

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Achievement Service Center

Jim Hester Board Room

1606 Brady Street

Davenport, IA 52803

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 6, 2016

5:30PM

1.01 Video Presentation on Future Board Training

Director Hayes introduced Ms. Loredia Dixon. Ms. Dixon is in charge of the Poverty Navigator program which stems from the work of Dr. Donna Beegle, author of the book “See Poverty... Be the Difference.” The board conducted a book study on Dr. Beegle’s book last year and Ms. Dixon will assist in providing the board with additional sessions around this topic. Ms. Dixon explained that a Navigator is an individual who pledges to be a resource and contact for a Neighbor (an individual in our community) experiencing poverty. Navigators attend a training to learn the best ways to help neighbors in poverty and leave the training with resources and information to successfully help the neighbors with whom they are matched. The board’s involvement stems from one of the board’s priority to “direct and support actions, programs, and activities which reduce the impacts of poverty on our students, their families, and our community.” Ms. Dixon showed an 11 minute video featuring Dr. Beegle in which she discussed research on poverty and barriers to education. Director Hayes commented on the importance of being open minded and non-judgmental. Director Mayfield commented on the book “The Lies My Teacher Told Me” that was referenced in the video and how this is really a historical book and how important that history is to current issues. Hayes and Dixon mentioned that Dr. Beegle will be visiting the Quad Cities again this month for the next Opportunity Conference to work with communities to implement her model and she invited board members to attend.

1.02 FEMA/Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mike Maloney made a presentation on the District’s Hazard Mitigation Plan. The district’s planning effort began in 2012 when the district contracted with the Bi State Regional Commission to develop the DCSD Hazard Mitigation Plan. FEMA regulations require state and local governments to coordinate the Local Hazard Mitigation Plans in each jurisdiction. Each local plan is required to be developed in concert with other regional plans. The DCSD planning effort was led by a committee of DCSD staff, Davenport Police Department and two at-large community members. After approval by the board, the plan will be submitted to the Scott County Office of Emergency Management for incorporation into the Scott County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and then it will be submitted to FEMA. The plan identifies hazards and risks and then each hazard is analyzed for its potential probability of occurring and severity of impact. FEMA policies encourage development of this plan since this is a factor in receiving any restoration funds. DeSalvo asked about training opportunities provided and Maloney discussed current and future plans for trainings. Dr. Tate also mentioned tornado drills and ALICE training and procedures for accounting for everyone in the building and how the district has a very robust emergency response

capability. Gosa asked about the district acquiring generators and or stand by power. Maloney said there is a portable generator available. There was some discussion about future construction and how tornado safe rooms will be incorporated.

1.03 Cell Phone Tower Proposal

Mr. Maloney presented a proposal received from a cell tower provider for the board to consider. The provider has proposed placing a cell tower at the Sudlow/Washington campus and would want to secure the amount of ground adequate for their needs for a long term (20-100 years) contract. He reviewed some of the technical, legal, financial, safety and policy questions to consider and recommended the district develop a position on allowing cell towers generally and on using school property to generate revenue. He reviewed some of the pros and cons for the board. The initial offer was \$13,200 a year for about 5,000 sq.ft. There was a discussion about the erection of a cell phone tower recently at Emeis Park which generates \$21,600 annually, but has also created some controversy for the City. Board members weighed in on the proposal. DeSalvo said she lives by Emeis Park and didn't mind the cell tower but her neighbors were very much opposed to it, but she has reservations about the location of this tower. Snyder said he would need to learn more and at the moment he is more negative about it. Hayes said the revenue amount is too small to even consider the proposal or take any risks and also mentioned how this particular tower would be in people's front yard. Mayfield said his concern is that a tower is an eye sore and an intrusion and we would be opening up a can of worms. Gosa said he may be open to the idea for more money. Tangen stated the revenue would be considered miscellaneous income so it would come with spending authority. Clewell is not in favor and also said the tower would interfere with migratory bird paths and he can provide research on this. Johanson suggested trading the tower for broadband but overall the amount offered currently is too small but he may consider it with a larger offer. Dr. Tate said if we get a more interesting offer we could reconsider but we will not pursue this proposal at this point.

1.04 AmeriCorps and Youth Corps Update

John Border, Community Education Specialist and Courtney Jones, City of Davenport AmeriCorps Program Manager provided the board with an update on the program. This is a nationwide program supported by the federal government, foundations, corporations and donors. The overall goal is to help others and meet critical needs in the community. The City of Davenport has been a partner of the Iowa Commission on National Service since 2011 and they were awarded the National Governor/Mayor Grant in 2014. The City of Davenport's primary goal is to increase high school graduation rates by supporting existing efforts to reduce and mediate risk factors and increase protective factors. She highlighted the fact that 100% of the students who have participated in the Youth AmeriCorps Program have graduated from high school. She mentioned that the Stepping Stones Out of School Time program have 6,900 hour members and talked about how the Davenport High School students engage in a wide variety of service learning opportunities. She provided an overview of the application process. They filled 40 slots but had to turn away 25 students because they didn't have enough funds. The students receive a living allowance and an education award which can be used toward college or a trade school. The

students are serving a variety of organizations such as Davenport Parks & Recreation, Figge Art Museum, Mid City Urban Garden, Stepping Stones Summer Camps, and the YMCA Early Learning center. Students are involved in planning processes and placed in positions where they can be successful and gain professional experience. Board members asked how they will increase funding to make the program available to everyone who applies. Ms. Jones talked about their new grant cycle and hopefully they will receive all the funds they need.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer