

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

December 6, 2010

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, December 6, 2010, pursuant to law. The meeting was held in the Jim Hester Board Room, Administration 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, Patt Zamora, Ken Krumwiede, Nikki De Fauw, Rich Clewell, Tim Tupper and Larry Roberson. Director Krumwiede left at 7:00 PM. Superintendent Julio Almanza and other administrators were present.

Olweus Program (Bullying)

Ellen Reilly gave a presentation on the district Olweus (Bullying) Program. The full presentation is available with the permanent minutes. This program was developed by Dr. Dan Olweus, who is a pioneer in researching bullying. The purpose of the program is to reduce existing bullying problems, to prevent new bullying problems and to achieve better peer relations at school. There are four components to the program: School-wide, classroom, individual interventions and community involvement. Data from 7 elementary school surveys was shared showing bullying issues before the program and after the program was implemented. The general trends show improvement of bullying issues after the program has been introduced. Director Clewell noted that even one incident can be considered bullying. Director Krumwiede asked about the training for the program. Ms. Reilly explained that the building is pre-tested, the staff is trained, the building begins the program and then there is a post-test the following year. There will be annual data collected which will be shared with the board. Director Zamora was concerned about the reading level for 3rd graders of the survey. If needed, the survey is read to students for full understanding. Director De Fauw noted that many bullying instances are beyond the school day. How do we deal with that? Ms. Reilly noted that particularly with older students cyber-bullying is an issue and being watched closely. The hope is that reporting of off campus incidents will increase also. Director Tupper asked how many students are surveyed. Ms. Reilly stated at least 30% of students are surveyed in a building. Some buildings survey all students. Director Roberson is concerned that bullying keeps students at home and affects student achievement. He is especially concerned about after school hours. He thinks we need to continue to pay more attention to bullying in the future and this program is a good first step. Director Tupper stressed the importance of consistency throughout the district in dealing with bullying.

Audit Report

McGladrey & Pullen reported on the district annual audit. The full report is available in the minutes and will be published on the district website after official approval by the board. Due to the amount of one-time federal stimulus money received last year, it is likely that there will have to be some budget cuts for next year's budget and the district

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may have to use some dollars from the fund balance again. The board will begin budget discussions in the near future.

Other Information

The board secretary presented information on a board website that is in development on a Google site for board members to access board packets and other documents. Board members were asked to explore the site for input on this idea.

The meeting was adjourned by President Johanson at 7:15 PM.

Lynnette Carver, Board Secretary