

**DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**  
**ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE CENTER**  
**JIM HESTER BOARD ROOM**  
**1606 BRADY STREET**  
**DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2016**  
**REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**6:00 PM**

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met on Monday, February 8, 2016, for their Regular Meeting. The meeting was held at the Achievement Service Center, 1606 Brady St., Davenport, Iowa, in said District. President Johanson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

**1. OPENING ITEMS**

**1.01** On roll call the following board members were present: Directors: Ralph Johanson, Rich Clewell, Julie DeSalvo, Dan Gosa, Linda Hayes and Jamie Snyder. Dr. Tate and other administrators were present.

**1.02** Director Gosa read the board priorities and Director Snyder read the mission and vision statements.

**2. ACTION ITEM**

**2.01 Approval of Letter to Department of Education**

**Motion** by Director Clewell and seconded by Director Hayes the board approved and signed the letter to Dr. Ryan Wise, Director of the Iowa Department of Education in response to a December 28, 2015, email from Tom Cooley concerning projected negative unspent balance.

**Discussion:** Director DeSalvo said this is a very important decision and that the board is doing an extreme thing for the sake of our students and that the board is willing to fight for that. Director Snyder said that it is unfortunate that it comes down to us taking a stand for our students and others who are discriminated against. The funding formula is 40 plus years old; the legislators know it is wrong, but they don't know how to fix it, so they ignore it. Director Clewell read the letter addressed to Dr. Wise and stated that this is a watershed moment for the Board, formally showing our intent to go forward in violating state code. It comes down to civil disobedience committed in order to provide a quality of education for our students. Clewell emphasized that it reaches a point where patience and funds run thin and this is not a decision we have taken capriciously. We are taking a stand tonight that our children are not worth less than other students. Director Gosa expressed appreciation to Julie DeSalvo, Anthony DeSalvo, and Dr. Tate. Director Hayes said not only will we be known as a district of distinction, but also as a district of trailblazers. Anthony DeSalvo thanked the board for standing up for Davenport students and those throughout Iowa. President Johanson said he has investigated potential consequences for Board members but this action is unprecedented and consequences are unknown. He said there is potential for citations, fines, and removal from office. Johanson expressed frustration and said it appalls him that the legislators have not publicly recognized that something has to be corrected. Public education is so important and it is inappropriate to say it could take another 40 years to fix this issue. At least make movement on it. When the Superintendent dips into the reserves, intentionally and without permission from the state, he will violate Iowa Code. Johanson said it is possible Dr. Tate could lose his license and his job. He said he hopes to receive additional guidance soon and expressed how concerned he is for all board members. Director Clewell mentioned there are consequences for

our students as well and discussed how the budget has not kept up with inflation and how the district has had to reduce para educators, increase class size, offer early retirement, reduce transportation and close schools and all of these have an impact on students and achievement.

**Vote:** All Ayes motion carried.

**Note:** Each Board member affixed their signature to the letter addressed to Mr. Wise following their vote. Director Gosa was joined by his two children; Director DeSalvo was joined by her son, Anthony DeSalvo.

### **3. STUDENT BOARD REPORTS**

James Heinrichs, Carolyn Wojtkowski, Lorraine Pereira, and Gabe Behrendt provided reports on activities happening at their respective schools.

### **4. BOARD REPORTS**

Director Hayes attended a Navigator/Neighbor program this morning. This is a continuation of Donna Beegle's teachings on poverty. Her take-away thought is that if you judge, you can't connect. Director Gosa attended the student-built home open house and said the students did a wonderful job on the home. Director Clewell discussed the February 15<sup>th</sup> Annual "Get on the Bus" trip to Des Moines and over 60 students are signed up to go. Director DeSalvo stated the board had representation at the City Council meeting last week and said the city is on board for our equality in funding efforts. President Johanson discussed the effort of the Government Affairs Committee which is a subcommittee of the Legislative Advocacy committee and how they had a student attend the last meeting through the efforts of Julie Heller, Central teacher and committee member. Central High School students then formed a committee, appointed responsibilities to the students, and by the following week, they had a student representative from North and from West. Mid City plans to get a representative as well. He said he is excited to see the high schools are working together on this issue and he has confidence that the students will be able to do things that the board cannot do.

### **5. SHOWCASE**

#### **4.01 Williams Intermediate School**

Garet Egel, Principal at Williams Intermediate School, introduced Justin Lamer and Myriam Stangherlin, ESL teachers at Williams. Mr. Lamer and Ms. Stangherlin delivered a presentation on the ESL program at Williams and fielded questions from the Board.

