

**DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BUFFALO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017
5:30PM**

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met on Monday, March 6, 2017 for their Committee of the Whole Meeting. The meeting was held at Buffalo Elementary School, 1000 Jefferson Street, Buffalo, IA. President Johanson called the meeting to order at 5:30PM. Present: Directors Johanson, Snyder, Gosa, DeSalvo, Mayfield and Clewell. Director Hayes was absent.

1.01 Tour of STEAM Lab

Board members took a tour of the STEAM Lab at the school.

1.02 Community Eligibility Program

Micki Carrington, Supervisor of Food and Nutrition Services presented new information concerning the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) which has allowed high-poverty schools in the district to offer both breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students while eliminating the traditional school meal application process. In SY 14-15 (17) Davenport School participated in CEP. Two additional schools were added in SY 15-16. She explained that review of the data they collect shows a decline significant enough to warrant ceasing the CEP at multiple district schools. She reviewed the data with the board. It is anticipated that nine schools will no longer qualify for CEP. A multifaceted communication plan is being developed to inform families of the changes. Beginning in April information will be distributed to all impacted families and Food and Nutrition Team members will be available during school registration events to provide assistance with the meal application process.

1.03 10 year Facility Plan

Mike, Maloney and other staff members presented the 10 Year Facility Plan. Maloney explained that the Long Range Facility Plan Leadership Team has met over a dozen times to consider the priorities of capital fund allocation and the sequence of upcoming projects. The team consists of Dr. Tate, Marsha Tangen, Rob Scott, Bill Schneden, TJ Schneckloth, Patti Pace-Tracy, Dawn Saul, Rachael Steiner, Gary Sloat, Corri Guy, Juli Stazewski, Mike Maloney, Kris Kleinsmith and Greg Gowey. Maloney reviewed the criteria used to evaluate the scope and sequence of projects which include the following: health, safety and security; conformance to our education specifications to improve academic achievement; addition of PreK at elementary schools and new multipurpose /dining rooms on mail floor; District of Distinction programs to maintain and attract enrollment and offer excellence; projects that reduce the negative impacts of poverty on our families; energy efficiency projects to lower general fund costs; and using capital funds to pay for eligible expenses currently in the general fund. Maloney reviewed the projects included in the plan and also outlined some of the proposed changes they are recommending.

Board members expressed various concerns about the plan presented. Director DeSalvo requested the science wings be moved up on the plan due to safety concerns and commented on the importance of overall equity between the high schools. Director Mayfield agreed with DeSalvo on this point. President Johanson requested a future discussion about pursuing the energy efficiency projects on a larger scale and to also consider the solar energy projects because this will save more money in the general fund. DeSalvo expressed she is against delaying school projects in order to pursue solar at this time. Director Gosa suggested revisiting the requirement for lowest, responsible, responsive bid and that this approach doesn't always provide the best contractor for the job. Director Clewell expressed his appreciation to the leadership team and also requested a future discussion on energy efficiency projects included the plan.

1.04 Budget

Dr. Tate explained that he and Ms. Tangen are working on budget planning in case he is no longer with the district. Board members asked about not filling the District Athletic Director position and Tate explained they are considering hiring part-time staff. Director Gosa asked how the priorities are made regarding cutting teachers vs. administrators and Tate provided more details. Ms. Tangen explained she would present the proposed tax levy rate at the March 27 Regular Meeting and the rate would need to be approved at the April 10 Regular Meeting in order to meet the required deadline. President Johanson asked if it is likely she will propose a higher tax levy rate and Ms. Tangen said that was very likely.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00PM.

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer