

REGULAR BOARD MEETING JANUARY 9, 2006

The Board of Directors of the Davenport Community School District in the Counties of Scott and Muscatine, State of Iowa, met in Regular Session on Monday, January 9, 2006 pursuant to law and the rules of said Board. The meeting was held at the Jim Hester Board Room at the Davenport Schools Administration Service Center, 1606 Brady Street, Davenport, Iowa, in said district. Vice President Alan Guard called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

On roll call the following board members were present: Vice President Alan Guard; Directors Richard Clewell, Nikki DeFauw, Ralph Johanson, Larry Roberson, and Tim Tupper. Absent: Board President, Patt Zamora. Student board member Mairin Burke from West High School was present for the Regular Meeting.

7:03 PM

REGULAR MEETING RECOGNITIONS

I. RECOGNITIONS

A. **HILLTOP ASSOCIATION * *BILL GOOD, DIRECTOR OF SUPPORT SERVICES***

Bill Good explained the recognition of the **Hilltop Business Neighborhood Association** was made to honor the contributions they have made to remodeling efforts at both Central High and J. B. Young Intermediate. It was noted in 1991, the Hilltop Association was organized by a group of local businessmen, residents in the Harrison Street area, representatives from the District, and St. Ambrose University. The purpose of the original organization was to revitalize the Hilltop Area by reducing crime and making it a more attractive community. Funding for the original association came from CDBG funds allocated by the City of Davenport and HUD funds. They were used to create the original Façade Program for local businesses, to repair sidewalks and install lighting along Harrison and Brady Streets and to fund home improvement projects for residents in the area.

In 1997, the City of Davenport approved the Hilltop's application for the creation of a Self Supporting Municipal Improvement District (SSMID). In 1998, new By-Laws were written in order to comply with the SSMID requirements and the Hilltop Business Association was created. The Hilltop Business Association has implemented several Property Improvement Programs (PRIMP) since that time. The most extensive project that the Hilltop Association has done is the creation of the Hilltop Plaza. In 1999, the old Hardies Building was purchased from Rejuvenate Davenport and with the assistance of a generous \$40,000 grant from the River Boat Development Association, the building was torn down and the Hilltop Plaza was planned and completed in September of 2002.

Mr. Good introduced **Jeff Weindruch** and **Ron McDermott**, members of the Hilltop Association. They presented a \$6,000 check from the Association. This money was set aside dollars to pay for one of the monuments. Vice President Guard presented a plaque to them from the Masonry Institute of Iowa. This was an Award of Merit, Architectural Design Awards Program, to Hilltop Business Association, URBAN MONUMENTS at J. B. Young Intermediate and Central High School, Davenport Iowa 2005. Mr. Weindruch said they were happy to work in cooperation with the other businesses and the District. The business owners put up extra dollars to support the efforts of the District and everyone will share in these efforts. Director Guard said the Board recognized the partnerships with local businesses and appreciated the help in improving our image.

B. EISENHOWER ELEMENTARY * STEVE MIELENHAUSEN, PRINCIPAL

Principal Steve Mielenhausen from Eisenhower Elementary talked about how students in the fourth and fifth grades were receiving “Test Talks” and setting goals to improve their ITBS Test Scores. **Tammy Murphy Flynn** explained how these goals were being shared with the students and their Parents/Guardians. Fourth grade “bubble students” have been identified and are getting a double dose of focus lessons to help move these students from the needs to the meets category. She talked about strategies used with teachers and other elements of the program. Mr. Mielenhausen said they were in the process of talking about tests, pulling out profiles, identifying scores, and setting new goals for improvement—at least 42% was their goal. Students filled out forms which were sent home and the children dialogue with their parents about what the tests mean. Later we will bring the students back and sit down with them to see if they met their goals. Mr. Mielenhausen recognized members of his staff for the work they have been doing to help the students at Eisenhower do their best this year and in the future.

C. WEST HIGH * NANCY JACOBSEN, PRINCIPAL

Principal **Nancy Jacobsen** from West High School talked about the implementation of “Project Lead the Way” (PLTW) during the 2006-2007 school year. This program ensures an activities/projects/problem-based learning environment by the application of skills acquired in math, science, reading and technology. Students participating in this program will acquire skills in problem-solving, communication, teamwork which are skills necessary for success in any field.

The West High teachers who will be trained for this program are **Jason Franzenburg** and **Duane Stahl**. **Betty Griffin** is Curriculum and Instruction Coordinator for Industrial Technology and she showed a four-minute video clip showing what was happening in the program. Board members received a number of brochures and handouts that were used by students and explained the course work. Jason talked about working with local businesses and identifying problem areas so the curriculum could be enhanced for students. He went over a number of elements in the program dealing with student achievement, preparation for future education, partnerships with colleges, and post secondary degree goals. The Board learned about the guidance department training, end of course examination, and national standards, as well as the interest by the University of Iowa, Iowa State, and the University of Northern Iowa. Students in the program are scoring much higher on tests and retention levels are better for the students working in the Project Lead the Way program. Additional information can be found on the website about this opportunity at West High.

COMMUNICATIONS**II. COMMUNICATIONS****A. PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR BOUNDARIES AND TRANSFERS (Starting time **6:00 PM**)**

1. Tuesday, January 10, 2006 @ Walcott Intermediate
2. Wednesday, January 11, 2006 @ Smart Intermediate
3. Thursday, January 12, 2006 @ Williams Intermediate
4. Tuesday, January 17, 2006 @ Sudlow Intermediate
5. Wednesday, January 18, 2006 @ Wood Intermediate
6. Thursday, January 19, 2006 @ J. B. Young Intermediate

B. Thursday, January 12, 2006 @ 7:00 PM, Kimberly Center East Graduation Ceremony at North High in the Auditorium

C. Monday, January 16 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday (No School)

D. Tuesday, January 17 – Inservice Day and Health Fair (River Center)

- E. Tuesday, January 17 @ 4:00 PM; District Initial Proposal to the DEA for the 2006-2007 school year
- F. Wednesday, January 18 @ 3:00 PM: Board Policy Committee, Administration Service Center, 1st Floor Conference Room East
- G. Thursday, January 19 @ 3:00 and 3:15 PM; District Initial Proposals to Clerical Workers and Custodians for the 2006-2007 school year
- H. Monday, January 23 @ 7:00 PM, Regular Board Meeting, Jim Hester Board Room at the Administration Service Center
- I. Open Forum for Community Input (All eight people expressed their opinions about the open enrollment and boundary recommendations suggested for the high schools in the district.)
 - 1. Kyle Moe, 4412 Spring Street, Davenport, had a 7th and 8th grader at Sudlow. They have lived here over 12 years and could have moved but decided to stay and invest in their home. We love the community and are happy with the schools. The family had the understanding they could go to Central for high school. They have friends that go to North and support that school. The decision to where parents send their children to school is not made lightly and it is both social and financial. Open enrollment is a healthy competition between the schools. If the Board does away with this, then it means all schools are equal. Mr. Moe was also concerned about splitting up families now and encouraged the Board to keep the current system in place.
 - 2. Karen Foderberg, 1831 Westminster Circle, Davenport, had children at Eisenhower, Sudlow and Central and was always under the impression her children would attend these schools. The website was vague and she was concerned because her daughter at Sudlow might have to go to North. Her daughter won't know anyone there and there is a lot of risk by changing schools and trouble could occur.
 - 3. Peggy McCullough, 4030 Jersey Ridge Road, Davenport, lives in the choice area on the recommendation. She had many concerns about the high school transfers and boundary changes being proposed. This should not be a choice area but the boundaries should be changed to make this a Central area instead of North. The students from that area have a history of attending Central. They go to Eisenhower and then Sudlow. Central is the obvious feeder school from Sudlow, not North. They have been involved with the bands, music programs, sports, and other activities. Beyond the choice area, it is good for everybody to attend their home schools. High school students are complex and we should be able to make a choice. Ms. McCullough had questions about whether there actually had been a significant increase or decrease in these numbers over the past five years. If transfers are relatively stable, then why change things around? If one school is over capacity it would be different, but we should keep the present system.
 - 4. Janice Leabo, 3906 Fairhaven Court, Davenport, had four children who attended Lordes in Bettendorf and her concern is for high school she can't have a choice. She talked about not able to afford the cost for private high school and she wasn't aware her children wouldn't be able to attend Central if we take away open enrollment. All the kids know about Central even though they live north of 53rd Street. This opportunity should be provided to the public and social changes at this time are difficult for the children. Your case needs to be very solid especially regarding the bus transportation issues. The Board members are elected officials and represent all of us and oversee the district. We count on you to see the problems this has for us.
 - 5. Merriam Reik, 2805 E. 43rd Street, Davenport, built their home 15 years ago in the choice area. The children have been attending Eisenhower, Sudlow, and Central. We didn't analyze North High because we were herded into the Central District. We were never given North as an option when we talked with people at Sudlow. The Board has not identified a single problem with North or Central. Busing is a problem and open enrollment should be allowed. There is about 78% capacity at all the schools. He talked about percentages of minorities at the buildings and problems with changes. Central is a high quality school; if there are problems at other schools, fix them. We have an interim superintendent now, so why not wait until we have

