

DAVENPORT COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
ACHIEVEMENT SERVICE CENTER
JIM HESTER BOARD ROOM
1606 BRADY STREET
DAVENPORT, IOWA 52803
MONDAY, MARCH 5, 2018
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 Monday, March 5, 2018 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, DeSalvo, Hayes, Beck, Potts, Mayfield and Gosa.

1. PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports)

TJ Schneckloth, Director of Learning Supports and Federal Programs, explained that he helps to organize this pillar of the Teaching and Learning Plan along with Patti Pace-Tracy, Director of Special Education who unfortunately could not be in attendance at the meeting this evening. Staff presenting included Brianna Barr, Diana Allen, Morgan Mohr, Sarah Harris, Nicole Matthews, and Sheri Schultz. Sarah Harris provided a detailed overview of the PBIS and MTSS (Multi-Tiered System of Support and Nicole Matthews explained the Well-Managed Schools approach which is part of MTSS and is a school based intervention program that provides all students with the positive behavior supports they need to succeed. Ms. Harris stated that PBIS is an evidence and research based proactive approach for addressing student behavior and reviewing the climate and culture of schools. She reviewed the timeline for implementation for each of the schools and where they are currently in fidelity of implementation. Ms. Schultz discussed the implementation of the program at Wood Elementary and shared how it has improved the climate of the school and resulted in a 24% reduction in office referrals last year. Morgan Mohr discussed the benefits at Washington Elementary and how having a common language in all areas of school is so important and have also had a decrease in office referrals. Brianna Barr shared how the Boys Town training has provided her with the tools to be successful and new strategies to address student behaviors. Director Beck asked how the program is shared with parents and Ms. Harris explained the ways they reinforce the program with the parents and encourage them to use it at home. Director DeSalvo asked about the implementation at the high schools and they are still at the introductory phase at this time but the leadership teams have been trained. Director Mayfield asked questions concerning the benefit of the program and how he has been in the district for a very long time and every new program promises to make a difference. It was explained that they are still gathering data at this point but once every building is implementing with fidelity they will be able to provide more solid data on the benefits of this approach.

2. Services for High Ability of Learners (Talented and Gifted and Honors/AP)

Bonnie Asay-Roark conducted a presentation and explained the mission and vision of the Talented and Gifted Program and provided an overview of the program and discussed the details of designing services and programs for high ability learners; the TAG Blueprint and TAG identification procedures; and how all TAG students helped to co-create a PEP (Personalized Education Plan). Melissa Trimble provided an overview of the Advanced Placement and Honors Classes offered in the district. She emphasized research indicates that college students who had completed on AP course have a 59% change of completing a four-year degree, while students with two or more AP courses completed have a 76%

3-5-18 Committee of the Whole Minutes

chance of completing a bachelor's degree. AP classes are open to all students and Ms. Trimble reviewed the list of AP classes offered in the district noting that the classes are only run if there is sufficient enrollment. Beck asked how sufficient enrollment is determined and Mr. Schneckloth provided more detail. He also indicated the district pays for students to take the AP Exam so this does not create a barrier for those students not able to pay. Director Mayfield asked about the percentage of African American students in AP classes and Dr. Tate said they will gather this data and provide it to the board. Director Potts asked what percentage of students that take AP classes also take the AP exam and Ms. Trimble said she will gather that data and provide it to the board.

3. Career and Technical Training (CTE)

Jennifer Boyd, and Lauren Hargrave made a presentation on the Career and Technical Training initiative and courses in the district. They emphasized the focus this year has been on skilled trades within technical education but overall it includes career pathway programs in business, family and consumer science, and technical education. They discussed how CTE makes a difference because high school students involved in CTE are more engaged, perform better and graduate at high rates. For example, taking one CTE class for every two academic classes minimizes the risk of students dropping out of high school and the average high school graduation rate for students concentrating on CTE programs is 93%. They discussed enrollment data and CTE legislation and indicated that areas of focus this year has been in auto, construction, manufacturing and welding. They reported that many business are hiring but unable to find quality workers for these types of positions and described this need as detrimental. There are 970 skilled trade jobs in the Davenport area that are good paying jobs, so the overall goal of this initiative is to prepare students to be career ready once they graduate from high school. A leadership team was developed to determine the focus and teacher teams have been inventorying, updating and figuring out how to increase student access. An advisory board, which meets monthly, includes local representatives from Tri-City Building Trades, Douglas Machine Engineering, Russell Construction, QCBR, John Deere, MA Ford, and also includes Director Gosa. This advisory board works on enrollment, exposure and curriculum. They reported on the most recent success of a Hands-On Trades Expo on March 1st for 300 Davenport 8th and 9th graders with nine stations of information and hands-on activities and provided information on high school course options. They handed out a CTE booklet that a student developed and every student got this booklet on a flash drive. They are planning a Job Seeker Fair on April 23rd and planning CTE Showcases at conferences and orientations for the 2018-19 school year. Boyd explained they are in the process of updating the standards and assessment to align with industry. Board members expressed how important this effort is and expressed their appreciation to all staff involved.

4. Five Year Budget Reductions

Dr. Tate explained the Five Year Budget Reduction Plan is the plan he and Marsha Tangen will present to the SBRC (School Budget Review Committee) tomorrow. Marsha Tangen will be providing a more comprehensive budget briefing and information about the levy at the board meeting on March 26th. The board will discuss the budget again at the Committee of the Whole on April 2nd and the budget must be approved on April 9th. Dr. Tate reviewed the 2018-19 recommended budget reductions. He explained some of the proposed reductions in more detail including staff reductions first with 17.5 FTE reduction in certified staff; 3 FTE in administrative and 6 FTE in non-certificated. An increase in class sizes is recommended. At the elementary level K-1st grade will go from 20 to 22 students and 2nd and 3rd grade with go from 23 to 24 students. He emphasized the goal is that staff reductions will be accomplished by attrition so no one loses their job. A reduction in substitute teachers is necessary and combining classrooms or other alternatives may be necessary if the funds run out. There is a 2% reduction in department and school site budgets. A consultant was hired to review bell times in order to reduce transportation costs by \$500,000 and this information will be presented to the board very soon and also to the community. Other reductions include administrator's taking one furlough day without pay for a savings of \$40,000; a

3-5-18 Committee of the Whole Minutes

delay in textbook purchases and energy efficiencies. Miscellaneous reductions include using an insurance program that allows taking the cost of maintaining equipment out of the management fund which provides a substantial savings to the general fund; no longer paying the tuition for para educators to attend college which was part of the Grow Your Own Program; and eliminate free employee and family admission to sports events. Dr. Tate asked if the board had questions about the 2018-19 budget. Potts asked about the use of the management fund and Ms. Tangen said this fund has sufficient revenues. Gosa asked about the fee for the bell time consultant and Ms. Tangen said it was approximately \$15,000. President Johanson asked about the delay in purchasing textbooks and Rob Scott provided more details. DeSalvo asked if the district could accept donations to purchase textbooks and Ms. Tangen said this is allowable. Dr. Tate indicated that they will provide more information about the new bell time proposals and how the levy affects the budget at the meeting on March 26th.

Dr. Tate reviewed some of the reductions proposed for the 2019-20 school year which include the recommendation of going to a system of either Pre-K through 6th grade or K through 6th grade throughout the district. This is also the year for recommending that Monroe move to the Smart building and become a Pre-K through 6th grade and 7th and 8th grades from Smart go to other schools. He reviewed board policy 501.05 Closing Schools and explained that the timeline and process required is extremely detailed and provides many opportunities for public feedback as well as board discussions. Gosa asked if there would be a meeting with the city to talk about how they may be developing housing in that area and Tate said this information would be included in discussions. DeSalvo asked Dr. Tate to provide information on how many students who were already moved from JB Young when it closed would be affected again by the closing of Monroe and she also requested information on the capacities by individual schools. Mayfield expressed concerns about the number of schools being closed below Locust Street and how this could affect the enrollment at Central High School noting that the district just invested millions of dollars in Central. He said these questions need to be answered by administration. Dr. Tate encouraged the board to start sending him any questions they may have concerning budget reductions and he will respond.

ADJOURNMENT

By consensus President Johanson declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Mary Correthers, Board Secretary/Treasurer