

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Achievement Service Center

Jim Hester Board Room

1606 Brady Street

Davenport, IA 52803

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

TUESDAY, JULY 5TH

5:30PM

1.01 Suspension Report

Mr. Rob Scott started the presentation explaining they have some very positive data to report on the reduction rate in suspensions district wide. Mr. Scott described how this was a team effort started over two years ago based on a challenge to reduce the number of suspensions in the district so students would have more time in the classroom learning. Their goal was having punishment strong enough but to also have less time out of school for students. If students are not in the classroom they cannot learn. Mr. Scott reviewed the data with the board highlighting overall categories. There was a 33% reduction in overall In and Out of School Suspensions from last year. The elementary schools saw a reduction of 26%, middle schools had a 14% reduction and the high schools had a 53% reduction in suspensions. The board discussed concerns regarding procedures for special education students and the rate for middle school suspensions. Mr. Scott responded they are looking into this and are discussing the option of providing more home instruction and how the next step is to “drill down” into the data and find more answers as why this is happening. Director Clewell requested a follow up on the middle school suspensions for special education students. Mr. Scott attributes the decrease in suspension rates to the Diversion Program and emphasized they meet monthly to review progress and monitor results. President Johanson pointed out that when compared to the total student population the percentage of students being suspended is quite small. Johanson asked how all of this relates to improved student achievement and Mr. Scott described the positive relationship between attendance rates and higher student achievement. Director Snyder mentioned hearing from some middle school teachers expressing some concerns about student behavior since the start of the diversion programs and Dr. Tate provided a brief explanation. Johanson thanked Mr. Scott, Dr. Tate and all the staff involved in the project for their hard work. Director Gosa also stated they are doing a great job.

1.02 Board Self-Evaluation

Topic postponed due to absence of several board members.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30PM.

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer