

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

Achievement Service Center

Jim Hester Board Room

1606 Brady Street

Davenport, IA 52803

Report on Iowa Assessments

Monday, August 15, 2016

5:30PM

Dr. Tate provided opening remarks and explained the handouts he was providing and explained they were presenting results and data according to curriculum area. Dawn Anderson-Rascher explained they would present the data by answering six specific questions and presenting the data and handouts relevant to those questions. Ms. Anderson-Rascher provided a brief analysis to six questions regarding where the District is in regard to the achievement matrix in reading and math; how we compare to other UEN Districts and other factors relating to sub-groups and the achievement gap. All the handouts and data are available on BoardDocs. Generally, the data revealed that although some of the scores were encouraging, overall they need to be better. Dr. Tate commented that he and the staff are disappointed in the scores especially in light of all the programs that have been put in place. He provided a handout listing over 70 major reform efforts and programs that have been in place from 2011-2015. He explained some of the steps he has taken since receiving the scores which include interviewing teachers. Using the information gathered from teachers a list was created which include changes to be made that address the reality of some of the scores. Initiatives include putting together a radical reading academy pilot program at the elementary school; revising the bidding process to provide more stability in the neediest schools; emphasize two district imperatives for the year -Respect and Outreach to the Community; embrace the diversity plan by promoting, encouraging and supporting the balance of poverty within our schools and revive an effective chain of command and support where schools and principals are the center of all of our efforts.

Board members asked questions and made some suggestions. Director Gosa suggested creating a U-tube channel for parents to help with math homework. Bill Schneden commented this was an excellent idea. Director Mayfield reiterated that parents need more support in helping their kids and how important it is for parents to become part of the solution. Director Clewell encouraged Tate to find out what Sioux City is doing since they are also in the UEN and have better scores than the other UEN districts. Clewell also likes the idea of a radical reading academy. There was discussion about using the AEA more frequently as a resource and also how something needs to be done regarding the bidding process. Tate said he will speak with Jim Hanks about this issue. The board also expressed their concern regarding the continuing achievement gap and Mayfield pointed out the effect of this on the future of this community. Board members also expressed confidence in Dr. Tate.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40PM

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer