

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE CENTER
JIM HESTER BOARD ROOM
1606 BRADY STREET
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2017
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

The Board of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met on Tuesday, September 5, 2017 for the Committee of the Whole 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 5:30PM. Present: Director's Johanson, Clewell, DeSalvo, Hayes, Mayfield, Snyder and Gosa.

1. District Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Pace Tracy and Bruce Noah, made the presentation. Ms. Tracy and Mr. Noah reviewed district services available for the deaf and hard of hearing students. District buildings with deaf/hard of hearing programs are Children's Village West, Eisenhower, Elementary, Sudlow Intermediate and Central High School. The district serves a total of 14 deaf and hard of hearing student in four buildings. One teacher serves three students at Children's Village West. One teacher serves six students at Eisenhower. One student at Sudlow receives AEA itinerant services as well as four students at Central. They provided specific information about the services provided for each student. They reviewed the budget for these services and discussed the changes from using district interpreters to now contracting with the AEA. Board members asked questions regarding services, the change to using AEA interpreters, how services are determined and more questions about the budget.

2. Definition of Achievement Gap

Ms. Corri Guy and Dr. Tate made the presentation. Ms. Guy reviewed the state definition and metrics used to measure the achievement gap. Achievement gaps occur when one group of students outperforms another group and the difference in performance for the two groups is statistically different. Iowa uses the three largest racial and ethnic groups on the Iowa Assessments which include African American, Hispanic, and White students. The current District Teaching and Learning Plan uses the following goals to measure the achievement gap.

- Proficiency on Iowa Assessments (using the aforementioned groups).
 - 80% of all tested students 3-5, 6-8, and 9-11 will be proficient on the reading subtest of the Iowa Assessments, or the number of students who are proficient will increase by 5%, from the previous year.
- Behavior data: Suspension and Referrals

-The subgroup percentages of students receiving referrals/suspensions will be similar to the overall building subgroup percentages as measured by the building discipline data.

- Access/Completion of Advanced Coursework ○

-The subgroup percentages of students completing advanced coursework will be similar or greater than the overall building percentage as measured by the Building Enrollment Data.

Director Clewell discussed the importance of the board discussing the achievement gap and asked does the board want to discuss this in terms of race and/or poverty. Director DeSalvo believes it is a combination of factors and is not in favor of isolating it to one factor. President Johanson said it is not clear to him and there doesn't seem to be a universally accepted definition of the achievement gap. Clewell referenced a section of Iowa Code that discusses closing the achievement gap and said he hopes the board will continue to discuss this issue. Most board members agreed that the achievement gap shouldn't be focused on one criteria such as race. Mayfield discussed looking deeper into the issue and asking many more "why" questions to solve the issue of the achievement gap.

3. Equity and Equality

The board had a brief discussion about the equity and equality regarding district programs. Dr. Tate provided a brief overview of projects. Director Mayfield advocated for a dual enrollment program at all the high schools. President Johanson stated that it appears we are doing a pretty good job with equity and resources to individual buildings and said the long range goal is for the district to get equal per pupil funding.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer