

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE CENTER
JIM HESTER BOARD ROOM
1606 BRADY STREET
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2015
SPECIAL CALL OPEN MEETING
4:45PM

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met on Thursday, August 27, 2015, for a Special Call Open Meeting. The meeting was held at the Achievement Service Center, 1606 Brady St., Davenport, Iowa, in said District. President Johanson called the meeting to order at 4:50PM.

1. OPENING ITEMS

1.01 On roll call the following board members were present: Directors: Ralph Johanson, Rich Clewell, Jamie Snyder, Nikki DeFauw, Linda Hayes and Maria Dickmann. Ken Krumwiede was absent. Dr. Tate was also present.

2. ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

2.01 Amendment to JB Young Resolution

Motion: Director Clewell moved the board approve the following resolution as an amendment to the resolution passed on August 24, 2015. Seconded by Director Snyder.

The Davenport Community School District Board of Directors resolves to consider the recommendation to close JB Young K-8 School at the end of the 2015-2016 school year. Following are the factors which must be considered per Davenport Community School District Board Policy 501.05:

1. Quality of Education (Primary Importance)

a. JB Young is the most expensive school in the district to bring up to the standard established by the Long-range Facility Plan – about twice as expensive (\$11,000,000) than the average cost of the other most needy schools.

b. The current enrollment of JB Young puts the school at 57% of capacity.

c. Because of the low enrollment at JB Young K-8, many programs cannot be provided based on the district funding formula. For example, sports teams have low numbers and some teams cancelled in previous school years; there is no gateway to technology course; the athletic gym is the smallest among intermediate schools; there are limited numbers in band, orchestra and chorus, thus not getting the full experience; and there is no Family Consumer Science elective.

2. Safety of Students

Students will be transported to one of five schools: Sudlow, Williams, Smart, Jefferson and Madison, depending on boundaries to be established. Safety considerations will apply concerning high traffic routes.

3. Cost of Operating

a. The continuous annual savings from repurposing JB Young K-8 School would be over \$1.9 million.

b. The cost to transport JB Young students to the five new schools is estimated to be no increase over current costs. Some students now transported will be close enough to walk to schools, for example.

c. The movement of teacher classroom supplies and materials from JB Young to their new schools will be accomplished by the Operations Department at no additional cost to the budget.

d. It is expected that the reduction in positions with the closing of JB Young will not result in personnel losing an opportunity to work at DCSD. Retirements and normal movement should provide sufficient flexibility to absorb all JB Young employees.

4. Cost of Necessary Capital Improvements

a. The cost to move the ASC to the JB Young facility will be offset by using the \$1.7 million now programmed for major maintenance at the ASC, plus the funds eventually realized from the sale of the building.

b. No additional improvements will be required at the receiving schools to accommodate additional students from JB Young K-8.

5. Effect on the Community

a. The movement of the ASC will assure that the JB Young building will be in constant use.

b. Establishing a community support and presence in the building will prove to be an asset to the neighborhood and provide space for community organizations to serve the community.

c. The playground, gym and meeting facilities could be useful to solidify a sense of community.

It is planned that if the school closes, elementary students from JB Young K-8 School will attend Madison and Jefferson Elementary Schools; intermediate students will attend Sudlow, Williams and Smart Intermediate Schools.

A public hearing to consider the closing of JB Young K-8 School will be held on October 12, 5:00 p.m., in the Jim Hester Board Room of the Achievement Service Center, 1606 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa

Discussion: President Johanson explained that board policy requires additional items to be added to the resolution. Dr. Tate also noted that policy requires the district to send letters to families from JB Young plus the five receiving schools after passing this type of resolution. Tate also announced the dates for two public forums in addition to the public hearing.

Vote: All Ayes motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Director Clewell and seconded by Director Snyder President Johanson declared the meeting adjourned at 4:57p.m.

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer