaurants already in close proximity to schools in the district and this is a slippery slope to explore. Director Roberson said he would like to hear from the city regarding matters such as this so the board can provide input. Director Krumwiede stated many businesses in our community have been loyal partners with the schools and have provided resources and funds. He stated we need to be careful not to turn away any businesses that are supporting Davenport Schools. Director De Fauw stated her children have attended schools where there are at least a half dozen fast food restaurants nearby and many of those establishments have hosted and provided generous support for school functions that would not have taken place without their support. Director Sherwood stated he is constantly reminded how students are the target audience and ultimately our culture is obese and this leads to many health problems. He suggested we might pass some type of resolution that parents be aware of advertising and encourage parents to be aware of the kids eating habits when at school. Director De Fauw said she visited the McDonald's website and she reviewed the information with the board she pulled from that site. She also pointed out the information from the website stated that McDonald's has made a commitment not to promote the items on the menu that are high in fat and sodium to students and have hired a third party to monitor this effort. She encouraged the board to visit the website and will give this to the secretary so this can be distributed to the board. Director Krumwiede said we want to market the people who have been influential in our community and the CEO of McDonald's is a West High graduate and that he we should be very careful about what we do in dealing with businesses in the community.

President Johanson asked Director Sherwood to clarify the request regarding asking school dieticians for their input regarding this matter. Director Sherwood said he thought they would be the most knowledgeable group to ask. Dr. Tate stated it would be unfair to ask any member of the school what we thought of McDonald's because it would be their personal opinions. You can ask us about programs or instructional practices because that is what we should be responding to. He stated he hopes we are not asked that question. He said our job is to educate and part of education is making wise choices and you can go into any restaurant and made a good healthy choice or a food choice that will make you obese. He stated he does not want get into picking between McDonalds or any other business and that is his personal opinion. Director Sherwood clarified that his intention was more about raising consciousness about junk food and fast food

as a whole and this is an opportunity to have this conversation. He stated we do ask staff and students about things such as high caloric soft drinks in schools and this is an extension of that conversation. President Johanson thanked everyone for their comments.

VIII. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Dr. Tate referred to the handout 2012-13 Budget Communications Plan. He pointed out that we have formal plan for making this plan very transparent and open to the public. We plan to announce our communication plan and then release the plan to the media in a December time frame. The Resource Allocation Committee will give Dr. Tate a proposal in the January timeframe and then in March the school board will make a decision on the budget. He wants to reiterate it is the board's decision but he does want feedback from public forums. Dr. Tate referred to the back of the handout and reviewed the public input process indicated. They are going to make a major effort to provide information to the media as to what our process will be and that everyone will have opportunity to comment. He will provide his recommendation in March and provide the board with the information they need to make the best possible decision.

Director DeFauw suggested soliciting feedback from the booster groups of different high schools because they are most active and this would be a way to cast wide net

IX. BOARD REPORTS/REQUESTS

Director De Fauw encouraged everyone to attend the Annual Holiday Concert featuring the music departments of Central, North, and West High Schools tomorrow evening at 7:30 PM.

Director Sherwood congratulated Whitney Leming for being selected as Homecoming Queen. Director Sherwood had several board requests that are listed below.

Director Clewell wanted to recognize Betty Griffin, a curriculum and instruction specialist in the district, who was one of nine individuals honored by the Technology Association of Iowa at the 2011 Pioneer Hi-Bred Women of Innovation Award Ceremony. Ms. Griffin brought Project Lead the Way (PLTW) to Davenport and developed a PLTW summer camp for eighth graders and helped create a scholarship fund to promote college credit for high school students. Director Clewell said he thinks this is amazing.

Director Krumwiede shared some of his thoughts concerning the recent UEN/IASB meeting. He mentioned a keynote address by Dr. Reeves and how he reaffirmed many of the things that are already being done in the Davenport School district, Director Krumwiede wanted to commend our administration for doing the things he talked about. He also mentioned a workshop were they talked about how schools need to evaluate how many initiatives they are involved in. He referred to a statement he liked regarding this idea. The statement is "we need to pull the weeds before we plant the flowers" He said we should take a look at what can be taken off the plate for teachers and

administrators before we move on to new initiatives. Six or less initiatives was the recommended amount discussed at the meeting. Director Krumwiede said the presenter emphasized how important it is for school boards to have a clear vision, mission, values, beliefs, and goals. Director Krumwiede also mentioned a break out session concerning communicating difficult messages and how the Clinton school district has gone through some very difficult situations. He explained how they talked communication with media and the public regarding these difficult and situations and noted that the Principal and Superintendent did a great job. He has the handouts if anyone is interested.

Director Sherwood said it is worth saying twice that we are very proud of this district and that we are doing very well and this is very important for staff to hear. He also mentioned his interest in the Baccalaureate schools and how rigorous the curriculum is for these schools. He hopes we could get a couple of board members to visit some of these schools that are in Des Moines.

Director Clewell said the meetings were worth the trip. He said we are doing ok but not good enough. He stated the whole UEN and IASB meetings were about board governance and state he thinks we are moving forward in starting a discussion about expectations. Regarding Legislative Advocacy issues Director Clewell mentioned how the general assembly of the IASB voted to not include a UEN member on the IASB board. On the funding equity issue the UEN voted to approve the funding equity issue as a priority and IASB also voted to approve this as a legislative priority. He feels there is a great deal of commitment and hope regarding this and hopes this will be a prerequisite for moving forward with the Governor's Blueprint plan.

President Johanson stated he attended the UEN steering committee in place of Director Zamora who could not attend. Director Zamora is our representative. The steering committee is made up of four superintendents and four board members. During this meeting he had the opportunity talk about the equity resolution and this is where Lew Finch told his story about getting called by the Governor who asked what in the heck is going on in Davenport. This is drawing attention to the need and the Steering Committee said they would probably like to expand the resolution and also have a UEN resolution that would be along the same vein. He also mentioned Larry Seigel who could be the best versed person in the state regarding the foundation formula. This information is on the ISFIS website. He also mentioned the presenter, Jamie Volmer, who discussed ways to think differently.

President Johanson mentioned the agenda planning timeline and reminded everyone that this document is very tentative and subject to change.

Director Clewell mentioned that a former student board, Nick De LaCruz will be coming on December 12 to speak with the board and student board members about his experiences since graduating from the district and to share his successes.

Director Sherwood had the following requests:

1. Request for information: I have received a letter from a teacher asserting that many students opt for APEX instructions to avoid the more challenging requirements of the traditional classroom. This teacher says that in his experience is that it is not unusual for a student to finish a semester of APEX material in less than 1/3 of the time that a student would spend in a regular classroom. Further, this teacher claims that students can game the APEX system by testing out of sections by repeatedly taking embedded tests until they pass having very little interaction with the content. My question therefore is how do we ensure rigor and integrity in the APEX system? Also, the teacher mentioned he is willing to discuss the matter with administration if they are interested.
2. Request for agenda item: I request the topic of how we might improve the participation rates of our minority students in our Advanced Placement courses. I am requesting this be placed on the agenda for discussion.
3. Request for agenda item: I request the topic of home instruction be placed on the agenda as discussion item. I am interested in how we determine the number of hours of teacher contact that each homebound student receives and how we know those hours are adequate to maintain “reasonable” achievement. I would like for staff to be prepared to discuss what reasonable achievement is.

These requests will be presented to the Agenda Committee or the Superintendent for follow up.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Clewell moved the board adjourn. Director Krumwiede seconded the motion. By consensus President Johanson declared the meeting adjourned at 10:02 PM

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer