

**DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE CENTER
JIM HESTER BOARD ROOM
1606 BRADY STREET
DAVENPORT, IOWA**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
FEBRUARY 4, 2013**

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, February 4, 2013 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, Larry Roberson, Nikki De Fauw and Patt Zamora. Superintendent Art Tate and other administrators were present.

1. Consideration of Using Consultant

President Johanson explained this agenda item is in response to a board request. Mr. Roy Johanson, a business management consultant, participated by phone and provided the board with a brief overview of his professional experience and then discussed the differences between operational issues and mission and performance issues. President Johanson asked for specific questions from the board. Director Clewell stated how it is always a good idea to have performance looked at from the outside. He asked Roy what someone from the outside might bring to the table that could not be provided by someone from inside the organization. Roy purposed that an outside perspective can provide objectivity and forces a scaling down of thinking which usually results in more clarity in describing decision making to all stakeholders. There was a discussion about start up time and different approaches that may be used. Director Krumwiede stated the Davenport School District has an extensive review every five years and asked how his service would be different than this review. Roy explained his process in more detail and the benefits of cross fertilization. Director Roberson added how valuable outside feedback has been in his profession and how beneficial it has been for him to bring in outsiders with no manufacturing background to ask questions about their process. Director Sherwood reiterated the difference between the operational and mission areas and noted that it could be beneficial to bring a different perspective to look at the operations side of the district. Sherwood asked how disruptive the process would be. Roy explained how he uses structured interviews and provided more detail on the process. President Johanson asked Roy about the cost for his services. Roy stated that the work he does commercially is very expensive, however, for a small time commitment he would be happy to provide his service to the district either pro bono or at very little cost.

2. Overview of ALICE

Dr. Tate explained that various school districts are implementing the new school security system called ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate), and explained the district has been looking at this system and wanted to provide the board with an overview and an opportunity to ask questions. Tate clarified that they do not plan to implement or train on this system until he gets feedback from the board on whether they want to move in this direction. Sgt. Andy Neyrinck, police liaison for the district, explained that he completed the ALICE training and has helped various districts with their trainings. He introduced other police officers in attendance at the meeting and explained that if the district decides to implement this system there are many resources available within the community to assist with training. Andy made note of the tragedy of the recent school shootings at Sandy Hook Elementary and stated that since Columbine there has been a total 175 people killed in school shootings. He explained the traditional response to “lockdown” and how teachers and staff have been trained to have students get on the floor and stay in place. He played the audio of the 911 call from the librarian during the Columbine shootings and suggested that students could have escaped from the library since there were multiple exits in the time it took for the 911 call. He reviewed some truths about attackers and why shooters pick schools, malls, and churches and discussed how “lockdown” as a standalone plan does not deter these types of people. He reviewed the various components of ALICE and presented the advantages for implementing this system. Some of the biggest differences with this plan versus the current plan is that information is being provided over the intercom in real time for everyone in the school to hear and that the “counter” category is a last resort and would be age-appropriate. He explained that all staff would be trained and that other school districts have conducted community forums to gather public feedback before implementing a change. Andy encouraged everyone to visit the following website www.responseoptions.com for more information.

Director Sherwood asked what organizations are supporting this. Andy responded that the Department of Homeland Security, the National Association of Chief’s of Police are among the organizations advocating this program. Director Sherwood asked about response time and the option of barricading doors. Sherwood also noted how important the communication piece is and asked about adding more radios in the buildings. Scott Martin stated they are looking at this option and tying district radios with the City of Davenport. Sherwood asked about threat assessment teams and Andy said they are working on this and will be having another meeting soon. Director Krumwiede said the public forums would be very important to both gather public feedback and inform the public. He said he has always felt uncomfortable with lockdown and has thought it would be better to evacuate when possible. He stated that parents are concerned about the “counter” aspect of ALICE, but if they are provided more information and clarification during forums this would be very helpful. Krumwiede asked if all Clinton schools are going to use ALICE and Andy responded that is correct. There was a discussion about training and Andy explained that district staff and partners would provide training to district employees. Andy recommended that a few board members and administrators attend the 3 day training. Krumwiede shared he visited a school recently where the principal was able to lock every door in the building with a touch of a button. He expressed a concern about staff not having access to keys for locked doors, especially substitute teachers. Scott said this concern was discussed at their most recent safety and security meeting and this is being addressed. Sherwood noted training on security procedures should be provided to substitute teachers. Scott noted there is an active list of substitutes in the district and this can be used to contact the substitute teachers. Director Zamora asked if tasers or pepper spray has been considered. Andy said this has not been considered, but Scott noted it could be considered. Director Clewell said it is amazing that we have waited this long to realize we can do something else besides passively sit and wait. He said it would be good to involve board members in training as it offers a good opportunity for all of us to understand how we can take an active role. Clewell asked what administration’s plan is for the next step. Dr. Tate stated this was step one to get the board’s feedback and reaction, so the next step would be to

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develop a plan and timeline and present that to the board. Director Sherwood stated for him, the sooner the better. Director Roberson stated he would like for professionals to be involved and he would like to hear their recommendations.

3. Community Schools

Rachael Steiner introduced Sarah Harris and Shaney Ford and they provided an overview of the Community Schools program. Rachael explained that the overall goal of the program is leveraging community resources to support academic achievement. They engage a variety of entities in the process including parents and families and volunteers and have strengthened the Network of Community Schools Partnership. She explained there has been quite an increase in collaboration and planning across the community. She explained the Community Education Model which includes academic support, youth and community development; health and social services and community engagement. She discussed the activities and program that are included in each of the categories including personalized curriculum and differentiated instruction, parenting and family supports, Youthfest, Americorp/YouthCorps, wellness activities, schools as neighborhood centers and Coats for Kids. Rachael discussed some of the next steps which includes new academic alignments involving Out of School Time, continued outreach to the faith based community with a focus on smaller more specialized committees and improving communications and ongoing dialogues.

Director Krumwiede asked about volunteer management. Rachael explained that Sarah oversees the volunteer center at the ASC working with Americorps, Davenport Volunteer Connections and others to do active programming, recruiting and volunteer management. Director Sherwood asked about the training provided to the family involvement liaisons and it was explained they do receive training through the Iowa State University Extension. Sherwood discussed the need for wrap around services especially for kids who live in poverty and discussed some statistics in the district. He asked what services are provided for kids in poverty and asked them to discuss Washington in particular. He also asked for some data on the free lunch program and Rachael responded they are working on this issue. Director Clewell stated he has seen firsthand how effective these programs have been for the students and community.

President Johanson asked if there were any objections to adjourning the meeting and there was none. The meeting was adjourned by President Johanson at 7:25 PM.

Mary Correthers, Recording Secretary