

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE CENTER
JIM HESTER BOARD ROOM
1606 BRADY STREET
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803
MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2015
Board Self Evaluation
5:00PM

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met on Monday, March 16, 2015 for a Board Self Evaluation held at the St. Ambrose Alumni House, 1527 Brady Street, Davenport Iowa. President Johanson called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

On roll call the following board members were present: Directors: Ralph Johanson, Rich Clewell, Maria Dickmann, Nikki DeFauw, Jamie Snyder, Ken Krumwiede and Linda Hayes. Superintendent Art Tate was also present. Margaret Buckton facilitated.

Ms. Buckton led board members in a discussion on the following topics: Davenport belief statements; eight traits of effective boards and results of the board survey; board roles and responsibilities; working together more effectively; board planning and sharing key learning points. The board completed several exercises and a brief work session and arrived at the following action steps to be reviewed/taken in the future:

1. Revisit beliefs and talk about them often (consider timing for revisit – what are the benefits and what is lost based on timing of reconsideration, before or after school board election)
2. Identify a person on the board to be the professional development/board learning advocate, to keep board learning at the forefront of the conversation, constantly asking, what do we need to learn together about this?
3. Consider addition to a communication policy or creation of a new policy regarding the process of board communication with constituents and communication flow channels between the board and superintendent.
4. Consider board agendas related to how much time on the agenda is spent on the three board duties/responsibilities (legislative/policy, executive, evaluative) and be attentive to which duty is germane to the agenda item (ask the question, “is this issue about our policy making duty, our delegation to the superintendent (executive duty), or our expectation of education program (evaluative duty)?
5. Conduct an information session for orientation candidates, regarding board duties, school finance situation, board beliefs and mission, etc. Also talked about the need for quick orientation and learning for newly elected board members in the Fall.
6. Board would benefit from defining what is meant by the term “student achievement” for our students in Davenport.
7. Ask the administration to prepare an inventory or matrix of the list of all initiatives undertaken in the district.

3-16-15 Minutes

8. Continue Davenport's focus on advocacy for equity, spreading to other school districts potentially benefitted and their publics.
9. Learn more about effectively connecting with parents and community – what is working elsewhere and what can we improve upon?

President Johanson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30PM

Mary Correthers, Recording Secretary