### **6. COMMUNICATIONS**

#### **6.01 Upcoming Events and Meetings**

February 9th, 5:30PM LSIAC (Local School Improvement Advisory Committee), ASC, Jim Hester Board Room

February 15th, Student Get on the Bus Trip to Des Moines

February 16th, Special Election 7AM-8PM (List of voting centers on table with agenda)

February 22nd, 6:00PM, Regular Meeting, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room

March 1st, 4:00PM, Legislative Advocacy Committee, ASC, Executive Board Room

March 2nd, 4:00PM, Policy Meeting, ASC, Executive Board Room

March 7th, 5:30PM, Committee of the Whole, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room

March 14th, 6:00PM, Regular Meeting, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room

March 28th, 6:00PM, Regular Meeting, ASC, Jim Hester Board Room

#### **6.02 Open Forum for Community Input**

None

**7. CONSENT AGENDA**

**7.01 Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, Leaves, Etc.**

APPOINTMENTS: CERTIFICATED

Ackley, Cole Special Education SCI Hayes Elementary	Degree: B.A. - Step 1 Salary: \$36,080.00 Prorate to \$16,382.27 for the remaining 84 days in the 2015-16 School Year
Halterman, Bridgette Math Williams Intermediate	Degree: B.A. - Step 1 Salary: \$36,080.00 prorated to \$15,407.37 for the remaining 79 days in the 2015-16 School Year

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Porter, James Assistant Co-Ed Track Sudlow Intermediate	5% \$1,551.00
Trujillo, Michael Head Girls' Cross Country Central High	20% \$6,204.00
VandeMoortel, Laura Assistant Girls' Soccer West High	12% \$3,722.00

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Gallagher-Quilty Para Educator Wilson Elementary	Effective: February 3, 2016 Salary: \$13.19/hr Hours: 7.0 hrs/day
Gang, Jennifer Para Educator Madison Elementary	Effective: February 1, 2016 Salary: \$11.69/hr Hours: 6.5 hrs/day
Lear, Christina Para Educator Children's Village Hoover	Effective: February 12, 2016 Salary: \$12.26/hr Hours: 6.25 hrs/day
Macksey, Christopher Para Educator North High	Effective: January 29, 2016 Salary: \$11.69/hr Hours: 6.5 hrs/day
McKenzie, Nikki Para Educator Fillmore Elementary	Effective: January 25, 2016 Salary: \$11.19/hr Hours: 6.5 hrs/day

Mills, Megan Para Educator DLC-Keystone Academy	Effective: February 3, 2016 Salary: \$15.60/hr Hours: 7.0 hrs/day
Nelson, Pamela FNS Worker North High	Effective: January 25, 2016 Salary: \$10.29 Hours: 3.75 hrs/day
Nutt, Jennifer Para Educator JB Young K-8	Effective: February 1, 2016 Salary: \$11.69/hr Hours: 6.5 hrs/day
Scott, Lois Para Educator Washington Elementary	Effective: February 8, 2016 Salary: \$10.84/hr Hours: 4.0 hrs/day

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Hester, Janelle Assistant Girls' Basketball North High	12% \$3,722.00
Hite, Adam Assistant Football Walcott Intermediate	7% \$2,171.00
Parks, Willie Assistant Girls' Track North High	12% \$3,722.00
Ziesmer, Daniel Assistant Girls' Track North High	12% \$3,722.00

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Disterhoft, Brandi Para Educator Buchanan Elementary	Effective: February 1, 2016 Years of Service: 2 yrs, 3 mos
Duex, Tania Sub - FNS Operations	Effective: January 29, 2016 Years of Service: 3 yrs, 1 mos
Triplett, Kaleisha Para Educator JB Young K-8	Effective: January 19, 2016 Years of Service: 2 yrs 3 mos

Mitchell, Lucene  
FNS Worker  
Central High

Effective: January 5, 2016  
Years of Service: 15 years

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Benson, Michael  
Head Custodian  
Hayes Elementary

Unpaid Leave of Absence  
Effective: March 9, 2016 - June 30, 2016

**7.02 Approval of Minutes 1-25-16 Regular Meeting**

**7.03 Contract: Legat Architect for \$38,700**

**7.03 Contract: Sterling Commerical Roofing (\$32,180)**

**Motion** by Director Snyder and seconded by Director DeSalvo the board approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

**Discussion:** None.

**Vote:** All Ayes motion carried.

**8. APPROVAL OF BILLS**

**8.01 Motion** by Director Clewell and seconded by Director Hayes the board approved the following resolution for the payment of bills and salaries: 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 period of 1-21-16 through 2-3-16.

**Discussion:** None.

**Vote:** All Ayes motion carried.

**9. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

Dr. Tate reported that five students qualified for state swimming – four from Central and one from North. Rob Scott reported on the celebration surrounding Super Bowl 50 and the honoring of past players and their respective high schools. Three former Central High School students have played in the Super Bowl. High schools, coaches and family members were honored by the NFL at a celebration last weekend. Schools were presented with a gold football to keep. Next, Dr. Tate mentioned that he issued a stair challenge to the ASC employees. Anyone who wants to participate is counting the number of stairs climbed for the month of February in direct competition with him. At the end of the challenge gift cards will be awarded and a pizza party held.