someone here long-term before the Board makes this decision and find another solution.

6. Tracy Lundy, 2315 East 46th Street, Davenport, lives in the Windsor Crest addition which is north of Kimberly Road. She has two children at Sudlow and has problems with them not attending Central. They have made friends and if they have to go to North, they will be separated. It was her understanding we don't have an issue with capacity or racial balance now. Why consider this change when there are so many other challenges for students now? Why do you want to disrupt our lives and families when there is no benefit to this move? Keep open enrollment in place and deal with more important problems instead.
7. Barber Lester, 4338 Ridgewood Court, Davenport, lives in the choice district and represented many people. She has three children---two at Sudlow and one at Eisenhower. She read through the papers and felt the data was incomplete and lots of important information is missing. She depends on busing and needs this for her children. Is this changed because of the cost for busing? If you change, you will still have to bus the kids to North from this area, so how can you be saving anything? The figures aren't right. Sudlow feeds naturally into Central and will be impacted in the wrong way if these children are sent to North. Consider the impact to the students; this is too hard on us. Transporting multiple children is very difficult. She also wasn't sure which orientation meeting to attend---North or Central now. The schools are not ready for this. She didn't understand the why behind the changes recommended and since her daughter is an 8th grader this year, she won't be grandfathered into Central, so that won't help them either. Ms. Lester hoped the Board would listen to the public input and work through this slowly.
8. Henry Karp, 4721 Belle Avenue, Davenport, lives in Windsor Crest choice area and agreed with other speakers. There are lots of concerned parents right now. He has a 7th grader at Sudlow and other children in the family all graduated from Central, so that is important to them. Open enrollment works well and people are happy. Why change for the sake of change? Consider whether this is working and wait until a new superintendent comes along before making such a big decision.

CONSENT AGENDA

III. CONSENT AGENDA

To conserve time and focus attention on non-routine matters on the agenda, the Board considered a number of items grouped together as a Consent Agenda, all items to be approved in one motion.

A. Reading of the Minutes of the Last Regular and Intervening Meetings

The minutes from the last regular board meeting on December 12, 2005 were presented for approval.

B. Secretary's Monthly Financial Report

It was recommended the Secretary's monthly report of receipts and disbursements of the various funds for the period ending November 30, 2005 be approved.

C. Personnel: Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, Leaves, Etc.

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Anthony, Heather Grade 5 Madison Elementary	Effective: October 17, 2005 – December 9, 2005
Mihalakis, Virginia Spanish North High	Effective: January 14, 2006 — end of 2005-06 school year Effective: January 23, 2006 — end of 2005-06 school year Corrected start date above
Wilkins, Melanie Grade 4 Washington Elementary	Effective: September 19, 2005 – December 16, 2005

RESIGNATIONS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Darland, Douglas Freshman Volleyball West High	8% \$1,999.00
Gamble, David Assistant SH Boys' Soccer Central High	6% \$1,499.00
Tuftee, Dale Assistant Football West High	12% \$2,999.00

APPOINTMENTS: SUPPLEMENTAL CONTRACTS

Gamble, David SH Boys' Soccer Central High	8% \$1,999.00
Jones, Chad 7 th Grade Girls' Basketball Young Intermediate	7% \$1,749.00
King, David 8 th Grade Boys' Basketball Smart Intermediate	7% \$1,749.00
Moses, Dale 8 th Grade Boys' Basketball, 2 nd Team Walcott Intermediate	7% \$1,749.00
Sazama, Robert 9 th Grade Boys' Basketball North High	8% \$1,999.00

Schneiderman, Dan	12%
Head Sophomore Boys' Basketball	\$2,999.00
North High	

Sedgwick, Brian	10%
Head Sophomore Wrestling	\$2,499.00
Central High	

RETURN FROM LEAVE OF ABSENCE: CERTIFICATED

Anthony, Heather	Effective: December 12, 2005
Grade 5	Salary: \$42,306.00
Madison Elementary	

Wilkins, Melanie	Effective: January 3, 2006
Grade 4	Salary: \$37,178.00 prorated to \$35,972.23
Washington Elementary	for 179 days of the 2005-2006 school year

RESIGNATIONS/TERMINATIONS: CLASSIFIED

Archer, Diane	Effective: January 12, 2006
Food Service Cashier I	Years of Service: 9 yrs 9 mos
Central High School	

Paez, Elizabeth	Effective: December 13, 2005
Para Educator	Years of Service: 14 yrs 2 mos
Unpaid Leave	

Sisk, Judy	Effective: December 2, 2005
Para Educator	Years of Service: 5 yrs 4 mos
Harrison Elementary	

LEAVES OF ABSENCE: CLASSIFIED

Sullivan, Andrea	Effective: January 3, 2006 (for 1 year)
Para Educator	
Washington Elementary	

APPOINTMENTS: CLASSIFIED

Sprout, Candy	Effective: December 19, 2005
Para Educator	Salary: \$12.00/hr
Eisenhower Elementary	Hours: 6 hrs/day

Lisa Blackwell	Effective: December 20, 2005
Administrative Assistant – HR	Salary: \$14.65/hr
ASC	Hours: 8 hrs/day

* Not a Teacher ** Guest Teacher *** Not a Replacement

MOTION: Director Clewell moved the Board accept the Consent Agenda was written. Director DeFauw seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Clewell, DeFauw, Johanson, Tupper, Roberson, and Guard. Motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

IV. APPROVAL OF BILLS

A resolution was recommended by the Administration for adoption of the bills.

MOTION: Director Tupper moved, "Resolved that all claims presented to the Board having been duly certified as correct by the Secretary, and reviewed by the administration and Board Treasurer, the same be and they are hereby audited and allowed as just claims and warrants drawn on the Treasury for the several amounts. Further Resolved, that the payment of claims and salaries be approved as presented, with the exception of Check # 176915 in the amount of \$32 which was voided. Director Johanson seconded the motion.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Tupper, Johanson, Clewell, Roberson, DeFauw, and Guard. Motion carried unanimously. (The formal approval included all bills from December 9, 2005 through January 5, 2006.)

OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

V. OTHER ITEMS REQUIRING ACTION

A. BID #523 – NEW CARGO VAN/PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION: Director Johanson moved the Board accept the administration's recommendation for the lowest responsible bid received from Reynolds Motor Co in East Moline, Illinois in the amount of \$33,215 for the purchase of a new cargo van for district use. Director Roberson seconded the motion. (NOTE: Two other bids did not meet warranty requirements.)