**10. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION**

**10.01 –Approval of Plans and Specifications for Smart Secure Entry Project.**

**Motion** by Director Clewell and seconded by Director Gosa the board approved the plans and specifications for the Smart Intermediate School Secure Entry Project.

President Johanson conducted a public hearing on the project. No one came forward. The public hearing was declared closed.

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** All Ayes motion carried.

**10.02 –Approval of Plans and Specifications for Central Auditorium Repurpose**

**Motion** by Director Hayes and seconded by Director DeSalvo the board approved the plans and specifications for the Central Auditorium Repurpose and Renovation.

President Johanson conducted a public hearing on the project. No one came forward. The public hearing was declared closed.

**Discussion:** None

**Vote:** All Ayes motion carried.

**10.03 Approval of Contract with Tri-City Electric**

**Motion** by Director DeSalvo and seconded by Director Gosa the board approved the contract with Tri City Electric in the amount of \$119,366.40 for the District Wide Cabling Project.

**Discussion:** Mike Maloney and Eric Page fielded several questions about why a change order was required and if all schools were considered in the original scope of work.

**Vote:** Ayes: Hayes, DeSalvo, Gosa, Snyder, Johanson. Clewell abstained. Motion carried.

**10.04 – Approval of Contract with Terracon Consultants, Inc.**

**Motion** by Director Hayes and seconded by Director Clewell the board approved the contract with Terracon Consultants Inc. in the amount of \$72,000 for asbestos consulting.

**Discussion:** None.

**Vote:** All Ayes motion carried.

**10.05 – Approval for Director Clewell to write Bi-Weekly Newsletter**

**Motion** by Director DeSalvo and seconded by Director Gosa the board granted the authority for Director Clewell, as Chair of the Legislative Advocacy Committee, to write and distribute a bi-weekly newsletter during the remainder of the current Iowa General Assembly.

**Discussion:** Director Snyder asked how Clewell envisions this report and how does this fit with the philosophy of who speaks on behalf of the board. Clewell responded that the Legislative Advocacy Committee has worked to provide the board with education updates. This newsletter will be provided to UEN and IASB in hopes they will provide it to their members. It is meant to keep people apprised.

**Vote:** All Ayes motion carried.

**11. DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**11.01 Governor’s SAVE Proposal**

Generally speaking, the Governor has proposed using a portion of SAVE funds to solve water quality issues in the state and to extend the date SAVE will sunset. Mrs. Tangen gave examples and projections of the impact on Davenport Schools if the Governor’s proposal was adopted. Board members voiced that the governor should not use SAVE for water quality issues but do agree with extending the sunset date. Johanson said the penny tax started with a countywide sales tax (LOST). When we went to a statewide sales tax, it cost our district in funding. This fund has done a lot of good for a lot of districts. Johanson agrees that water quality is important in the state, but doesn’t agree with diverting money dedicated to education. Board members agreed they would like to see a discussion about potential changes to the SAVE distribution structure.

### **11.02 Budget**

Dr. Tate distributed the most current preliminary draft budget plan, and discussed the various items in the budget document. Mr. Schneden spoke about balanced enrollment and its effect on paraeducator needs. Mr. Scott mentioned that we are considering closing classes with fewer than 15 students at the high schools. Dr. Tate mentioned that Jon Flynn and Steve Schwaegler will be at the next board meeting to discuss reductions in extracurricular activities and that the budget will be a discussion item at all upcoming meetings and will be an action item the last meeting in March. DeSalvo asked about the insurance holiday and how to determine an amount. Mrs. Tangen replied that we have to set the amount equal to a multiplier of monthly premiums. Director Gosa asked about para support and increase in class sizes and about decreasing the number of school days. Mr. Schneden explained there is a funding formula for additional para hours to support larger class sizes. Mr. Scott mentioned that current class size recommendations are 20-28, K-5<sup>th</sup> grade. Administration clarified that a continuation of the conversation about block versus traditional schedules will start in the spring and a final decision is required in the fall.

There was discussion about taking the break in January to save the most on utilities and Andrew DeNoyer stated that adding a week to winter break when students have to come back and take tests would be terrible. Clewell asked about the impact of these budget cuts on student achievement. Mr. Schneden said at some point adding minutes to a day is going to have a negative effect on achievement because of curriculum pacing, and he feels cutting extracurricular activities will also have a cost. Mr. Scott replied that transportation issues are concerning and asked if it is realistic to expect a high school student to walk three miles or a 6<sup>th</sup> grader to walk two miles each way to school. DeSalvo and Gosa asked about cost savings for closing the Achievement Service Center and they were assured savings were taken into consideration. Johanson stated it is alarming that we might decide to hold a class based on the number of students enrolled and we must also consider transportation and safety with respect to walk zones.

### **11. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

None.

### **12. BOARD REQUESTS**

None.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Director Snyder moved the board adjourn. Director Gosa seconded the motion. By consensus President Johanson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

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Brenda Thie, Recording Secretary