The Board conducted a public hearing for Bid #523 for the cargo van. No one came forth to be heard. The public hearing was declared closed.

Director Roberson asked for some clarification on the warranty. Mr. Good said they were very specific about requiring a warranty and the other companies would not provide these because of business issues such as Katrina or other non-specific reasons. Reynolds would give us the warranty on the vehicle.

The vote on the motion was called and recorded as follows. Ayes: Johanson, Roberson, DeFauw, Clewell, Tupper, and Guard. Motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

VI. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. ANNUAL YEARLY PROGRESS REPORT (Continuation)

Dr. Schuerman explained that due to illness a report from Bob Mata on Annual Yearly Progress Report would not be presented at this time but would be reviewed at a future committee of the whole or regular board meeting. If board members have questions, the administration would be happy to try to answer them. Board members agreed they wanted to wait until Bob could be present to explain the materials. Director Tupper was willing to wait for an analysis of the data and although the report had data included, the analysis part was missing. Dr. Schuerman understood the wishes of the Board to have more on the analysis side for the next report. He also said there was a list of topics the administration would like to place on the agenda for the future that would address the response to what

the schools were doing to answer the needs of our students.

B. INSTRUCTIONAL RESPONSE TO DATA

Mrs. Ethel Reynolds told the Board the administration was interested in achievement data and understood their concern for analysis about what the District was doing. The instructional support team has been discussing this and has come up with a number of topics for discussion that will be of interest to the Board. The team has been brainstorming and they would like to have two special call meetings in the future—one to talk about middle grades and one to talk about high schools. There are additional topics that could be addressed also at either regular meetings or at the committee of the whole. There are areas the administration would like to update the Board on and the buildings are trying to demonstrate what they are doing to improve achievement during the recognition part of the board meetings. Dr. Schuerman added the administrative staff sensed the Board was not pleased with the numbers in the progress report but they are moving in the right direction for making changes. We are working with people and are sensitive to the needs of the Board and staff in reporting what people are doing.

Director Roberson appreciated the efforts and energy of the staff. He would like specifics and outcomes or directions showing where we are now, where we are going, and the time lines we see ahead of us. Principals are sharing during the recognition and we also want to hear from the administrative staff. This is a good start but be sure to include where the end is seen and state this is what we are doing to get there. Director Tupper felt we were moving in the right direction. When the principals report, they could talk about this is where we are, this is where we are going, and this is where we want to be. The Board would like to see a clear connection. We collect data but we want to see more coming back to show what is working.

Dr. Schuerman said the Board was describing a dialogue that was occurring with the staff also. We want to show progress but please understand there is no clear end to learning. Director Tupper said the teachers and administration should be given credit for their efforts and there are changes in the District to better serve parents and students. Dr. Schuerman has done wonderful things in the year and a half he has been with us. Vice President Guard said the topic list was huge and the Agenda Committee would review this and coordinate the reports for special meetings or other arrangements. This Board is working on a tremendous amount of ideas for student achievement.

C. LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY STANDING COMMITTEE

Directors Ralph Johanson and Richard Clewell shared a sample of the communications plan for the Legislative Advocacy group. Director Johanson said it was difficult to think about legislative advocacy only as a short-term project. The plan shows where we should be going and this is a continued effort for our district. The intent tonight is to discuss the benefits of appointing a standing committee to work on legislative advocacy issues. Vice President Guard asked the directors to summary the next steps in the process for the committee. Director Johanson said they would like to present a recommendation at the next board meeting to consider appointing this group as a standing committee of the Board. It was important to officially recognize and have backing from the Board as we work with constituents. Prior to this time, the group has been more of an ad hoc committee. There is a lot of work involved and it continues on from one year into the next.

Director Clewell would like to have additional input from the Board on their surveys. At this time there were only two members who turned in the survey about how they would like to become involved with legislation. The board secretary can resend those surveys. Dr. Schuerman added comments in support of this effort from his experience. This allows the legislators an opportunity to have contact beyond the local officials and

they hear about the bigger picture from citizens. They often are putting out fires, and legislators don't look beyond the issues they have to handle at the moment. In Dr. Schuerman's other district they had regular legislative reports and even had a full-time administrator working on this type of thing. The Board has a full plate with negotiations, budgeting, and the superintendent search candidates. So any efforts to have a group work on the legislative efforts will complement what we are doing. However, time is involved in this work and we might have to ask "in place of what" will staff have to do?

Director Roberson talked about visiting with state legislators and talking about money and allowable growth and influences. We have not seen this change and we have our plates full with negations right now, so he would be happy to have a group working on this area. He wasn't encouraged about people actively pursuing dollars for education and felt others thought there were other more important things they were doing. He encouraged the group to continue with their efforts, but wanted them aware that money wasn't probably going to be there for us.

Director Clewell commented there was hope and the enthusiasm will build with a standing committee doing some planning. We have started and last year went to Des Moines with a small group taking the bus. The communication plan outlines what we would like to do and we have goals for advocacy. We even had a telephone conference meeting with people from IASB who were helpful in talking about our efforts and giving us some suggestions. If we can engage the community and make the case for change, this will work. We need additional money from legislators to advocate for our children's education. We have started the momentum to make this happen.

Vice President Guard appreciated the efforts of this group and agreed the next step would be to appoint a standing committee. They will talk about placing this on the next agenda for action on January 23. He hoped the group would continue with adding community members and report regularly to the Board on what impact we are having.

D. BOARD POLICY ON WELLNESS

Director Clewell introduced the topic of the Wellness Policy and distributed a draft of what was adopted by the Scott County Decat Group. We are in the process of developing our own policy for the district. The final draft from the county is really the best practices we should have and a good starting point. We need to have public input and include students, staff, parents, and others to look at the policy. The time line will be for Rachael and Roger to work with a committee to make a draft policy for the Policy Committee to look over. We will review that at the next meeting on January 18. After that time we will have other people look over the draft and share the input with the Board. We will open this up to people who want input and will listen to their comments in February. This was the effective process we used with development of the cell-phone policy. Then we will discuss the draft policy at the Committee of the Whole on March 6; have an open discussion at the Regular Meeting March 13; and hopefully final approve on March 20 so the administration has time for implementation of the plans before the start of the school year in July. If there are questions, Rachael will be able to help people and we are doing this early so we can have the procedures in place early enough for the next school year.

Director Tupper was appreciative of the work and expressed concern about including body mass index in the policy itself. He would like to see some options with this particular issue. He would like to know what would be in the administrative regulations also and have the issues dealing with specific foods and the lunch program addressed in the regulations. Rachael Mullins talked about the health assessment, comprehensive report cards, and other matters dealing with implementation of the policy and assessment tools that would be in place. There is a lot of debate about BMI and they are definitely looking at that element. Rachael talked about reporting to families and references to grams with food products. Laurie Peyton Crane will be dealing with food areas and giving tips and ideas to

families to support our efforts at school. There were be some shifts in the types of food we will be serving but we will engage parents and students in the process in order to be in compliance with new laws.

ADMINISTRATIVE AND BOARD REPORTS

VII. ADMINISTRATIVE & INSTRUCTIONAL REPORTS/BOARD REQUESTS

Director Roberson was very encouraged to hear about "Project Lead the Way" that was discussed during the recognition time. This involves our community and gets parents involved. These are the things that bring a smile to his face and the program is a very positive opportunity. We have to do more with less and this is an excellent start.

Director Clewell mentioned the Board Secretary, Linda Smith Kortemeyer, had her comments quoted in the January issue of the *American School Board Journal*. The article dealt with comprehensive sex education in school districts and Linda's comments were used to summarize and conclude the article. Congratulations!

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Director Roberson moved the Board adjourn. Director Tupper seconded the motion. By consensus the Board agreed to adjourn.

Vice President Guard declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Linda Smith Kortemeyer, Board Secretary